

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HUMBERSTON VILLAGE COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 4TH MARCH 2025 AT 7.15 PM AT QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL, WENDOVER PADDOCK, HUMBERSTON

Present: Cllr. Shawhulme (Chairman)
Cllrs. Hodgins, Duff, Sharp, Thompson, Clark, Hudson and Rudd

Apologies: Cllr. Dunne

In Attendance: PCs Dave Cave and PC Dan Mosely, LPT

There were 4 others present.

24/216 To receive and accept apologies for absence

Received from Cllr. Dunne due to illness and accepted.

RESOLVED: That apologies be received and accepted.

24/217 Declarations of Interest – Code of Conduct

None declared.

24/218 To approve minutes of previous meetings –

Village Council minutes from February 2025 – main meeting and then planning and budget meeting

Minutes approved and agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

RESOLVED: That minutes from the meetings held be approved as a true record.

24/219 Police Report

To receive police report for information and agree any necessary actions from report.

Report received prior to meeting, circulated to all members and projected at meeting.

PC Cave present and went through report and figures. Teams changing from 1st April to be all merged into one team and introduced new member of LPT. All noted.

Public Break –

Resident re planning issue from previous meeting. Enforcement notices have now been issued on the properties concerned. Public then had all left.

24/220 Highways/footpaths/traffic issues

a) To receive any highways/footpaths/traffic issues for consideration and agree any necessary actions

Cllr. Clarke raised issue of dog fouling increasing. Cllr. Hodgins – parking restrictions on Humberston Avenue are causing further issues and Clerk to check with NELC on monitoring. Noted.

24/221 Planning Matters

The following planning applications were considered:

Planning Application Reference: DM/0097/25/FUL

Proposal: Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans) and 4 (Materials) as granted on DM/0274/23/FUL to allow for changes to size, scale and design of chalet, external materials, gravel driveway to side, paving area to rear, pathway to existing outbuilding and erect detached shed to rear

Location: 124 Humberston Fitties Humberston

Objections – the Village Council would fully support the comments made by the NELC Heritage Officer and would hope that she will have the support of the Planning Committee and Enforcement from NELC and refuse to allow this development to proceed. The very strong comments from the Heritage Officer are echoed in the Village Council's own views and the development should be built in accordance with the original planning permission granted.

Planning Application Reference: DM/0911/24/FULA

Proposal: Erect single storey extension to front to form veranda, new chimney to side, alterations to external cladding, roof covering, windows and rainwater goods, erect detached single storey garden room to eastern boundary and installation of new fencing to boundaries with gate to front (Amended Plans received 13th February 2025 to alter design of chalet and boundary treatments)

Location: 107 Humberston Fitties Humberston

Objections at the present time based on previous objections from itself and the Heritage Officer, however the Council notes that the Heritage Officer has not yet commented on the amended plans but would fully support any recommendations made by her on these amendments.

Planning Application Reference: DM/0110/25/FUL

Proposal: Variation of Condition 12 (Approved Plans) following DM/1052/23/FUL to amend house design and layout for Plot 7

Location: Agriculture Land South View Humberston

Objections – the Village Council would reiterate its original objections to the development of this parcel of land within the Village and therefore objects to this proposal.

To receive any other planning correspondence/representations from development teams and/or residents and to agree any further actions – none received.

RESOLVED: That all comments be submitted as agreed to NELC.

24/222 Allotment/Cemetery Matters

Cemetery:

- a) To receive quotations from Chairman for Cemetery/Maintenance contract for 2025/2027 and consider and agree appointment of contractor

Chairman had received all quotations directly and had circulated document giving details of prices submitted with contractors labelled A to E and not named. Proposed and unanimously agreed to award to Contractor C. Chairman advised this was Rich Trees Ground Maintenance.

RESOLVED: That two year maintenance contract be awarded to Rich Trees Grounds Maintenance From July 2025 through to June 2027 with probationary 3 month period at cost of £21,600 for year 1 and £24,000 for year 2.

b) To consider preparation of ashes plots within the cemetery and agree necessary action

Clerk had asked Member to consider in-house preparation of ashes plots by cemetery contractors and associated charge with admin fee kept by the VC and remainder paid to contractor. This agreed and Clerk to liaise with contractors and organise.

