



HUNCOTE PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN: MR. ALEC KNIGHT

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MARCH MINUTES

Minutes of **meeting** held at 7:00 pm on **Thursday 4th March 2021**

as an online Zoom Meeting, via -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81381213088?pwd=THU3dXJZeVFVHNVMFk5Q3NmVmxNQOT09>

Dial in via 0203 901 7895, 0131 460 1196, 0203 051 2874, 0203 481 5237 or 0203 481 5240

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Meeting ID: 858 8354 0097

Passcode: 576476

Present: Cllr A. Knight (Chairman) Cllr J. Cheesman (Vice Chair) Cllr R. Bailey
Cllr L. McEntee Cllr M. Ingham Cllr K. Clarke

In attendance: Cllr M. Wright (County/District Councillor)
Stuart Bacon (Clerk)
2x parishioners
4x members of public

8204 **To receive apologies for absence**
None.

8205 **Chairman's opening remarks and Member introductions**

The Chairman welcomed all those present, before outlining the roles of himself and the Clerk in facilitating the meeting, how Members and any members of the public (if they join the meeting) should act and respond to queries, by physically raising their hand in front of the camera and waiting to speak if connected by video chat or by asking to speak by telephone, Members would introduce themselves to all present, and then one person to speak at a time. The Chairman also requested all Members to mute their microphones when not speaking by video chat. Those joining by telephone were requested to remain quiet if not speaking.

8206 **Declarations by Members of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests** (In relation to Agenda items)
None.

8207 **Confirmation of the Minutes of the meetings held on 4th February 2021 (HunPCMar21/2)**

Members reviewed the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 4th February 2021.

RESOLVED: Noting one minor spelling error, Members agreed to accept and to sign as a true and accurate record.

Cllr Knight proposes, Cllr Cheesman seconds, all agree.

8208 **Status report arising from these minutes on items not covered within the agenda**

None, all items covered under existing agenda items.

8209 **Parishioners' time** (15 minutes are set aside for Parishioners to raise issues and ask questions)

A parishioner queried the FVNP timeline. The Chairman explained that while the plan was ready for referendum last year, it had been delayed by coronavirus, and the earliest date it could go to referendum was 6 May 2021.

Queries were also raised about Blaby DC's New Local Plan. The Chairman explained this was out for consultation and explained the Local Plan process.

A parishioner raised an issue of fly tipping at the allotments, and discussed the electrical supply which had been installed across the footpath at the end of Eunice Avenue. Cllr Wright agreed to follow up at Blaby DC with the Environmental Crime Officer, to understand the actions being taken.

8210 **To Receive Reports from partners** (10 minutes each on items relating to Huncote)

8210/1 **Leicestershire C.C. – Cllr M. Wright**

Budget Summary

Rising Costs – Growing demand for services is expected to increase costs by £60m, including: -

Children and family Services (£23m) – mainly due to pressures on the budget for social care places, which are rising by over 10 per cent a year, and growing social worker caseloads.

Adult Social Care (£13m) – this is largely the result of an ageing population with increasing care needs and a growing number of people with learning difficulties.

Environment and Transport (£4m) – this primarily relates to more SEND pupils requiring transport.

Savings

The £56m savings are made up of:

£30m of detailed savings – reducing children and family costs by re-shaping how services are delivered, reducing adult social care costs by simplifying processes and speeding up support, bringing together early help and prevention services.

A “high needs development plan” which will reduce SEND costs by £26m

Council Tax

A council tax increase of 4.99 per cent (including the 3 per cent adult social care levy) and equates to £5.59 a month for a band D house. Councils can apply a levy of 3 per cent for adult social care over two years – this is to include a 3 per cent levy in 2021/22.

Council Tax is the only significant lever available to the County Council to raise additional money to fund vital services whilst balancing the budget.

Capital programme

The £450m four-year capital pot sets out plans for sustainable investment across the county including:

£70m to improve and maintain existing roads and bridges.

£120m for improving transport infrastructure.

£72m for extra school places, including specialist provision for SEND students.

£25m to boost adult social care accommodation that supports people to live independently.

£23m for recycling and household waste initiatives and specific carbon and energy reduction projects.

£71m to invest in property to generate ongoing money for front line services.

Find out about Fostering

Potential foster carers across the county are invited to Leicestershire County Council’s virtual “find out about fostering” events. Since January, the council’s information events have been running online, meaning that the application process to become a foster carer is now almost entirely virtual.

The next “Find out about Fostering” event will take place on Wednesday 17th March at 6.30pm. To find out more visit www.fosteringleicesterhire.com or call the team for an informal chat on 0116 305 0505.

