**Hoby with Rotherby Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council**

**Held at Hoby and District Village Hall**

**on the 15th July 2024 at 7.30pm.**

**Present:**

**Cllr. Sally Jennings (SJ), Cllr. James Falconer Smith, Chair (JFS), Cllr. Carol Wooldridge, Vice-Chair (CW), Cllr. Mick Cooter (MC) and the Clerk – Vic Allsop (VA) with 8 members of the public.**

1. The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.
   1. Cllr. James Falconer Smith welcomed everyone to the Meeting of the Full Council.
2. Apologies and Absence to be noted:
   1. The apologies for absence of Cllr. David Williams were received and approved by all the Cllrs.
   2. Apologies - Cllr. Joe Orson (JO) Leicestershire County Council (LCC) and Cllr. Ronan Browne (RB) Melton Borough Council
3. Approval of the draft minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 20th May 2024.
   1. Cllr. James Falconer Smith proposed after discussion that the draft minutes of the last meeting should be signed. This was agreed and Cllr. James Falconer Smith signed the minutes as a true record of the meeting.
4. Declarations of interest.

4.1 There were no declarations of interest.

1. Result of the General Election of July 4th 2024
   1. The result of the General Election was shared with the meeting:
      1. Edward Argar (Conservative) 17,526 – Elected, Marilyn Gordon (Independent) 517, Zafran Khan (Labour) 12,130, Teck Khong (Alliance for Democracy and Freedom) 348, Andrew Konieczko (Liberal Democrat) 2,547, Alastair McQuillan (Green) 3,685, Peter Morris (Reform UK) 8,945, Matthew Shouler (Rejoin European Union) 288. Turnout was 62.2%
      2. It was noted that the result of the General Election saw the Labour Party form the new government.
2. Open Questions
   1. A parishioner noted that the new street light had been put in place on Church Lane, Hoby and thanked the Parish Council that the light lit up the street and not their house.
   2. A parishioner and member of the Women’s Institute (WI) thanked the Parish Council for the grant which supported their recent 100th anniversary celebrations.
   3. A parishioner noted that work was required to the second bus shelter at Brooksby and hoped that some action was being taken to deal with the possible culprits. It was noted that the Police were aware of the vandalism taking place as was Brooksby Melton College.
   4. A parishioner made reference to a recent planning application on Back Lane, Hoby. The comments were noted by the Cllrs.
   5. It was noted that Parishioners had requested to speak to certain items on the agenda later in the meeting.
3. Matters arising:
   1. Poppy Wreaths for the Parish Churches and the Chapel, and the Annual Poppy Collection for the Royal British Legion.
      1. Three Parish Churches and the Chapel had accepted the offer of a poppy wreath to be displayed on the door of each church. One church still to advise. **Action VA**
      2. Cllrs. suggested that the Village Hall also be asked if it wanted a poppy wreath. **Action VA**
      3. Cllrs. agreed that wreaths should be purchased when everyone had replied. **Action VA**
      4. It was also hoped that the Annual Poppy Collection in the villages would be restarted this year, after a gap of some years.
   2. The portrait of King Charles III was still to be put up in the Village Hall. **Action VA and the Village Hall Committee.**
   3. The painting of Ragdale Phone Box was now complete.
   4. New Fencing at Rotherby Pond had been completed. The new gate needed to be padlocked and the return of the pond to Leicester City Council would now get under way. **Action VA**
   5. Highways issues considered urgent.
      1. The condition of the Ragdale Road/Hoby Road was still giving cause for concern, and was now becoming dangerous. LCC had not been to carry out any work to the road. It was agreed to consult with our County Councillor about the concerns of the Parish Council. **Action VA**
      2. Some other less urgent issues were mentioned. The Parish Council encouraged parishioners to also report problems to the highways team. To that end it was agreed that a procedure would be published on the website and placed on the village notice boards. **Action VA**
   6. Second Brooksby Bus Shelter. It was noted that further vandalism had been carried out to the second bus shelter on the Leicester side of the A607. Shelter Maintenance Ltd. Will be carrying out similar repairs as were done for the bus shelter on the Melton side of the A607. **Action Shelter Maintenance Ltd.**
4. Finance:
   1. It was confirmed that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for 2023/4 had been sent off for External Audit.
   2. The notice of public rights and publication of unaudited annual governance and accountability return. The date of the announcement was June 2nd 2024 as agreed, and the inspection period completed on Friday 12th July, as agreed. One parishioner inspected the accounts in that period.
   3. The Chair signed the Bank Reconciliation report to the 5th July 2024. The Parish Council account had a balance of £50,606.18 and the Grant Fund had a balance of £119,393.20 The total being £169,999.38
   4. Cllrs. noted Appendix 1 payments and receipts report to the 13th May 2024. Appendix 1 was initialed by the Chair.
   5. The Parish Council insurance for the year 2024/5 at a cost of £1,410.11 had been renewed.
   6. S137 spend for 2024/5 it was noted that remaining spend stands at £1,984.93 This was unchanged from the last meeting.
      1. Cllrs. discussed the possible purchase of a Thermal Camera for use in the Parish, from the S137 spend. Cllrs. supported the idea of having one, but agreed to discuss this again at their September meeting. **Action Cllrs.**
   7. Parish Clerk.
      1. The Parish Clerk’s Appraisal had taken place.
      2. The Parish Clerk’s CiLCA training continues. **Action VA**
   8. Online Banking. An application had been made but it was discovered that another procedure needed to be followed called Bankline and currently due to changes required to this service registering of new customers was currently suspended. It was agreed to see if there was another approach that could be made with NatWest and also to get in touch with the Leicestershire and Rutland Association of Local Councils (LRALC) to see if they could give us some advice. **Action VA**
   9. Cllrs. agreed that the recommendations of the Internal Audit report would be considered at the September meeting of the Full Council. **Action VA**