RESOLVED: That from following week ashes plots be prepared in house by Council's own contractors At costs to be agreed.

c) To receive report on progress cemetery extension project including:

- Application for discharging of conditions for hedging

This had now been submitted and result awaited. Window for planting for Spring may be missed and so would defer to Autumn if necessary. Noted.

- Consideration of proposals for plaque memorial monuments

Defer to April meeting pending Cllr. Hodgins obtaining further quotation.

RESOLVED: That this item be deferred pending Cllr. Hodgins obtaining further information.

Allotments:

a) To receive update on allotment tenancy renewals for 25/26

All done and vacancies being actioned and HAHA kept informed. Noted.

b) To note allotment inspection date – Wednesday 12th March 2025

Tenants had been informed and HAHA had advertised also. HAHA asked if the VC would fund the skip again this year and VC advised this had been included in the budget. HAHA to liaise with the Clerk to organise.

RESOLVED: That the VC fund the provision of a skip for the allotments as previously with date to be Confirmed by HAHA.

24/223 Wendover Halls/Paddock Matters

a) To receive update on energy refund from solar panels and new energy supplier

Utility Aid had organized switch to new supplier from August which would allow registration of refunds where current suppliers did not. Noted.

b) To receive quotation for extra hand driers and agree any necessary actions

Quotation received for £660 for three new hand dryers and agreed.

RESOLVED: That three new electric hand dryers be installed in the old and new hall.

24/224 Land Management

a) To receive report on any land management issues

Clerk to contact company to ascertain when any land transfer may occur.

24/225 Village Council matters

a) To receive update on Spring 2025 issue of Newsletter and agree any necessary actions

Out for distribution. Noted.

b) To receive update on upgrading to gov.uk for email and website provision

Clerk gave details from Mariner Computers with no more than £70 cost and all website, emails etc. would be upgraded and merged for 12 month period until new address firmly established.

RESOLVED: That the Village Council adopt the 'gov.uk' domain name for Humberstonvillagecouncil.gov.uk

24/226 Future Dates

Date of next meetings: Tuesday 1st April 2025
Planning Committee - Tuesday 18th March 2025
Office Closure – 14.03.25 to 21.03.25
Allotment Inspection – Wednesday 12th March 2025
Quiz Night – Friday 11th April 2025
Local Mayoral Elections – Thursday 1st May 2025
VE Day Senior's Lunch – Thursday 8th May 2025
To receive any other future dates – none received.

24/227 Reports

To receive any reports
None received.

24/228 Finance

- a) To agree payments as per list circulated

Payments agreed to be made as per list circulated.

RESOLVED: That all payments be made as per list circulated.

- b) To note end of year procedures at end March 2025 – VAT reclaim and final accounts

Clerk reminded that end of financial year imminent. All VAT would be reclaimed and final accounts, bank statement and account reconciliation to end of financial year would be circulated and ready for April 2025 meeting. All staffing end of year procedures would also be actioned, such as P60s etc. Noted.

- c) To consider and agree appointment of internal auditor for fy 24/25 accounts.

Members agreed to remain with MSP Accounts – Mr. Peterson. Clerk to request if they would carry out the internal audit for fy 24/25.

RESOLVED: That MSP Accounts be appointed as internal auditors for fy 24/25.

24/229 Events

To receive information on upcoming events and consider and agree necessary actions including –

Update on summer holiday clubs and consideration of all future events laid on by the Council.
Cllr. Hodgins updated on proposed fishing trip as part of Summer Clubs. Proposed weekday and small lake available, with capacity for 10/12 young people. Small charge to be levied. Date to be agreed as a possible Thursday, age group of secondary school only and from approximately 11 am. Clerk requested that public liability be proven at the venue before anything further could be organized. Clerk also advised that local Police could not be responsible for trip, which had to be solely organized and risk-assessed by the Village council. Noted.

24/230 To consider exclusion of press and public

RESOLVED: exemption of press and public for remainder of meeting under Public Bodies Admissions To Meetings Act 1960, Section 1 (2) on the grounds that discussion of the following business is likely to disclose confidential information

24/231 Personnel Matters

a) To approve salaries as per schedule circulated

Approved to be made as per schedule circulated.

RESOLVED: **That all salary payments be made as per schedule circulated.**

Chairman closed the meeting at 8.51 pm.

Signed:.....

Date: