

Hessett Parish Council

MINUTES

of the meeting on **Tuesday 18 March 2025 at 7.30pm** at Hessett & Beyton Village Hall

Present: Councillors Phil Barrett (Chair), Richard Merryfield, Andrew Pearson.

In attendance: Cllr Nickey Willshire (MSDC)

180325/01 Apologies for absence

Councillors Margaret Shaw, Michelle Fisher (Clerk to the Council) and Cllr Penny Otton (SCC). All Councillors agreed to accept apologies.

180325/02 Part 1 Declarations of Interest

- (a) There were no Disclosable Pecuniary Interests Declared
- (b) There were no other Disclosable Interests Declared

180325/03 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 14 January were not available due to the sickness of the clerk and has been deferred.

180325/04 Public Forum

County & Borough Councillor Reports

County Councillor Penny Otton

Cllr Penny Otton not attend the meeting and provided her apologies

District Councillor Cllr Nicky Willshire

Cllr Nicky Willshire report was provided. Mid Suffolk intend to withdraw the letter for minor planning applications i.e under 10 dwellings. This was a concern as neighbours would not be alerted to changes. The parish council agreed to respond to the consultation expressing their concern

Central government has required increased housing targets but all councils with an increase in 37% by Mid Suffolk over and above the current high levels of building. An updated plan is being produced and should be reviewed and responded to by the Parish Council. It was also agreed to review the Beyton plan and consider if Hessett needed a plan or could link to the Beyton Plan. It was asked progress had made by the parish council with the planners about the quality of the new houses and Cllr Willshire had raised with the planning team.

Devolution plans are progressing with a costed plan needed to be provided to central government by 26 March 2025. There are 3 options a council for all of Suffolk, East and West Suffolk or Ipswich, East and West Suffolk. This is to be voted on by the councils WC 17/03/2025.

There were no members of the public who attended the meeting.

180325/05 Planning

The following were discussed:

- (a) Green Meadows The Green Hesselst Application for Listed Building Consent – no objection raised
- (b) Lime Tree Close Hesselst - Erection of a detached cartlodge Application – rejected by planners before it was discussed
- (c) Issues raised with car parking for no 1 the street which an e mail from a resident suggested it was not in line with the planning permission. Cllr Willshire was asked to raise this with the planners at Mid Suffolk District Council (MSDC).

180325/06 Clerk's Report & Administrative Duties

The Clerk was sick so was not at the meeting but had provided correspondence

(a) Residents issues raised

- i. It was reported that a car has been abandoned on the on the green. The car has a notice to the owner to remove the car. Cllr Richard Merryfield agreed to follow up and it should have been removed.
- ii. Concern was raised about no 1 the street but is covered in item 180325/05
- iii. It was raised that footpath between the Felsham Road and Breach Wood had been ploughed making it difficult to walk. This was to be raised with the farmer but the field has been cultivated so is not a problem now.
- iv. The allotments along hedge at the top of the allotment are not being used and could be free for others to increase the size of their allotment or to be offered to the village. Cllrs Barrett and Pearson agreed to talk to the allotment holder and ask the clerk to consider the position in terms of the allotment rules.

(b) The Clerk has noted that she plans to order new pads and a battery for the defibrillator. It was suggested that the council should consider if a maintenance contract could be provided and Cllr Barrett offered to investigate with the clerk.

(c) The clerk is chasing MSDC regarding our play equipment survey which has been requested a number of times.

(d) The clerk has outlined that the audit of the Parish Council is due and the Parish Council agreed that SALC should be required to undertake this.

180325/07 Finance

(a) No report as the clerk is off sick

180325/08 Governance

(a) No issues raised

180325/09 SID management

Cllr Merryfield outlined that an alternative location had been found for the SID post to be outside number 3 the bungalows on the Green. This would be on a 30 mph repeater post which also has the playground sign on it. An e mail of support from the resident has been received. The clerk would be requested to make the

formal request and Cllr Shaw was to be asked to check with Suffolk County Council on when this could be progressed. It was also discussed about having another post in Heath Road with a site towards the Green or one at the Roughan end. Cllrs Barrett and Pearson would look at the locations. It was also asked if the post has to be an "official council" pole or could the Parish Council provide their own and Cllr Shaw was to be asked to check this.

180325/10 Allotments

The issued raised on the allotments is covered in the clerks' update

180325/11 Phone Box

Cllr Shaw reported by correspondence that she is chasing the company delivering the map as progress had stalled

180325/12 Dog Bins

Dog bins have now arrived and Cllr Pearson agreed to fits with help from others. It was agreed to ask if a metal post to be provided for the bin near the Parish Council Notice board.

The dog poo bags and dispenser has proved to be unsuitable and will need to be sent back.

180325/13 Flooding & Water Survey

Cllr Barrett reported that he had discussions with Beyton PC flooding committee who have undertaken a number of improvement in water flow through the village. The water through Beyton comes from Hesselsett which is on the watershed. It is planned to see if water can be slowed down between Hesselsett and Beyton, without affecting residents, working with landowners. A meeting with Suffolk Wildlife Trust is planned.

180325/14 Playground/play area repairs

It was reported that the new surface has been successful but new boards for some of the items is still needed. Cllr Barrett would chase these repairs.

180325/15 Heath Maintenance/ Hedges

Cllr Pearson undertaken a large amount of clearance on the heath and the Parish Council thanked him for all the hard work. Cllr Pearson has spoken to the landowner next to the heath who said they would keep the hedge down on the southern boundary.

Cllr Pearson confirmed he will continue to look for someone for the next years hay cut and Cllr Barrett offered to ask the new tenant of Hicketheath Farm.

180325/16 The Compost Bins

Cllr Pearson outlined that the new concrete pad had been provided for the compost bins and was planned to look at options which would be in line with what the allotment holders would use.

180325/17 Specialist Accounts and website packages

The Councillors agreed to defer this topic until the next meeting due to the Clerk

being off sick and not having had to time to research packages further.

180325/17 **Councillors/Clerk to update PC on any meetings attended**
There were no reports back not covered elsewhere

Next Meeting date confirmed as 20th May 2025 at 7.30pm.

**The Council agreed the following items should be added to the next meeting
Agenda**

- **SID Management**
- **Allotments**
- **Phone box**
- **Dog Bins**
- **Playground**
- **Heath Maintenance**
- **Flooding**
- **Community Compost Project**
- **Repairs to the village notice board**
- **IT support for the clerk**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm

**Signed as a true record by authority of the Council
Chair**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. J. Bennett', is written over the printed name of the Council Chair.