   10. Grant Applications received by the Parish Council for Consideration. Section B Grants only x 2. Section B grants come from the Grant Fund.
       1. Section B Grant – This was from Hoby and District Village Hall. This was a revised document which was deferred at the last meeting. The amount asked for was £2,000.00 for a project costing £3,942.00 The grant was for the clearance of the land to the rear of the Hall where the shed had once stood, and to create a new paved area in keeping with the paving already in place. It was agreed unanimously to support this grant application. **Action VA**
       2. Section B Grant – This was from Rotherby District Church Council. The amount asked for was £1,125.00 £975.00 for the removal of two trees in the churchyard which had died and £125.00 towards the £650.00 annual cost of mowing the churchyard. Cllrs. felt unable to support the request for funding to support the grass cutting but unanimously agreed a grant of £975.00 to support the work to remove the two trees in the churchyard which had died. **Action VA**
   11. Response to three written questions about the Grant Fund received at the last Parish Council Meeting from a Hoby parishioner.
       1. The first question was about how the Grant Fund had been utilized in the first nine years.
       2. The second question was to assess the remaining receipts over the next 11 years
       3. The third question was asking about how the fund could be accessed.
       4. Cllr. Carol Wooldridge went through the three replies the Parish Council had prepared and the answers were given in a hard copy format to the parishioner concerned who was present at the meeting.
       5. Cllrs. agreed unanimously to add the three documents as additional papers to the minutes of the meeting and to have them published on the web site and periodically for them up to be updated. **Action VA**
       6. The Parishioner thanked the Cllrs. for the written replies and the transparent discussion about the Grant Fund which had taken place. In turn the Parish Council explained that it had welcomed the opportunity to share this information with parishioners.
5. Planning:
   1. Cllrs. Received Appendix 2, Planning Applications and Decisions which were to be lodged with the minutes. Appendix 2 was initialed by the Chair. Changes from the previous meeting were noted.
   2. 23/00547/FUL Installation of a 200kWp Ground mounted photovoltaic array at Brooksby. Work has been completed, but planning permission had not been granted as of yet. This was now being dealt with by MBC.
   3. 23/00548/FUL Erection of a plant room containing water source and air source heat pumps and supporting plant. As 9.2
   4. 23/00479/FUL OS 8695 Brooksby Road Hoby. Amended application for the erection of a single dwelling. Permission has been granted.
   5. 23/01097/FUL Land on the site of the former signal house, Hoby Road Brooksby. Siting of metal storage container. Permission has been granted.
   6. 24/00299/FUL Mr. T Tomlin, Byways, 30 Main Street, Hoby. Construction of a single dwelling, land off Back Lane, Hoby. Case Officer Ms. Sarah Matthews. Pending. After discussion Cllrs. agreed unanimously to object to this application on the grounds that it was contrary to the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). **Action VA**
6. The Parish Council is in the process of setting up an NDP Review Working Group. Cllr. Mick Cooter is the Chair of this Working Group.
   1. Cllr. Mick Cooter identified that a date of July 31st was to be set for the first meeting of the Working Group. The Chapel was to be booked for the meeting. **Action VA**
   2. Three parishioners from Ragdale and Hoby were to be invited to the meeting. **Action VA**
   3. A representative for Brooksby would be welcomed to join the Working Group at any time. **Action All**
   4. Cllr. James Falconer Smith would be in attendance for the first meeting.
   5. The consultant who worked with the Parish Council for the original NDP was to be invited to return for the Review. **Action VA**
   6. The Working Group would bring to the next Parish Council Meeting a formal request to commence a Review and to advise MBC accordingly. **Action Working Group**
7. Flood Working Group.
   1. An update was received from the Trent Rivers Trust (TRT)
   2. Land Management advice had been shared with landowners to the South of the Thrussington Road and was to be followed up with them about the next steps. **Action TRT**
   3. Now that the General Election was over, organising meetings with the land owners to the north of the Thrussington Road was getting under way. **Action TRT**
8. Transport.
   1. Cllrs. agreed to investigate the introduction of a further speed sign post, this one to be put up on Hoby Road, Brooksby near to the College entrance. **Action VA**
   2. Data collected from the speed camera when at Ragdale is to be processed when details and dates for the camera are confirmed. **Action Shelter Maintenance Ltd.**
9. AOB
   1. Cllrs. agreed to the request from Cllr. Carol Wooldridge that a Dog Waste bin should be purchased and put up at Brooksby. Bloor Homes to be consulted about the positioning of such a bin. **Action VA**
   2. Cllr. Carol Wooldridge requested that a permissive footpath through the College grounds be looked in to which would help pedestrians and dog walkers avoid walking on the Hoby Road which does not have a pavement while walking to connect with other footpaths beyond the level crossing. Cllrs. agreed that this should be looked at with the College. **Action VA and SMB Group.**
   3. Cllr. James Falconer Smith asked those attending the meeting which had returned to the Village Hall for the second half of the year, if they heard the proceedings of the evenings meeting. Those at the meeting had been able to hear Cllrs. and it was agreed to keep the lay out and seating configuration the same for future meetings in the Hall. **Action VA**
10. Next meeting.
    1. The next meeting will be a Meeting of the Full Council. This will be at Hoby and District Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm and will be on:

* **September 16th 2024.**
  1. The date for the other Parish Council meeting in 2024 is as follows:

25th November 2024 (setting budgets and precept for 2025/2026)

1. With there being no other business the Chair Cllr. James Falconer Smith thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the Meeting at 8.40pm.

Chair of meeting. …………………………………………………… Date. ……………………