HUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 16th November 2022 at 7.30pm

	Reference:
See Distribution	Date 17 th November 2022

		1
Present:	Councillor R Wyatt	Chair
	Councillor J Wylie	
	Councillor R Worsdale	
	Councillor W Knight	
	Councillor R Smith	
	Councillor Tom Jones NYCC	
	Dee Lynn	Clerk
	Kathleen Allison	Treasurer
	Two members of the public also in attendance (representing Hunton in Bloom)	
Items	Recording of Meeting	Actions
Item 1	Apologies for absence	
	Councillor Pat Middlemiss RDC	
	Councillor Helen Grant	
Item 2	Councillors declarations of interest - none	
Item 3	Minutes of last meeting held 21st September 2022 – agreed as a true	
	and accurate record, proposed Cllr Worsdale seconded Cllr Knight.	
	It was agreed to take item 9 at this point in the meeting.	
Item 9	Finance report	
	The Treasurer had circulated a Finance report and updated with a report of income from a donation by the HEADS pantomime group of £100, this sum was specifically as a contribution toward the playpark bridge repairs and therefore ringfenced. Also since report prepared the donation of £300 between Hunton Methodist Chapel and Patrick Brompton church has been made. The memorial repairs cost £735. The Treasurer noted the bank fees and advised these are incurred when cheques are paid into the account, whenever possible BACS payments will be requested in future. Further items of expenditure were discussed see 8 (iii), (iv) and (v)	

- (iii) Epsom printer extended warranty, Cllr Knight reported this would cost c£60, proposed Cllr Knight, seconded Cllr Wylie.
- (iv) British Legion wreath donation, this was agreed at £50 proposed Cllr Wylie seconded Cllr Smith.
- (v) Christmas Tree, it was agreed to explore a living tree and at a cost up to £100, proposed Cllr Wyatt seconded Cllr Wylie.

CIIr Smith

Cllr Smith

The Treasurer was asked whether a payment had been made to Mike Smith for advice and support with the new website, no payment made to date and it was agreed that Cllr Wyatt will confirm the amount which was not expected to exceed £100, proposed Cllr Smith seconded Cllr Knight.

The Treasurer had also circulated a report providing a breakdown of spending against the precept 2022/23 and a list of considerations for future PC spending to inform the setting of the precept for 2023/24.

Likely future costs include, increase in grasscutting costs, it was requested that Cllr Smith confirm the current year is the final year of the 3 year fixed cost agreement for grasscutting.

There may be costs involved with the replacement footbridge depending upon grant income secured.

It is anticipated wall repairs will be necessary following removal of five conifers which will be a significant cost to the PC in the next financial year.

Cllr Wyatt asked Cllr Jones for an indication of council tax rates by NYCC and Cllr Jones advised an increase is anticipated but not yet agreed.

Cllr Wyatt advised the meeting a decision on the level of precept is not required until the January meeting however we will be asked by RDC for an indication of the amount sought.

Cllr Wyatt proposed that an increase to £6000 be considered given anticipated expenditure. It was noted that this could be "frozen" or reduced in future.

A precept of £6000 to be confirmed at the January meeting, proposed Cllr Knight seconded Cllr Worsdale.

The Treasurer was thanked for her reports.

Item 4

Actions from previous meeting

Clir Wyatt

- (i) PC green areas, validation of ownership, Cllr Wyatt reported on recent meeting with representative from NYCC Highways to look at areas being considered for planting by Hunton in Bloom (HIB). This visit had been very useful and informative confirming land ownership and Cllr Wyatt is waiting for copies of the plans held by Highways.
- (ii) Playpark bridge replacement, Cllr Wyatt advised that a grant of £9000 had been agreed by RDC Community Fund and further grant applications have been made. As above a donation from the HEADS pantomime group has been made. The replacement bridge is expected to cost £12,500 and it is hoped this sum will be reached from the applications made. It is possible savings could be made on installation

costs if local volunteers are found. A 2 month delivery period is expected so the bridge could be installed by the spring.

CIIr Wyatt

Cllr Wyatt asked the meeting to consider agreeing to the order being placed and this was proposed by Cllr Wylie and seconded by Cllr Worsdale.

CIIr Wyatt

Cllr Jones told the meeting that as the required funding level for the replacement bridge had been reached he would cover the cost of the repairs to the memorial.

