



# HUNSDON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

## Minutes

Held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via video conference at 8.30pm

**Present:** Cllr Toll (Chair), Cllr O'Shea (Vice Chair), Cllr Burton, Cllr McDonald  
**In attendance:** C Page (clerk), Cllr Buckmaster, and 7 members of the public

**21.04.01 To receive and accept apologies for absence - None**

**21.04.02 To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019.** Cllr Toll proposes we approve them as a correct record. All agreed.

**21.04.03 To receive reports on actions agreed at the Last Annual Parish Meeting – two actions outstanding:**

- Kessel kerbs at the two bus stops, trips etc. Gully raising was also mentioned. Some improvements were made to the gully, not considered a trip hazard now.
- Rosella Bend, Cllr Buckmaster initiated a report, which the PC has. Discussions about Village 7 and s106 monies and impacts on traffic are ongoing. Cllr Buckmaster suggests doing some lobbying, and if any funding comes up, then we can apply for it. S106 cannot be used to mitigate existing problems, but with the extra traffic from Village 7 these will only get worse. Cllr Toll to take this into the s106 discussions, the improvements to Church Lane to the village, cycle paths, pedestrian footways, and improvements to Rosella Bend.

**21.04.04 To receive the Hunsdon Annual Report 2020/21 – reports received.**

**- Hunsdon Parish Council – Chairs Report**

Cllr Toll said the AED is now installed and ready for use. Thank you to the Clerk, Cllr Burton, Helen Carter, Mike Newman for their hard work to get the machine up and running. Cllr Toll said the location is superb and is a positive thing for the village.

- **Parish Rooms Trust** – the finances are in a comfortable position.
- **Footpath Wardens** - A huge thank for all the work done on the footpath booklet with the £1,000 grant updating John Ashley's original booklet. Cllr Toll thanked Bud and Martyn and the support HCC provided.
- **Hunsdon Neighbourhood Plan** No further comments
- **Hunsdon, Eastwick, Gilston Neighbourhood Plan** – The annual report was written by Anthony Bickmore for end of year 20/21. There has been an update since then. The Referendum has now been fixed for the 27<sup>th</sup> of May. A lot of work and hours have been spent to get this to where we are now. The consultants who advised on this Neighbourhood Plan are in the final shortlist of 3 selected for a National Planning Award. They will get their result in June. This is the first neighbourhood plan of its type.
- **Village Hall Management** – The current Chair is asking for someone to step forward as chair of the Village Hall. It is not a difficult role due to the superb support from Angela, John, and Mike. The finances look healthy. Diane Dangel is joining as treasurer. Angela said we need a chair as the workload is considerable and tends to be carried by the same people.



- **Junior Mixed Infants School** – As of June 2020 at the end of the first lock down, schools were encouraged to take back as many children as possible. Hunsdon rose to that challenge and found a way to get every child some contact time within the last 6 weeks before the summer holidays. What makes this school so great is that the staff go that extra mile. The imposition to the staff both physically and mentally proves what a huge asset the school is. We were told a few years ago by HCC that the number of primary school children were falling. Hunsdon is oversubscribed, which is again testimony to the high regard in which the school is held.

Some building work is going on to replace the old walnut room with a unit that is 50% bigger, financed largely through s106 money. Mike Newman wants to acknowledge Cllr Buckmaster's involvement in getting this money and thank him.

Huge matter of concern to the governors that as far as village 7 proposal was concerned no primary provision was made and those children are being pushed to the local schools. The governing body wrote to the village 7 regarding this matter.

- **Cubs, Scouts** – Karen Osterley gave a presentation with photographs of what the children have been doing. Lack of continuity was a real concern. Had zoom meetings to enable children to stay in contact with each other. Cllr O'Shea said although they are currently experiencing financial difficulties, there are funds around, and the Scout Group can apply to the Parish or Cllr Buckmaster.
- **Council and District Councillor Report** – Cllr Buckmaster said he is in awe over what has been done with the Neighbourhood Plan and it is a shame not to get a chance to attend the Awards dinner.

Schools – there is an oversubscription all round. Children in Sawbridgeworth have been sent to Widford.