Local Elections May 6th 2021

The local elections are due to take place on May 6th 2021 for: -

Leicestershire County Council

Police and Crime Commissioner

Blaby District by-election (Stanton and Flamville)

Neighbourhood Planning Referendum (NPR) – Fosse Villages

Youth Parliament

More than 2,000 young people across Leicestershire have been making their voices heard on the issues that matter the most to them.

Taking part online for the first time due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the “Make Your Mark” ballot offers young people across the country an opportunity to have their say on what campaigns should be targeted by members of the UK Youth Parliament (MYP).

The top three national topics were supporting mental health, free university and stopping plastic pollution.

The top three local issues for the county were domestic violence, homelessness and access to training for jobs.

Find out more by visiting <https://www.byc.org.uk/uk/uk-youth-parliament/make-your-mark>

Cllr Clarke queried the ages involved in the Youth Parliament. Cllr Wright explained they were 11-18-year-olds.

Litter picking heroes offered support

Apply for equipment for your group. Leicestershire County Council is supporting local litter picking groups – often called wobbles – by pledging to help then access the equipment they need.

Practical support is being offered through a new fund which will supply these groups with road signs and hi-vis jackets to help them keep safe, and extra-long litter pickers to reach under bushes and hedgerows.

You can apply by emailing Community.Litter@leics.gov.uk

The Chairman invited a parishioner to contribute, who explained they believed that SUEZ had provided a trolley for Huncote Wombles to carry their equipment in.

Cycling and Walking Strategy – closes on 7th March 2021

Complete online or email CaWS@leices.gov.uk or telephone 0116 305 0002

8210/2 **Blaby D.C. – Cllr M. Wright**

Blaby DC have produced their latest newsletter for residents in the district. Copies can be seen by following this link - <https://mailchi.mp/blaby/general-news-end-feb?e=e06acd4022>

- Roadmap to ending restrictions
- District cases update
- Vaccination latest and survey
- Council Tax bills landing soon
- Railway Station renovation complete
- Fosse Foxes on track
- Election day nearing
- Volunteering in the district
- Census on the way
- Extension of shielding
- Recycle your inhalers

Cllr Wright explained that the play equipment/open space area on Spence Lane had now been mowed, although EMH Homes won't be taking the area over from Countryside Properties until it is in an appropriate state. She also advised that she is still following up the Narborough Road footpath with Alberto Costa and Countryside Properties.

Cllr Wright departed the meeting at 7:32pm.

8210/3 **Leicestershire Police (update and recent crime statistics)**

January 2021 crime statistics according to www.police.uk: - 4 incidents

- 2x Violence and sexual offences on/near Critchlow Road (Includes offences against the person such as common assaults, Grievous Bodily Harm and sexual offences) 2x Under investigation
- 1x Violence and sexual offences on/near Eunice Avenue (Includes offences against the person such as common assaults, Grievous Bodily Harm and sexual offences) Under investigation
- 1x Violence and sexual offences on/near Duncan Avenue (Includes offences against the person such as common assaults, Grievous Bodily Harm and sexual offences) Under investigation

RESOLVED: Members noted the crime figures, and acknowledged that no newsletter had yet been received for March.

8211 **Coronavirus/COVID-19 impact update**

8211/1 General update on the impact of coronavirus in relation to Huncote

The Clerk provided an update on the roadmap to ending lockdown was on track, with the primary school preparing to return. Guidance for managing playgrounds and outdoor gyms revised 28 January

Members noted email from Blaby District Council regarding local impact of the virus.

Everyone was reminded to wash their hands regularly.

8212 **To Review Huncote Enhancement**

8212/1 To review Huncote cemetery wreath clearance

Cllr Bailey queried how he was advised of the wreath clearance and objected to being left out. The Clerk advised he had been sent messages on multiple occasions.

Members discussed clearing the cemetery ditch.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to obtain quotes for clearing the ditch, and the cemetery extension.

8212/2 To receive update on recent upkeep around the public sites in the village

The Clerk noted mowing of parish council sites was expected to start in March and clarification on when County Highways would be clearing verges was still outstanding. Details could be found via the links on the parish council website when the information was available.

8212/3 To determine location to plant donated Elm tree from Goscote Nurseries

RESOLVED: Members agreed to 8-9ft elm tree being planted on The Den

8212/4 To receive update following meeting with Anna Farish, Blaby District Council regarding replacing store sheds on sports field

The Clerk updated Members on the meeting to discuss replacing the prefab store shed on the corner of the sports field. The meeting would discuss any measures necessary.

The Chairman noted Blaby DC's intention to replace the gas extraction pipe around the sports field.

