

SOUTH HYKEHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Carolyn Wilkinson

<http://parishes.lincolnshire.gov.uk/SouthHykeham>

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of South Hykeham Parish Council held on Wednesday 12th April 2017 at 6.30 pm. in South Hykeham Village Hall.

PRESENT: Parish Councillors: Mrs P Whittaker (Chairman), P Driffill, D Rowson, Mrs L Graham, Mrs D Locker, and M Main. District Councillor Mrs Sue Howe NKDC & Cllr Phillips LCC. There were no members of the public present. Clerk: Carolyn Wilkinson.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies received from Councillor S Roe who has another council meeting this evening.

Apologies were also received from Cllr Mrs Woodman MBE/NKDC who is also attending another council meeting this evening.

Apologies were also received from PCSO Lingard who is not on duty this evening but has sent an annual report to be read by the Clerk.

2. Clerk's notes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 13th April 2016 to be adopted as the minutes of that meeting. Proposed Cllr Mrs Graham seconded by Cllr Driffill that the Clerk's notes should be adopted as the minutes of the meeting held on 13th April 2016. The Parish Council Chairman Cllr Mrs Whittaker signed the Minutes.

3. Police Report

In the absence of the Police Beat Team the Clerk gave the report.

Crime report for the period 11th April 2016 – 11th April 2017:

July	Attempted theft - Pennells.
August	Criminal damage - Wood Lane. Theft – Pennells. Theft of mobile phone – McDonalds.
September	Theft – Pennells. Criminal damage to sign – Crow Park. Theft of bicycle – Bentley Hotel . Criminal damage – Bentley Hotel.
October	Theft of a breaker – Enterprise Park.
November	Theft from a vehicle – Blackberry Close. Dwelling burglary – Thorpe Lane. Shed broken into – Beck Lane.
February	Theft of wing mirror covers - Bentley Hotel . Theft of a bag from a car – Briar Close, South Hykeham. Theft of antique pottery from a van – Bentley Hotel carpark.
April	Theft of solar lights – Broxburn Park.

4. Reports

a) Chairman of South Hykeham Parish Council Cllr Mrs Whittaker

At the May meeting last year I was again elected as Chairman of South Hykeham Parish Council with Councillor Mrs Locker elected as Vice Chair for the ensuing year. During the past year the council has been operating to its full capacity of seven councillors.

Our two District Councillors have between them continued to attend our monthly meetings to give

their reports. I and my fellow councillors appreciate their attendance as we are aware that they have many other parishes to cover. The Council wishes to pass on our sincere thanks for their continued commitment and assistance to our Parish Council. Our County Councillor also endeavours to attend our meetings when he is able and the Parish Council is very grateful for his continuing support. Following the loss of the bus shelter at Long Lane which was demolished as the result of a road traffic accident the Parish Council received an insurance payout to cover the cost of rebuilding it. However, as the service is so infrequent and there have been no requests to re-build it the Council has decided to use that money to purchase and install a Speed Indicator Device through the Road Safety Partnership Community Speedwatch Initiative and is currently awaiting confirmation that the chosen sites have been approved prior to installation.

The Neighbourhood Plan for Hykeham is progressing steadily and is currently out for consultation. It is likely that there will be some events to raise awareness of the Neighbourhood Plan later in the year. The Parish Council continues to use litter picking services hired from North Hykeham Town Council and has increased the number of hours in order to meet the demand in order to keep the area as litter free as possible. Sadly flytipping is an ongoing problem and is reported to North Kesteven District Council as and when it happens.

Our information/roundup of what is happening in the Parish continues to be incorporated in the Witham Herald and also on our website. Once again I would like to thank everyone who is involved in delivering the magazine to all the households in South Hykeham on our behalf. Your efforts are much appreciated.

The Council has continued to consider and comment on planning applications in South Hykeham and is currently in discussions with North Hykeham Town Council representatives for a Joint Planning Committee.

Councillors and the Clerk have continued to attend various training courses throughout the year in an attempt to keep abreast of ever changing legislation and initiatives.

The Council carries out an annual review of dog waste and litterbins and has installed new bins at Beechcroft and Meadow Lane and has recently purchased 2 new ones with a view to installing them at known problem areas. It is hoped that everyone will be a responsible dog owner and will continue to dispose of their dog waste in the bins provided. It is also permissible for dog waste to be bagged and disposed of in litterbins which are dual purpose.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow councillors for their continuing support and effort and for the hard work in striving to make South Hykeham a better place to live for its parishioners.

b) NKDC – Cllr Mrs S Howe

Cllr Mrs Howe gave an overview of the District Council's achievements throughout the year 2016/17 aligned to its four corporate priorities, Our Economy, Our Homes, Our Communities and Our Council.