Cllr Wyatt thanked Cllr Jones, and to send details of costs.

- (iii) 20's plenty, Cllr Wylie advised there is no update.
- (iv) War memorial repairs, these have been completed and were ready for the service on 12th November. The council recorded it's thanks to Steve Tock for his work in arranging the works and also thanks to Heather Smith for the poppy display.

Item 5

Item 6

Police report, the clerk apologised to the meeting for the oversight in requesting a police report in time for this evening's meeting.

Planning applications

No planning applications have been received.

An approach was made by representatives from Richard Roberts to the parish council requesting the opportunity to talk to the council regarding a potential planning application. It had been agreed that the council would prefer to consider any planning application once made to RDC and the company have been advised accordingly.

Item 7

Matters arising from RDC and NYCC

There were no matters arising from RDC the meeting having received apologies from both Cllr Grant and Cllr Middlemiss.

Cllr Jones reported on NYCC matters arising. The "Let's Talk" consultations are underway inviting contributions and views on the new council.

A recent NYCC meeting has agreed a 100% increase in council tax for second homes in the authority. It is anticipated this could generate income of c £10 million and that affordable housing development can be funded from this income.

Cllr Smith enquired about future arrangements for planning applications under the new authority, Cllr Jones advised there are three possible models being considered and that the "Let's Talk" consultations are intended to give residents the opportunity to express their views on such matters, and would encourage people to participate.

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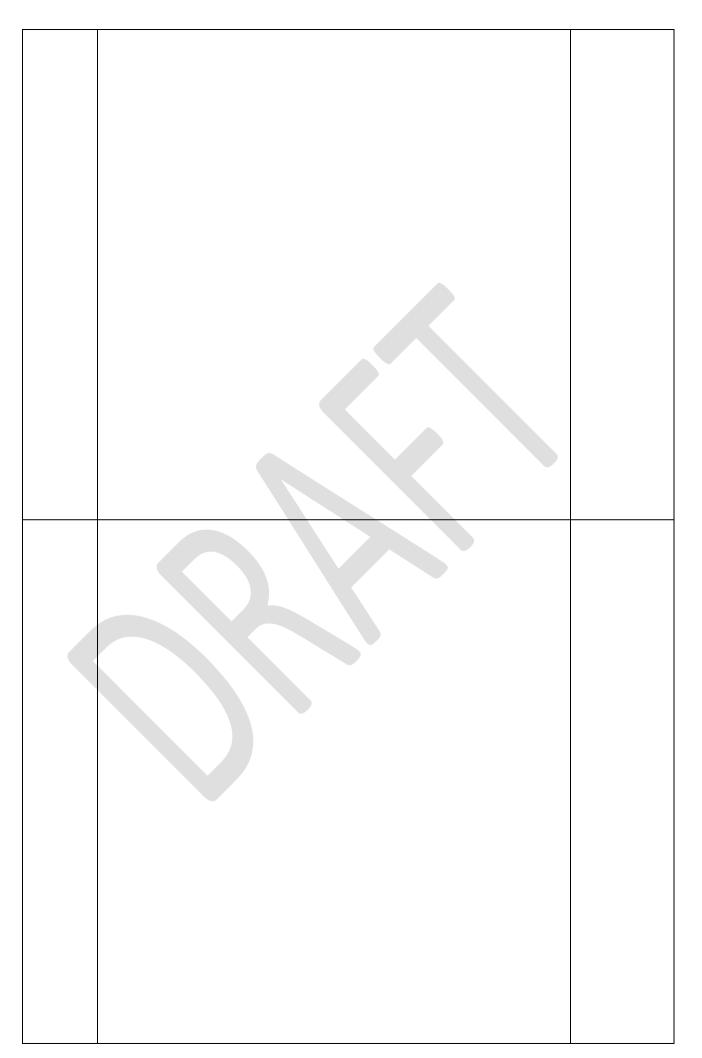
PC business and maintenance