RESOLVED: Members agreed if any sealing of the slab was necessary as part of the visit, this could be completed on the day, if less than £200.

8213 **To Review Financial Report including:**

8213/1 To consider any grant requests received

The Clerk noted despite enquires about grants, no formal applications had been received by the time of the meeting. It was understood some groups may be seeking funding from alternative sources.

8213/2 To receive update on rental of parish field

Members noted two enquiries to rent the field, with queries regarding the recommended pricing,

RESOLVED: Member authorised the Clerk to negotiate on price.

8213/3 To acknowledge error in transfer to NEST

Members noted duplication of the December payment, which was being investigated for return.

RESOLVED: Clerk to continue discussion with NEST regarding return of overpayment.

8213/4 To approve Accounts for Payment (**Doc HunPCMar21/3**)

Members reviewed accounts for payment.

RESOLVED: To accept and to sign as a true and accurate record.

Cllr Knight proposes, Cllr Cheesman seconds, all agree

8213/5 Summary of Income & Expenditure and analysis to date (**Doc HunPCMar21/4**)

Members reviewed summary of Receipts & Payments and analysis to date.

RESOLVED: To accept and to sign as a true and accurate record.

Cllr Knight proposes, Cllr Cheesman seconds, all agree.

RESOLVED: Members noted the precept payment was expected to be transferred on 29 April.

A parishioner departed the meeting at 8:11pm.

8214 **To Review Planning Applications** including:

8214/1 To review applications received since last meeting for consideration

- None
- Any other applications received before the meeting
- [20/1333/FUL](#) - Conversion of unused brick barn and cow shed into a Doggy Daycare Centre, including outside exercise area and grooming parlour - Holly House Farm Forest Road Huncote Leicester
RESOLVED: Members noted potential increase in traffic near Animal Aid.
- [20/1369/HH](#) - First floor side extension with carport/through passage below - 68 Denman Lane Huncote Leicestershire LE9 3BS
RESOLVED: No objection.
- Receive application for Street Trading Consent for Glyn's Super Whippy
RESOLVED: No objection.

8214/2 To review planning enforcement issues received before the meeting, including

- **E21/0037/UDRES** - Wooden building to the side of the property - 22 Field View Close Huncote Leicestershire LE9 3BP
- **E21/0059/COURES** - Gift shop opened on site - Tinglebug Farm, Narborough Road, Huncote, Leicestershire, LE9 3AW
- **E21/0068/HDGRW** - Removal of hedgerow between Langley Close and Spence Lane - Rear Of 20 Langley Close, Huncote, Leicestershire, LE9 3AT
- **E21/0071/COUAGR** - Dog groomers business in operation - Springfield Farm, Forest Road, Huncote, Leicestershire, LE9 3LE

8214/3 To receive results of earlier comments from Blaby District Council

- [2020/VOCM/0150/LCC](#) - Acresford Sand & Gravel - Application for the Variation of Conditions 25 of Planning Permission 2011/0756/01 to extend the time period for stocks of waste material

to be reduced to final restoration levels by 31st December 2019 - Acresford Sand & Gravel, Forest Road, Huncote, LE9 3LE – **Awaiting decision**

- [20/0698/FUL](#) - New vehicle access (dropped kerb) to connect new private access and driveway from Narborough Road on to Tinglebug Farm - Tinglebug Farm, Narborough Road, Huncote, Leicestershire LE9 3AW – **Awaiting decision**
- [2019/CM/0125/LCC](#) - Aggregate Industries UK Limited - Proposed lateral extension to the mineral extraction area within Croft Quarry, retention of access and ancillary development and reclamation via the importation of restoration material. - Croft Quarry, Coventry Road, Croft, LE9 3GP – **Awaiting decision**
- [2017/1389/01/CS/35a](#) - Aggregate Industries UK Limited - Submission under condition 35 of planning permission 2017/1389/01 (updated Environmental Scheme) - Croft Quarry, Marions Way, Croft – **Awaiting decision**

8214/4 To review areas of planning concern within Huncote
None.

8214/5 To receive an update on Fosse Villages Neighbourhood Plan Joint Working Board and Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange
Members noted Stoney Stanton would be investigating amending the green spaces included prior to referendum with Blaby DC.

RESOLVED: Clerk to circulate meeting details for 10 March to Members.

Members noted little change in the state of the applications, but noted the Highways assessment for HNRFI and the Pegasus development around Stoney Stanton were being completed in tandem by County Highways.

It had been confirmed that consultation on the application would only be carried out online.

RESOLVED: Members noted the difficulties this posed, but were powerless to prevent it.

