

Hawksworth Parish Annual General Meeting

incorporating Hawksworth Community Association AGM

Meeting held Tuesday 10th May 2022 at 7.30 pm

Chairman Chris Bradwell

Parish Clerk Neil Smith

Present : Brian Asher, Paul Bramley, Chris Clayton, Rosie & James Counsell, Steve Evans, Fi Grant, Steve & Sarah Hadfield, Alistair Henderson, Sallie & Andrea Lloyd, Andy Matthias, Robert & Pedella Monk, Jill Roberts, Geoffrey Spence, Greg & Pam Stevens, Kate Storey, Krys Szpakowska, Colin Tompkins, Margrete von Schomberg

Apologies Tim & Jane Baker, Alison Clarke, Fi Barton, Anne Dunn, Ron & Diane Edmonds, Andrew & Celia Harris, Doug & Lynn Ross, Nigel Maddison-Rowe, Les & Steph Shaw, Suzzie Sowka

In attendance: Stephen Drew, Trish Annesley(Thoroton)

Right to attend meetings – because of the small size of the village, we do not have a Parish Council. Instead Hawksworth has a Parish Meeting and we hold a minimum of 2 meetings a year. Everyone is most welcome to attend and all those on the Electoral Register for Hawksworth can have a say and vote on issues raised at the meetings.

Reminder, it is now practice for these meetings that visitors who do not have a right to vote at this meeting are required to sit apart to give greater clarity when counting votes.

1. Annual Election of Chairman

Chris Bradwell is willing to stand again. No further proposals have been received and there were no further proposals from the floor. Re-appointment of Chris Bradwell was proposed by Geoffrey Spence and seconded by Margrete von Schomberg. Carried unanimously on show of hands.

2. Accounts

As most of you know, in Hawksworth we have three governing bodies, Hawksworth Parish Meeting (HPM), Hawksworth Community Association (HCA), and the Parochial Church Council (PCC). Through these meetings we (the village) take a view of all of these bodies.

Circulated prior to the meeting were the following documents:

- Appendix A - The combined accounts for the 3 village bodies and HPM Accounts (*for approval*)
- Appendix B – HPM : The Annual Governance Statement (*for approval*)
- Appendix C – HPM : Certificate of Exemption & Return (*for approval*)
- Appendix D – HCA : Financial Statements (*for approval*)
- Appendix E – PCC : Financial Statement (*for information only*)

At the close of the financial year the village bodies had a cash balance of £34,389, an increase of £5,603 on the previous year. The current balance on the night of 10th May was £16,500 which includes payment of precept,

- This meeting is formally required to complete three duties regarding Hawksworth Parish Meeting finance
 - i. Approve the Annual Governance Statement
As you will see the HPM financial arrangements are extremely straight forward as all of the activity is undertaken by the HCA, and to a lesser extent the PCC.
The income is the HPM is the Precept which is agreed at our January meeting, and expenditure is the transfer of funds to the HCA. This timing of the transfers is managed to simplify and clarify the accounting arrangement of both bodies.

We adopt standard governance principles as shown of the governance statement.

In summary :

- a. We (HPM) approve the annual budget for the HPM at the January meeting
 - b. Individual transactions are authorised by two signatories from the chair, the clerk, and the HCA Treasurer
 - c. Key financial controls and reviews are conducted on the expenditure body, the HCA (see below)
 - d. Approval of Governance Statement was proposed by Chris Clayton and seconded by Alistair Henderson. Carried unanimously on show of hands.
- ii. Approval the HPM Accounts and Governance Statement was proposed by Andy Matthias and seconded by Colin Tomkins. Carried unanimously on show of hands.
- iii. Approve the Certification of Exemption
The government appoints external Auditors to review small authorities including Parish Meetings. This review costs each authority £250. Those very small authorities whose income nor expenditure exceed £25,000 may certify themselves exempt from this review. For Hawksworth Parish Meeting this review would entail the auditor ticking just two entries from the accounts onto the bank statements. The review does not cover HCA nor PCC which have their own external control.

I recommend we sign this Certificate (copy at Appendix C) and avoid the cost. Full details of our financial statements are always available on request from the Clerk.

