

**HOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting**  
**held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 19.00**  
**at Houghton Village Hall**

Present: Parish Councillors: A Young (Chairman), L Adams (Vice Chairman), L Middleton, P Chant, J Coombes.

Members of the Public: 6

Minutes: Mrs C L Cotterell (Parish Clerk)

The meeting started at 19.00

**Item Minute**

**1. Chairman's Welcome and Public Participation**

Chairman welcomed all to the meeting. The SSEN roadworks were discussed. It was noted that the SSEN roadworks are not in the remit of the Parish Council and any concerns should be raised directly with SSEN or HCC as the highways authority.

**2. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from Parish Cllrs Dougall and Battey, County Cllr Drew and Borough Cllr Johnston.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

To declare an interest in any items of business on this agenda – **None**.

**4. CCTV**

To consider collateral damage Crime ref 44240038083 and damage to camera.

It was reported that one of the CCTV cameras was removed from its location by persons unknown – in the process the electric gates of the property hosting the camera were damaged, also a vehicle window was smashed in an adjoining property by the camera being thrown. The Clerk was awaiting a response from the Council insurers as to whether this damage would be covered under the Council insurance. Three quotations for the repair of the gates and one for the vehicle glass had been received. After discussion Cllrs **resolved** to cover the cost of repairing the gates, at £1,774.25 (the lowest quote), and replacement vehicle glass at £81.99 under the General Power of Competence, if the PC insurance policy is unlikely to cover the claims – Proposed Cllr Chant, seconded Cllr Middleton. Cllrs agreed to amend the 23-24 budget by moving monies from the underspent trees and professional fees budget lines. It was agreed that the Clerk will follow up with the PC insurers for a final response by 14.02.2024. Clerk was also asked to contact insurers and request whether additional cover was available to cover similar incidental damage relating to CCTV cameras in the future.

**5. Planning**

- a) 24/00236/VARS - Variation of condition 03 (approved plans) of 22/00217/OUTS (Outline application for demolition of existing industrial unit and the erection of 6 dwellings with associated parking) to include an extension on the ground floor of units 4 and 5 to provide an open plan kitchen/dining/living area, and provision of a terrace at first floor, amended internal layout, and repositioning of garage – Ro-Dor Ltd, Stevens Drove, Houghton – **Resolved to object** on the grounds that the application does not comply with E1, E2, E9 of the Local Plan and HTN1 and HTN3 of the Neighbourhood Development Plan. HPC and residents are concerned that already these large properties are being extended – Proposed Cllr Adams, seconded Cllr Chant.
- b) 24/00237/FULLS – Single storey rear extension – The Old School House, Church Lane, Houghton – **Resolved No comment**.
- c) 23/03207/FULLS – Erection of shed – All Saints Church, Church Lane, Houghton – **Resolved to support** this application.

**6. Next Meeting**

Full Council Meeting – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 19.00

**Meeting closed at 19.36**

**These minutes were approved and signed at the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2024**