

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HOCKHAM PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY **27TH APRIL 2026 AT 7.30PM IN HOCKHAM VILLAGE HALL**

Attending, NCC Cllr F Eagle; Cllrs Bennett, Lambert, Lloyd, Loft, Leech, Thomas and Wiltshire, the clerk C Garrod and 8 parishioners.

- 1) **Apologies for absence;** District Councillor P Cowen.
- 2) **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Lambert as landlord of the eagle and trustee of the Woodsford charity, Cllr Wiltshire as trustee of the Woodsford Charity, Cllr Loft as an allotment holder, Cllr Bennett as an allotment holder and trustee of the Townlands Charity and Cllr Leech as a farmer from Little Hockham.
- 3) **Requests for dispensation:** None
- 4) **Minutes of 16th March 2026;** Unanimously approved.
- 5) **Progress report:**
 - a) **Info Board.** Members were asked to give ideas for the board.
 - b) **Drainage.** NCC Highways were to do more investigative work. The clerk would investigate timescale.
 - c) **Vicarage Rd Sign.** Limelight Signs would provide. Permission was needed. No Access to A1075 was the preferred wording. Costs to be sought.
 - d) **Speed Camera Results.** The results for the last 4 sets of recordings, showed a very small number of speeds in excess of 30mph. Results were encouraging. Site specific results would now be sought and reported.
 - e) **Mobile Library.** Efforts were being made to advertise the visits. One suggestion was that a one stop strategy should be considered. The clerk would liaise with the library service.
 - f) **Land Asset availability.** It was agreed not to take ownership of the paths offered. The clerk would investigate an easement for a right of way.
- 6) **The meeting** was adjourned for a public discussion.
- 7) **Reports.** Councillor Eagle gave information on Rural Business awards, the Plunkett Award, Foodbanks needed sugar, the structure of the council in the years to come, the fact that no councillors could call in a planning application from 30th September 26. Councillor Cowen's report was read out. It contained information on budgeting and the LGR.
- 8) **Highways and Road Safety.** Cllr Thomas reported that scheduled white lining was completed. The Forest Edge junction was in another schedule and would be acted upon in the future.
- 9) **Planning.** PL/2026/0509/CLEUD No objections. Local plan, no further progress. Brookside Farm, objections had been posted. There had been an EA change of application status. Clarity was being sought.
PL/2025/1331/OMAJ. Discussions took place over the AWA changing their statements. Discussions with the planners at AWA had brought some concerns that they did not understand the local operational status. Further discussions would take place. The application had been called into committee. Cllr Bennett would represent the Parish council.

10) **Finances.** The clerk gave a synopsis of end year figures of £17580.67 in the bank with a creditor of £154.20. Half the precept and the VAT reclaim had been received. Currently there was £29,740.40 in the bank. Approvals were given for clerk's salary, Hornfair road closure, Pearce and Kemp and Community Heartbeat invoices. In touch payment was due. Play equipment would be discussed under the Playing Field Agenda.

11) **Allotments.** Some work had gone ahead on another bore hole. Allotments were looking well maintained.

12) **Footpaths.** Nothing to report.

13) **Playing Field.** End year finances were very healthy at £15,705.65. It was agreed to look at grants again but to progress phase 2 of the play equipment. The new equipment had been a huge success. Hornfair approached and all help was needed.

14) **Forest Edge Court.** Nothing to report.

15) **Councillor Updates.** None.

16) **Correspondence.** None

17 **Next meeting** Monday 18th May. This would be the parish meeting and PC AGM starting time 7pm.