Recommendation supported by James Counsell and seconded by Alistair Henderson. Carried unanimously on show of hands.

3. Hawksworth Community Association AGM

HCA was set up to charity to run the village hall and for fundraising in the village. HCA needs to hold an annual AGM and traditionally this is incorporated into the parish AGM (this meeting).

The HCA Committee of Trustees consists of at least seven people: 3 honorary officers (Chair, Treasurer and Secretary), 4 other members who should include one member of the Parochial Church Council (PCC), and one of the two standing members of the Parish Meeting.

The committee is now made up of: Chris Bradwell (Chairman), Steve Hadfield (Treasurer), Neil Smith (Secretary / Clerk to Hawksworth Parish Meeting), Sarah Hadfield (Churchwarden), Colin Tompkins (Church Architect), Fi Barton, Alistair Henderson (PCC member) and Rosie Counsell

- **HCA Accounts**

HCA accounts prepared by Steve Hadfield the Treasurer and audited by James Hollingshead who will issue the report to the charities commission after approval by the meeting. This is the equivalent control process to that provided by HPM external audit

Approval the HPM Accounts and Governance Statement was proposed by Rosie Counsell and seconded by Colin Tomkins. Carried unanimously on show of hands.

4. Village Projects

- – **The Tympanum** (No change)

Tympanum on south wall is getting badly eroded - proposal to make a copy for the outside wall and bring

the original inside. Estimated cost £20,000 but grants are available. Regrettably no progress has been made since our January meeting, we are still awaiting another report from the approved stonemason.

Rosie Counsell agreed to contact the Westminster architect in an attempt to get the project moving.

- **Glass Screen** = Colin advised that quotations for a full glass screen were between £15k and £20k.
 - Steve Hadfield advised that a faculty would be required and there would be no meeting at Southwell until September.
 - There was no appetite at the meeting to spend this amount. A small group of Colin Tompkins, Steve Hadfield, and Steve Evans would look for other alternatives to maintain heat in the church in winter.
- **Wi-fi**

At the last meeting the poor mobile signal in the church was raised as an issue. Neil has investigated the options to provide a good mobile access to the church.

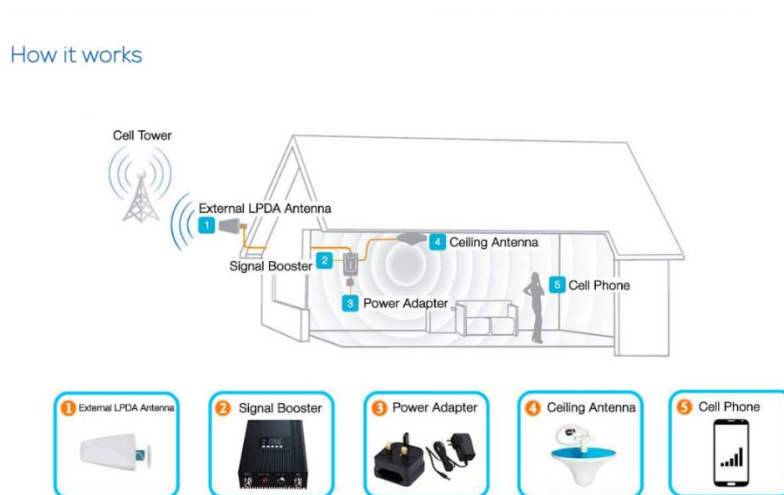
The best solution depends on:

- The number of devices to be supported at any one time
- Level of service required, 3G, 4G, 5G etc and volume of data
- Frequency of use
- Control required over who has access
-and of course the cost of both installation and operating

There are two options to providing better mobile access

- Mobile Signal Amplifier

This requires an aerial attaching to the top of the church tower, installation of the amplifier and an indoor transmitter.



