

THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES UNTIL APPROVED AT THE 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

 <p>HICKLING PARISH COUNCIL</p>	Chair: Jo Belsten Vice Chair: Terry Barker Parish Clerk: Stephen Williamson 01493 789422 hicklingclerk@gmail.com	MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2015
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1st June 2015 – Hickling Barn

PRESENT AT THE MEETING - J. Belsten (Chair). Mr. S. Williamson (Clerk)
53 persons signed the Attendance Register (*Copy within Minute Book – not on website for security reasons*)
Copies of reports for those without Internet access can be obtained from the Parish Clerk

The meeting commenced at 7.03 p.m

1:	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Parish Councillor Mike Hodgson, NCC Councillor David Thomas, PCSO Jeanette Boardman	

2:	MINUTES OF 2014 MEETING
The revised Minutes of the meeting held in 2014 had been prior circulated. One minor alteration was made. Having made it clear that only persons present at said meeting should vote, the Minutes were Proposed as being a true and accurate record by Mr. D. Belsten, Seconded: Mrs D. Slatter. Vote by show of hands agreed the Minutes with no votes against. (<i>Abstentions owing to some persons not present at 2014 meeting.</i>)	

3:	PARISH REPORTS 2014-15
Mrs Sandra Clarke as outgoing Chair of the 2014-15 Parish Council gave her report, highlighting what had been achieved during the past four years, particularly noting the extensive improvements to the Staithe, cleared drains, marked footpaths, a weekly post office service and formal processes for Freedom of Information and Data Protection. Mrs Clarke also confirmed that the costly dispute had ended, and also informed that matters were in hand to register the Staithe, so that the village's largest asset could not be sold or transferred without knowledge. The old Parish Council had handed over to the new a streamlined budget and good reserves. On the dispute Mrs Clarke informed that some important albeit limited safeguards had been achieved with an improved constitution for the Barn. Mrs Clarke thanked the former Councillors and the Clerk for their support and hard work, stating that no-one could say that they did not do their best to protect the village. (<i>Note: For the record it is recorded that interruptions did occur during this report</i>)	
The Parish Clerk, Mr. S. Williamson began by stating a degree of pleasure but mainly relief that the long running dispute had come to an end, hoping that a brighter future beckoned. He thanked the outgoing Council for respecting his wishes on appointment that his involvement in the dispute had been limited, and promised that his loyalties lay with the village and its future and offering every good wish to incoming Councillors. Financially, the Clerk was able to state that as at 31 st March 2015 a sum of around £1,750 was available for 'everyday' use together with reserves of some £28,000. He stated that since that time there had been plenty of income and that the financial status was good. The Clerk ended by encouraging use of new recycling bins.	
COPIES OF THE FULL REPORTS ARE WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & ON THE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE	

4:	COUNCIL REPORTS 2014-15
There was no report available from NCC. Reporting for the District Council (NNDC) for 2014-15, outgoing District Councillor Paul Williams informed that he had been busy within the village and district on a role of tourism, encouraging small tourism based organisations to work with each other which in turn helped small businesses. Footpath signs were now present to mark footpaths and cycle routes, the Big Society Fund had been successful and would be maintained for coming years. On Social housing, Mr. Williams informed that he had been working at locating Exception Scheme land and hoped to be able to bring results to the Parish Council soon. Such land could provide ten homes which could only be available to persons living in Hickling or nearby villages, and an open consultation seemed more than possible. Lastly Mr. Williams stated that he had been involved in meetings involving Norman Lamb MP and he hoped there may be ways of bringing the village together after the dispute with the latter's help in a facilitating role.	
A COPY OF THE FULL REPORT IS WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & ON THE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE	

5:	NORFOLK POLICE
<p>In PCSO Boardman's absence a crime report had been prepared which showed a total of eleven reported incidents in the village between May 2014 and May 2015. This number was significantly down on previous years. Seven of the eleven crimes involved theft or burglary (including one from a vehicle), there had been two cases of criminal damage, one of fraud and one of taking/making indecent images of children. One of the main current police priorities involved crime prevention at boat yards.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A COPY OF THE STATISTICS IS WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & ON THE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE</p>	

6:	INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW PARISH COUNCIL
<p>Newly elected Chair of the Parish Council, Mrs Jo Belsten first introduced ten of the eleven new Parish Councillors (Mr. Hodgson unable to be present) and thanked the village for the overwhelming support in the recent election. Hickling was one of only thirteen out of the 122 NNDC Parishes to have a fully democratically elected Council. She stated it was unusual to have virtually a whole Parish Council replaced, and whilst this had implications on handover, she remained confident that benefits would soon be obvious. She emphasised that all new Councillors would have professional training, all procedures and policies would be examined and communications much improved with a new website, more openness within meetings and availability of documents and public participation sessions for a cup of tea and informal chats at meetings and in other village locations like one of the two public houses, as well as bi-monthly sessions at public venues in the village.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A COPY OF THE FULL REPORT IS WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & ON THE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE</p>	

7:	HICKLING BARN
<p>This report was presented by Mr. Harry Purnell, the Vice-Chairman of HPFRG the charity that managed The Barn. He stated that the past year had been an eventful one and was pleased to report that The Barn had continued to develop as a community facility, mentioning the end of the legal dispute and a new constitution which was supported by the parishioners. He stated that HPFRG looked forward to working with the new Parish Council to ensure that it thrived as an integral part of community life. Mr. Purnell listed a number of events and activities which had seen over 13,000 attendances between March 2014 and April 2015. He thanked the many volunteers who had worked tirelessly for no reward. Mr. Purnell queried the settlement amount and made it clear that many large debts and outstanding loans as a result of the legal dispute remained, however he was pleased to state that finally the builder had been paid in full and gave the charity's gratitude. He stated that all must look forward and work at the things that really mattered including the Hickling strength of spirit. He again thanked the parishioners for their continuing support. <i>(Note: as with the first part of Item 3 and for the record it is recorded that interruptions did occur during this report)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">A COPY OF THE FULL REPORT IS WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & ON THE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE</p>	

8:	COMMUNITY REPORTS		
The following reports were made in person by named representatives of the groups and organisations:			
Bowls Club (Mr. P. Crook)	Methodist Church (Mrs T. Elliott)	Phoenix Trust (Mr. T. Barker)	
St. Mary's PCC (Mr. E. Lindo)	Snooker Club (Mr. B. Butler)	U3A (Mrs T. Ellis)	
The following reports were read in the absence of representatives by the Parish Clerk, Mr. S. Williamson			
Hickling Ladies	Hickling Hunnies	Hickling Toddlers	Hickling Windsurfing
COPIES ALL REPORTS (except Snooker Club) ARE WITHIN MINUTE BOOK & ON THE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE			

9:	OPEN FORUM
<p>Mrs Prettyman thanked Mrs Belsten for Chairing the meeting, and thanked outgoing NNDC Councillor Paul Williams for his support and assistance over the past four years. To warm applause one Parishioner stated belief that the village now had to draw the line under what had happened and take stock so that the Parish could move forward and start to return to the delightful place to live that had been and could be again.</p>	

The meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.

<i>Signed after agreed amendment and approval by Council as being a true and accurate record by the Chair of the meeting or authorised deputy</i>		Dated:
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