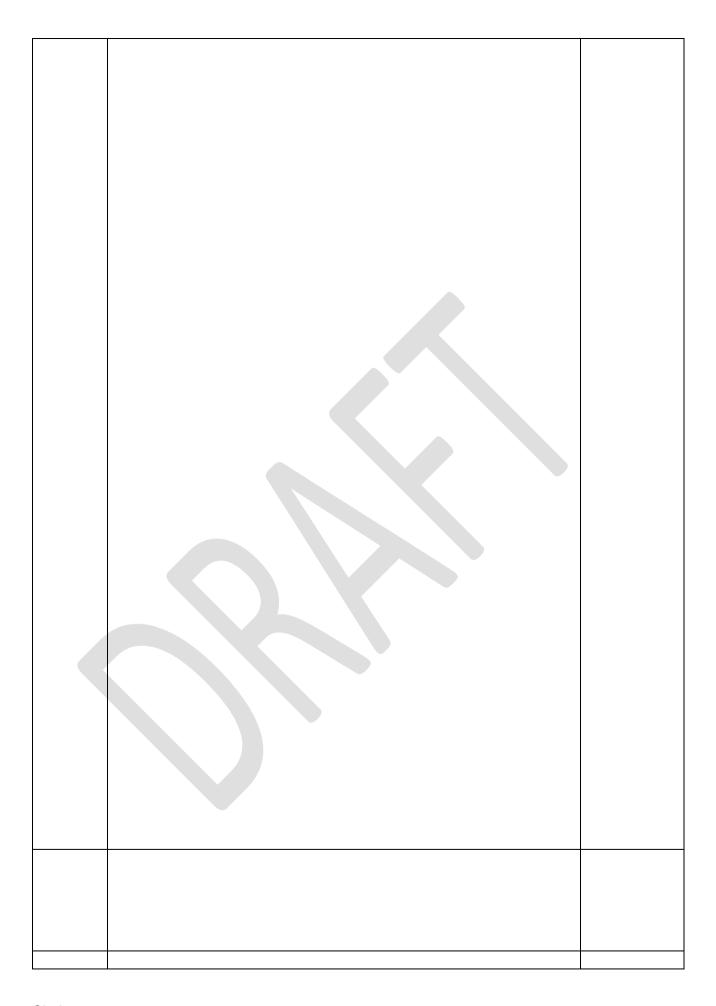
- (i) Hunton in Bloom Cllr Wylie explained representatives of the HIB group were present to talk to this item. The HIB group wish to request agreement to planting of a sensory garden area on parish council land. Cllr Wyatt referred to the item earlier on land ownership verification and it would be necessary to await the drawings and plans from Highways before any area could be agreed. The meeting with Highways had been very useful in explaining the guidance and regulations that highways have to consider and take into account. Cllr Knight explained that phase 2 of the wildflower planting has not yet started and that the area set aside for phase 2 could be taken over by HIB for sensory planting. Planting would need to be within the agreement made by the council with regard to phase 2. The meeting was advised that HIB have obtained their own public liability insurance, Cllr Wylie explained her understanding that any landowner would still retain liability.
- (ii) Warm spaces, Cllr Knight had circulated to all councillors an enquiry regarding the council's support for provision of warm spaces in response to increased heating costs and residents who may struggle to heat their homes this winter. It was noted that the village hall has a weekly coffee morning and the Countryman's hosts two coffee mornings a week. The meeting was not sure what other spaces could be available, the Methodist chapel might be a possibility. The suitability of the "warm spaces" initiative in a small village setting was considered. Cllr Jones advised he was aware of funding to support a "warm space" in Scotton and agreed to forward details so this could be publicised in the village.
- (iii) See above under Finance
- (iv) See above under Finance
- (v) See above under Finance
- (vi) Trees and grasscutting, as above Cllr Smith will ascertain whether a new grasscutting contract needs to be explored, it is anticipated in light of increases in fuel costs any new contract will be more expensive. Four quotes have been obtained for the works to remove 5 Leylandi trees near the memorial. These quotes vary considerably and Cllr Smith will seek clarification on the detail of the cheapest quote. Cllr Wyatt confirmed work will need to take into account bird nesting restrictions and would need to be completed by 1/03/23.

The owners of the property most affected by the planned removal of the trees will be consulted. It was agreed to bring the matter to the January meeting and that prior to that the quotes will be confirmed and the property owners will be consulted.

- (vii) Manhole cover in village hall car park Cllr Wyatt confirmed this has been replaced at no cost.
- (viii) Dates of future meetings agreed, 18th January, 15th March, 17th May, 26th July, 20th September, 15th November.

Cllrs Smith and Wylie





Clerk

Original signed

Signed: Date _____

Please note these minutes are draft and marked as such until agreed at the next meeting.