<https://www.boostersdirect.com/product/pro-tri-band-all-networks-mobile-booster-600-sq-m/>

Up to 75 simultaneous users

Good* for calls, data etc. Not good for streaming etc (*Good depends on signal to aerial on tower

Typical Cost : Installation c £600, Operation – cost of power to amplifiers etc

- Wi-fi Service

This operates through a broadband, so needs a contract and connection. Most providers will include broadband and a router in the contract costs. Two options for this service

- Landline via village FTTP – For Open Reach to set up this would need church registering as an address with Royal Mail!

“Guaranteed” service from fibre connection – 4G and 5G – could stream.

- Needs purchase of additional router to serve over 10 devices
- Typical Cost: Installation inc router – c £250, Operation £40 per month (unlimited)
- Aerial connection (same set up to Mobile Amplifier but with wi-fi router)
- Typical Cost : Installation inc router – c £400, Operation £45 per month (unlimited)

Decisions

Unanimously approved to further explore the amplifier option as this had no ongoing cost implications. Steve Hadfield advised this will also need a faculty.

Neil Smith to progress – first action is to confirm sufficient signal at top of church.

5. Social Events

- Jubilee Celebrations

Planning is well underway for the Street Party on Saturday June 4th. Look out for the email invite coming out this week. Highlights: Starting at 2pm

- All Family and friends welcome.
- Bring your own food and drink, there will be BBQs available if you wish to cook.
- Trips up the church tower
- History of Hawksworth exhibition
- Street Games
- Royal toast at 4pm and village photo taken from an overhead drone
- Cake, table decoration and scarecrow competitions

..... and much more.

- The Hawksworth Arms

The Hawksworth Arms has been a great success starting in February, thanks especially to Colin and Alistair for getting it going. This is now a regular event on the last Friday of the month. Everyone welcome, and friends. Anytime after 6.30, drop in for a catch up.

There was also some interest in regular coffee mornings at the church. A couple of “baristas” to organise. The Tuk Tuk barista from Flawborough offered to come to Hawksworth on a Friday. It was agreed to trial this to see if it would create sufficient interest. Neil Smith to contact barista.

6. AOB

- Lengthsman Service – Rushcliffe Borough have offered to part fund a Lengthsman to maintain verges, signs etc in the village. It was agreed the service we receive outside the village was sufficient, and we look after the village.
- Replacement tree for Town Street
A reasonably mature cherry tree (c 6ft tall) similar to those on Town Street would cost about £60. We could plant it as part of the Jubilee celebrations, although this will need a lot of looking after during the summer. Alison Clark has volunteered to do this. Neil Smith to acquire tree.
- WhatsApp Group for the village.
Alistair Henderson put forward the idea of having a village Whatsapp group for “immediate” and social messaging around the village. It was agreed to extend the “Fish wives” group to anyone in the village. Neil Smith to communicate this to villagers not currently in the group.

7. Planning Matters

- No applications have been approved since our last meeting (Jan 22)
- Applications submitted since last meeting (Jan 22)
 - Single story rear extension and new front door at Orchard Cottage – Pam and Greg Stevens

Decision Pending

- Formation of track opposite Stubbs – Readett-Bayley Trust

Decision Pending

- RBC planning update: Chris Bradwell spoke to Andrew Ashcroft at RBC. He confirmed there were no new planning matters in the area.

8. Solar Farm

There followed an in-depth discussion of the proposed Solar Farm to the North and East of Hawksworth. Chris Bradwell presented the findings from the information trawl completed by planning consultants, and wider investigations including discussion with Thoroton.

Rushcliffe are considering all the potential solar farms in the borough as a whole rather than a case by case basis and asked for comments by 13th May.

Consensus of the meeting :

- We recognise the need for energy production but this needed to be weighed against the need for food production.
- The proposal is for an extremely large solar farm (one of the ten biggest in the country by current standards) and would dominate the village.
- There are a number of statements in the RES document which do not fit with our understanding including land grading, environmental assets (including conservation villages), the size of the facility in comparison to proposed output. We should request a full EIA to get full disclosure on these issues.
- We join together with Thoroton to present a common purpose from the local communities.

Actions agreed:

- Write to RBC planning Officer, and local representatives (RBC, NCC, MP) to request a full EIA .
- Continue to work with Thoroton but no further action required at present
- No contact with RES until RBC have concluded review.