

# Notes on Meeting held to discuss new Hovingham Village Hall Constitution

Held at: Estate Office of Hovingham Estate at 14:30 on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017

## Present

Sir William Worsley	- Representing Hovingham Estate & Worsley Family
Phil Chapman	- Chair of Hovingham with Scackleton Parish Council (PC)
Mrs Sue Wainwright	- