

**Hemsby Parish Council Meeting held at the Pavilion, Waters Lane, Hemsby on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30pm.**

**MINUTES**

**1. ATTENDANCE**

1.1 Present Cllr Kyriacou (Chairman) Cllr Stocker, Cllr S Bensly (Vice Chairman), Cllr Kern, Cllr Bowgen, Cllr Cooper, Cllr Bennett. Apologies received from Cllr Chilvers, NCC & GYBC Cllr J Bensly, no apology from GYBC Cllr Noel Galer. 2 Members of the public present. Clerk Mrs K Wilton.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS**

Cllr Kyriacou Football club items 8.3.1 & 9.2

Cllr Cooper Football club item 9.2

Cllr Kern item 9.3

**3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

3.1 The accuracy of the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November **2023 were agreed & signed by the Chairman.**

**4. PUBLIC FORUM**

4.1 No reports received from Councillors – NCC Cllr James Bensly, GYBC Cllr James Bensly & GYBC Cllr Noel Galer.

4.2 Police. -Next SNAP meeting is 7pm on Thursday 14 December 2023 at Scratby Village Hall, Beach Road, Scratby, Great Yarmouth, NR29 3AJ all residents can attend.

4.3 A resident asked a question as to when the Shoreline Management Plan for Hemsby was changed from Hold the Line to Managed Retreat in 2012, is it true that this was agreed by Shirley Weymouth? The resident was advised that the Late Shirley Weymouth sat on many committees as well as being the Parish Clerk so our records would show that. Please can the Parish Council check the minutes to see if this was agreed as part of a Parish Council decision? It was agreed that the Clerk would have a look in the minutes in the safe where they are held & any members of the public are also welcome to make an appointment to view the minutes held.

4.4 Another resident asked had the slides been received from the meeting that that Parish Council attended at GYBC Town hall on 8/11/2023, the Parish Clerk confirmed that no they haven't. The Chairman advised that the Parish Council had only recently been invited to any meetings with GYBC about the coastal erosion in Hemsby, but this was in a listening capacity rather than a decision-making role. It is hoped that this can be built on but as the Parish Council are the lowest tier of government any decision, planning & financing of coastal defences etc sits with the Borough Council & other agencies. The Parish Council is left with other things such as lampposts, bus shelters, public toilets & its own burial ground, all the bits that the Borough Council do not want to do. It is hoped that the views of Hemsby Parish Council are listened to that the beach must be maintained & protected as it is vital for the tourism economy of the village.

**5. CO-OPTION TO PARISH COUNCIL'S VACANT SEATS – Four seats remain vacant, application forms available from the Clerk.**

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

6.1 It was noted that GYBC have visited the Pavilion with a view to re-instating it as the polling station for the village, although they acknowledge that it is now fit for purpose again they have decided to keep it at the Village Hall.

6.2 It was noted that Anglian Water has been contacted again regarding the sewerage discharges on Hall Road/Waters Lane during high rain fall & they have identified issues between Martham & Hemsby & will be investigating them.

## **7. ADMINISTRATIVE/DAY TO DAY MATTERS**

7.1 The contents of the Clerks report were noted.

7.2 Cllr Cooper reported that there is no update available from the Football club on the installation of a lean to for storage or container & compost enclosure they wish to install.

7.3 Chairman & Clerk updated all present that at the meeting held with GYBC & stakeholder on 28/11/2023 at the Lacon Arms PH to discuss coastal erosion at Hemsby following the storm at the weekend of 24-27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 with the loss of parts of the road way at the Marrams. The reason for the meeting was so that the Parish Council could be advised that Section 77 notices had been issued to some house holders that their properties were unsafe & GYBC had concerns about them being occupied overnight as they had deemed them to be in imminent danger. The Chairman confirmed that he had visited the properties from the Friday evening (when he had been alerted by the clerk that the road had collapsed) & every day leading up to the meeting (Friday to Monday) to understand the needs of the one resident who was still living there. GYBC advised that their housing team would be on site that morning at the Beach Café & the Chairman requested that a Housing team representative visited residents with mobility issues rather than expecting them to try & navigate their way to the beach café. The Clerk also suggested that a single point of contact be issued to any residents in need of housing advice to avoid them having to navigate a very large housing department in order that they can get advice tailored to their needs due to the severity of the situation. GYBC said that they were also concerned that the private water supplied had been compromised with the collapse of the road but that it was an issue for the land owner to address as they supply in to the freeholds & leaseholders of the properties for which they are charged a ground rent or service charge by Watlings Trust. Save Hemsby Coastline Chairman mentioned that there were many householders now needing safe places to park their vehicles as this had been provided by Lorna Bevan, but this could not be expected to continue long term, it was suggested that land owner (The Watlings) seek an alternative arrangement with 3<sup>rd</sup> party landowners to either procure land or to broker an interim temporary area that could be used, Save Hemsby Coastline offered to clear any land that offered to assist & speed things up as there are areas nearby but they are very overgrown due to lack of recent use. The Fire service was also present as there were concerns if oil lorries could not get to properties to deliver there could be a risk to life with people using potentially unsafe forms of heating, they had visited properties to give advice & had brought along a supply of smoke alarms to be given to residents. The Lifeboat team joined the meeting half way through as they had not been invited to the meeting had arrived at the venue & they advised that they had re-connected some of the water supplies on behalf of the Watling Trust. GYBC also advised that they were concerned from a sanitation & public health perspective if people are going to have trouble getting the cess pits emptied also due to the collapse of the road, even if their water supply had been reconnected. GYBC expressed their concern that there were some vehicles now stranded due to the road collapse that could not easily be removed, the Lifeboat team suggested that they could move these via the beach but GYBC were hesitant about that due to potential vehicle fluid contamination on the beach. The Parish Council Chairman suggested that he, the clerk & a representative of Save Hemsby Coastline go to visit a land owner of adjacent land to see if they would take up dialogue with GYBC to grant permission to use access on their land for potential removal of the stranded vehicles, that meeting did happen that morning also & the contact details were given to GYBC Chief Executive to initiate talks with the landowner. The Chairman & the Clerk also called again on the resident to advise them that GYBC Housing Team would be coming to see them, they however had already made arrangements to be taken to the beach café to discuss their housing needs.

- 7.4 The Parish Councillors were invited to attend an online meeting with GYBC Chief Executive, Cllr C Smith (leader of GYBC), Watlings Trustee & Mr Weston their agent on 5/12/2023, Hemsby Parish Cllr Kyriacou, Cllr Kern, Cllr Bowgen & Cllr Cooper & the Clerk all attended remotely. Watlings Trust were in attendance but they had significant difficulty in joining the meeting online. It was asked in that meeting on who's authority does the lifeboat re-connecting the water supply & on who's insurance, the Watlings representative confirmed that they do it on behalf of them not as volunteers. They were advised by GYBC that they had made plans for the engaged demolition firm to work with the landowner of adjacent land (see item 7.3) to remove the stranded vehicles Mr Weston commented that he could get it done much cheaper but would not reveal which contractor would they use & GYBC were again concerned if this work would be fully insured & all areas of liability covered. The Parish Council Chairman suggested that the Watling Trust accept the quotation that GYBC had obtained unless they were able to confirm that they would be able to achieve the strict timeline that they were working with & that he felt that they were being unreasonable in not agreeing to cover the costs, The Watlings Trustee present repeated that the car owners had been told not to park there but had ignored that. They were also asked how many of the properties were leaseholders or paying ground rent or service charges to them for a road that was no longer there, they did not reply & promptly left the call.
- 7.5 It was noted that the 'No entry' road entry markings at the Pit Road/North Road end have been chased again with NCC Highways dept as they were scheduled to be re-lined last month & are still outstanding. **-Ongoing**
- 7.6 It was noted that The Chairman & Clerk have been invited to attend a meeting held online by Resilient Coast, attendees include GYBC & stakeholder on 21/12/23 to discuss coastal erosion at Hemsby, an update will be provided at the January 2024 meeting. **-C/F January 2024 meeting.**

## **8. PLANNING & TREE PROTECTION ORDERS**

8.1 Applications received which have already been responded to: **None**

8.2 Planning/Tree application decisions issued by GYBC/NCC: **None**

8.3 Consider Planning applications circulated and requiring decision:

8.3.1 **06/23/0827/HH-** 3 Summerfield Road Hemsby. Proposed alterations and extensions to front, side and rear of dwelling incorporating garage within the domestic accommodation. **No objection to be submitted to GYBC by 14/12/2023.** **-Action Clerk**

8.4 Consider any Planning applications received since the publication of the agenda requiring consideration:

8.4.1 **06/23/0760/PU** Home Farm Waters Lane - Application for a Certificate of Lawful Proposed Development to confirm that a lawful commencement of development would occur by carrying out demolition of the existing modern agricultural structures on the site in full accordance with the requirements of Conditions 12 & 13 of planning permission 06/22/0405/VCF and with all due consideration to the requirements and restriction of the remaining conditions, in advance of the submission of other details required for pre- commencement conditions. **No objection to be submitted to GYBC by 29/12/2023.** **-Action Clerk**

8.5 It was noted that GYBC have confirmed that they will grant permission for the Car boot Sale to be held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024 as a one-off event in addition to the current planning consent as easter in early in 2024, this will obviously remain a weather dependant event.

## **9. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

9.1 The payment list as circulated on the schedule for November was agreed. The bank statements were accepted. The total payments for November are **£9,379.67**, receipts of **£2,333.10** were noted. The bank summary was received & accepted as at **30 November 2023** totalling **£254,435.56**

Hemsby Parish Council savings account (Barclays)	<b>£103,413.68</b>
Hemsby Parish_Council current account (Barclays)	<b>£4,000.00</b>
Hemsby Parish Council Unity Trust current account	<b>£6,604.32</b>
Hemsby Parish Council Unity Trust deposit account	<b>£140,417.56</b>

- 9.2 A request for a refund of fees paid for the hire of Pavilion for a meeting in November 2023 by the football club was considered & it was agreed to cancel the invoice. **-Action RFO**
- 9.3 The request from the events group for a refund of hire fees for the tennis/hard court was agreed to be refunded. **-Action RFO**
- 9.4 To receive an update from Chairman, Clerk & RFO following their attendance at a GYBC meeting on 15/11/2023 to discuss concurrent functions & precepts & subsequent data request received from GYBC. It was noted that several of the local Parish Council's had attended where they were questioned by GYBC on what did the Parish Councils spend the concurrent functions grants on, could they afford for any of them to stop from 1 April 2023? what would happen to those services if GYBC did cease the concurrent functions grants? The Clerk & others stated that if this were to happen as this would be double taxation for the parishioners as they would be contributing via the GYBC element of their council tax bill for things in Great Yarmouth itself for such things as bus shelters (this stopped in 2023 £5900 & had previously been paid annually to HPC for the replacement, maintenance, weekly cleaning & upkeep of the existing ones there are 6 Hemsby), open spaces, burial rounds & beach cleaning if this was to stop then Hemsby Parish Council (HPC) would have to either stop those services, reduce them or budget for them to be included in the precept request which would be then levied against all of the Council Tax payers in Hemsby, hence the double taxation. HPC said that it had been asked for these figures for around 5 years annually by GYBC & they had supplied them with evidence available if requested, GYBC advised that not everyone had done so. The clerk stated that she didn't realise that it had been optional & that GYBC should have taken this up with each individual Parish Council that had received the money but had failed to provide the information. A few days after the meeting the Parish Council received the same form again as mentioned above & again submitted the information. **- Ongoing**
- 9.5 It was agreed that it was not possible to set the 2024/25 budget & precept request as the concurrent amounts have still not been received from GYBC although it was noted that the provisional Tax Base has risen by 75. It was thought that this was due to properties moving from Business Rates into Council Tax due to the change in legislation in April 2023 that homes have to have been actually available to let for short periods for at least 140 nights in total over the current and previous tax years actually let for at least 70 nights in the last 12 months. **-C/F January 2024**
- 9.6 It was noted that the NJC pay settlement from April 2023 was settled in November 2023 & back pay due contractually to the Clerk & RFO were paid in November payment run.
- 9.7 It was noted that National Minimum wage will rise to £11.44 phr from April 2024.
- 9.8 This item was raised by the Responsible Financial Officer that additional banking options need to be considered to ensure FSA cover, the Councillors present requested additional clarification as to which options were with immediate access or minimum terms bond. **-C/F January 2024.**

**10. Next Meeting: 15th January 2024 at the Pavilion, Hemsby**

Hemsby Parish Council, The Pavilion, Waters Lane, Hemsby, NR29 4NH  
 Clerk: Mrs Kerrie Wilton Telephone: 01493 719235 Email: hemsbyipc@outlook.com

## Hemsby Parish Council

## PAYMENTS LIST

Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
194-200 Staff Costs										£3,663.96
201 Office Administration	11/12/2023		Unity - Current		Lloyds Credit Card	Lloyds Commercial Services	S	0.82	0.17	0.99
201 Subscriptions	11/12/2023		Unity - Current		Lloyds Credit Card	Lloyds Commercial Services	X	3.00		3.00
201 Office Administration	11/12/2023		Unity - Current		Lloyds Credit Card	Lloyds Commercial Services	Z	1.99		1.99
202 Pav - Maintenance	11/12/2023		Unity - Current		General Maintenance	Caister Electrical	S	40.00	8.00	48.00
203 PF - Grounds Maintenance	11/12/2023		Unity - Current		Grounds Maintenance	Ace Mole Catching	Z	200.00		200.00
204 Parish Office	18/12/2023		Unity - Current		Toilets / Office Electric	EDF Energy	S	379.22	75.84	455.06
205 Parish Office	18/12/2023		Unity - Current		Toilets / Office Electric	EDF Energy	S	405.84	81.17	487.01
206 BG - Miscellaneous	11/12/2023		Unity - Current		Memorial Bench	The Play Company	S	418.00	83.60	501.60
207 Recycling	11/12/2023		Unity - Current		Recycling Collections	URM (UK) Ltd	S	67.20	13.44	80.64
208 Pav - Broadband	11/12/2023		Unity - Current		Pavilion Broadband	BT	S	29.99	6.00	35.99
209 Pav - Maintenance	11/12/2023		Unity - Current		Washroom Services	Anglan Chemicals	S	36.25	7.25	43.50
210 Office Equipment and Suppli	11/12/2023		Unity - Current		Office Telephone	Bonine	S	17.55	3.51	21.06
211 Pav - Cleaning	11/12/2023		Unity - Current		Clearing - Pavilion	James Charlton	Z	230.00		230.00
212 Waste	11/12/2023		Unity - Current		Waste	Norse Waste Solutions	S	56.40	11.28	67.68
<b>Total</b>								<b>6,150.19</b>	<b>290.26</b>	<b>6,440.45</b>