8214/6 To note temporary changes to how Blaby DC will be processing planning applications from 1st March for 3 months

RESOLVED: Members noted Terraquest had been contracted to review householder planning applications for Blaby DC for a 3-month period, starting on 1st March, following a backlog caused by coronavirus and staff being seconded to the Community Hub, leading to undesirable delays in processing applications. Blaby DC hoped this arrangement would only be temporary and would improve customers experiences.

8215 To Review Highways & Footpaths Issues

8215/1 A review of Highways and Footpaths Issues within Huncote

The Clerk provided an update on recent enquiries with works planned in the near future
Cllr Ingham noted the positive responses would make his cycling life safer.

4 members of the public joined the meeting at 8:33pm

8215/2 To consider email from County Highways on licencing of apparatus over, along or across a public highway (S178)

Members reviewed the licence conditions.

RESOLVED: Clerk to seek clarification if licences are required for VAS locations or Christmas lights.

8216 To Receive and Review Quarries Updates (Acresford Sand & Gravel, Suez, Croft Quarry)

RESOLVED: Members noted site meeting scheduled for 24th March at Acresford, subject to coronavirus conditions.

RESOLVED: Members noted Croft Quarry liaison meeting held 22nd February, blasting due to restart 11th March, boardwalk to be removed, steps to be reviewed. Dust/blast (environment) sub-committee scheduled Mon 26th April @ 2pm

The meeting was disrupted by 4 members of public. Members agreed to suspend the meeting.

RESOLVED: Members agreed that the disruptive members of the public should be removed.

8217 To Review Publicity & Public Relations Issues including:

8217/1 **Journal** – Next Issue Copy Dates - 5 March, 2 April, 7 May, 4 June
Members noted publication dates.

8217/2 **Huncote Village News** – Prepare Winter Issue

RESOLVED: Clerk to circulate newsletter to Members by Sunday to deliver.

8217/3 **Parish Council Website** – Review usage statistics/receive update on Parish Council Website
Various news items have been added to the website.

RESOLVED: Members noted parishioner comments on emails being sent and not replied to. The Clerk noted he would check spam more frequently for emails.

RESOLVED: More messages to be published via Instagram and Social Media.

8218 **To Receive Communication from External Groups/Bodies**

Cllr Knight noted discussions with the community association, a parishioner and the author of History of Old Huncote. It was suggested that the author had additional work he was interested in selling to the parish council. Huncote Community Association and the author have given permission for History of Old Huncote to be published on the village Facebook page.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to publishing the history book on Facebook.

RESOLVED: Clerk to investigate with author what items are available, and at what cost. The Council could then assess whether they were of benefit to the council for future use.

RESOLVED: Members noted County Highways – Parishes and Communities newsletter

RESOLVED: Members noted NALC Legal Update received in February

8219 **To Review Recent Consultations Received**

8219/1 Blaby District Council – [Local Plan Options Document](#)

RESOLVED: Members noted the Clerk had prepared an overview map of the whole of the district with all development sites shown and also how they would be affected by flooding. Cllr Clarke queried if further clarification should be given to the points on the wider waterways.

RESOLVED: Members agreed the letter prepared in the working party meeting be approved and submitted to Blaby DC.

RESOLVED: Members agreed once letter submitted to Blaby DC it should be published on the parish website, should parishioners wish to view the parish comments before submitting their own.

8219/2 NALC policy consultation – PC2-21 Model Design Code

RESOLVED: Members noted the Model Design Code. Members to send comments to the Clerk by Tuesday 9 March.

8219/3 Leicestershire County Council - Local Council Climate Action Survey

Cllr Knight noted difficulties posed by Action Plan against activities at Croft Quarry. Filling quarry with inert waste is safer for the future of the site.

8219/4 Any other consultations received before the meeting
None.

8220 **To Receive Clerks Report**

- Blaby DC – Parish Newsletter
- Noted parishioner complaint about attack by French bulldogs near Eunice Avenue, being dealt with by dog warden
- Free Parish Online mapping training offered on Wed 10 March for all Members
- Noted LRALC training fees set to increase for in-house and external training

8221 **Any other business**

(It should be noted that no substantive issues can be raised under this item (i.e. those requiring decisions or with a financial implication). It should be used only to register items for a future Agenda or items that are solely for information only.)

Cllr Clarke commented on positive experience of Councillor training offered by LRALC.

Cllr McEntee queried the protocol for dealing with meeting disruptions.

8222 **Date of next meeting**

Thursday 1st April 2021 – Virtual Zoom meeting @ 7:00 pm.

Details of how the access the meeting will be publicised on our website's meeting calendar.