Our Economy - 19 business units built and let at Blackwood Court, Teal Park within eight months of the site opening, continuing the success of another business park within the District at Churchill Park, Bracebridge Heath. Supporting occupancy targets of our workshop portfolio of almost 96% set against a target of 80%.

Actively engaging with partners in Sleaford and North Hykeham to promote investment opportunities in these areas.

Supported the growth of tourism and provided a grant of £200,000 to fulfil the International Bomber Command memorial on Canwick Hill.

Tourism is a vital component of the District's economic viability for Lincolnshire and collated some £120m in revenue from 2.3m visitors to the area. The District has also been successful in its bid for Heritage Lottery Funding to restore Mrs Smith's cottage in Navenby as a heritage site.

Our Homes - 375 homes constructed in the year against a target of 245 homes. This is in addition to

89 affordable homes having been built against a target of 45. We strive to bring empty homes back into use and, in doing so, brought 14 empty properties back into use against a target of 13.

During 2016/17, the Council delivered its 175th council house and the county's first, super-efficient social housing, the Passivhaus, as part of a development of 22 new homes in Heckington.

Over the year, tenants have been able to collectively save more than £26,000 on their fuel and water bills due to availability of the Affordable Warmth Service.

In North Hykeham, a land-locked site known as "Holland Court" has been transformed to create twelve new bungalows for the over 60's.

Our Communities - Delivered the OneNK refurbishment project, providing the country's first 'Interactive-Selfie-Flume'. This has in itself encouraged attendance increase at indoor sports and leisure activities to almost 518,000 against a target of 490,000 participants.

The Whisby Natural World Centre and Little Darters play area has benefited from £250,000 investment and the venue also now boasts new exhibition and conference space and Otters Reach indoor play activities for toddlers.

Almost 300,000 visitors attended cultural and ArtsNK programmes during 2016/17 against a target of 290,000.

The District is immensely proud of its status for the third year running to be named as the safest place to live in the country whilst being recognised as having England's highest level of life satisfaction.

Alongside this accolade, the District remains responsive and vigilant to fly-tipping matters, issuing fixed penalty notices, operating CCTV in such hot-spots and successfully prosecuting offenders.

Our Council - Maintained one of the lowest Council Tax rates in the country.

Set up a Council-owned housing company known as "Lafford Homes", to meet the needs of affordable housing within the District.

Cut its carbon footprint by 40% four years ahead of target.

Piloted a national obesity programme - being 1/4 district council's chosen by Public Health England to participate.

Approved a Sport and Physical Strategy to inspire all to become more active.

Adopted a five-year Community Plan (2016-21) which will consider how to promote/improve economic, social, environmental health and well-being throughout the area.

Noting all these achievements, I am sure you will agree with me that we, as residents, are very fortunate to live in North Kesteven and benefit from the District Council's commitment.

c) LCC – Cllr R Phillips

Cllr Phillips gave a brief report. New Highways Officer is Mr Graham Simpson but he may not be contacted direct as all calls have to go through the call centre and are allocated to the back office so he may well not be dealing with South Hykeham matters as there are no longer dedicated officers for each area. Cllr Phillips asked that the Council/Clerk continue to report potholes in particular those that are currently on Boundary Lane and the bends signs which are collapsed into the dyke. The Clerk confirmed that they have already been reported but to date there has been no remedial action.

Extensive work on the verges has been carried out at Long Lane and the area now looks much more presentable. Cllr Phillips left the meeting at this point.

5. Hykeham Neighbourhood Plan update

Cllr Driffill and Cllr Mrs Whittaker continue to attend the meetings at NHTC as representatives of South Hykeham Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Plan is now nearing completion. The draft plan is currently out for consultation.

6. Community Speedwatch Initiative Update The Council is awaiting confirmation that the selected sites for the installation of the Speed Indicator Device have been approved and the passive notices will be forthcoming shortly.

7. Parish Council Grants and Donations 2017/18 The Parish Council has made provision in the

budget for 2017/18 to award small grants/donations to financially support community organisations, particularly where there is a quantifiable benefit to the residents or the village's facilities. For full details of the guidelines/criteria for applications visit the Parish Council website where the application form etc can be downloaded or contact the Clerk Tel: 07762 318013 or by email:

southhykehampc@gmail.com

8.Finance Report 2016/17 The Clerk has prepared a financial statement and balance sheet for the year ended 31st March 2017 which is available for viewing this evening. The Clerk is due to meet with the internal auditor who has carried out inspections of the Parish Council accounting systems throughout the year and from his overview audits has reported that the Council's financial matters appear to be managed properly. The external auditor Grant Thornton has set the due date of 5th June 2017 for submission of the Council's completed Annual Return for 2016/17.

9. Parishioner's Open Forum and Questions

There were no residents present at the meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.00pm

There was now a short interval before the Parish Council monthly meeting took place.

Chairman

Date.....