Councillor Toll raised the Growth and Transport Plans (P17 in the report). The East and South East Plans overlap in our area. Hunsdon Parish Council made representations in response to the public consultations in conjunction with the joint Neighbourhood Plan Group. We felt there were errors in the report. There is nothing proposed for traffic calming and improvements on Church Lane. Nothing proposed for public transport to assist with getting to Harlow. The same Growth and Transport plans flagged up they would undertake traffic calming in Stanstead Abbots due to 1,500 houses being built in Ware. Cllr Toll asked, 'why didn't Hunsdon get flagged up as a rat run through to the A120'. No output has been seen from that yet. Cllr Buckmaster will keep a watchful eye out for that.

- Mike Newman asked if Cllr Buckmaster was aware of the roadside rubbish on the 414. Cllr Buckmaster advised that is scheduled for being cleared by HCC in conjunction with EHC, who will cut the grass. This is an ongoing co-ordinated approach that Cllr Buckmaster oversees, as it does not happen automatically.



Cllr Burton said we have a waste site in Hunsdon and would suggest that most of this rubbish is from these trucks and would like to see HCC and East Herts to communicate to get things done together. Cllr Buckmaster has reminded the head of service of EH.

- Cllr Toll said the report that Cllr Buckmaster has submitted has historical value, as it logs events of 2020. Action: clerk to send the report to the History Society.

- **Hunsdon Recreation Area** – Jackie wants to thank the Hunsdon Active team who worked with her, mainly being Carole Page and Karen Osterley who put the bids together. How wonderful it is to now see all the children enjoying the playground. The MUGA is still a project we are working on and the outdoor gym equipment. John asked where the gym equipment is to go on the field. Jackie advised there is a rule that adult equipment cannot be within 25 metres of children's equipment. Its going to have to go in front of the tennis courts or it can go as a trim trail around the outside, not in front of the chapel. A concern was raised that the location needs to be given thought to ensure too much space is not taken, as other activities – i.e., the fete, take place here. Cllr O'Shea asked if there was competition between the adult gym equipment and the MUGA for funding. He noted he has seen other areas with the equipment which is not used and is it better to concentrate on the MUGA. Jackie said it is two different funding pots. Gym equipment is Health and Wellbeing pots. MUGA will be an application for Sport England. Different targets

**Clerks Report** – Action: clerk to put on the website in a high-profile section with a link to social media.

**Police Report** No comments

#### 21.04.05 Question Time

John – emailed councillors a while ago about installing CCTV in the hall enabling live streaming for PC meetings,. Cllr Toll said the PC need to discuss and decide about webcasting and have to consider people's opinions on this. There are things we must consider. Meetings must be run differently. We have to think about that. John said it is not particularly for the PC but is a facility for the VH.

John added to raise the profile of the PC perhaps a notice board in a prominent place and would we consider that for the next years precept. Cllr O'Shea has seen boards in Standon. Action: Cllr O'Shea to get more information on the boards.

Pauline – observed people tend to complain about things on the hub, but do not follow up with the clerk or the PC. Cllr O'Shea said we just have to put up with the chatter on the website but should make some response. Perhaps we should say, we have seen the comment, there is a contact form on the page, and send it to us and we will be able to review it. Action: Cllr Burton to see how this would work and discuss at the next council meeting.

The Clerk thanked the Chair for the hard work he has done in keeping the council on track and keeping us co-ordinated and encouraging us with our ongoing projects, particularly moving through the difficulty of zoom meetings and not being able to work as closely as we would normally do. Cllr Toll said the workload has been challenging, and it is one thing after another. We have



been challenged by the Gilston area and everyone needs to get on board and support the Neighbourhood Plan. HCC and their minerals plan will be appearing shortly. It seems never ending. Cllr Toll thanked Cllr Buckmaster for his help over the year and with the SIDs. He thanked the councillors for their input over the year. Cllr Buckmaster said bear in mind you could have additional sockets to move the SIDs around. Perhaps Acorn street to be considered as a potential site.

**21.04.06 Close of meeting – 21.57**

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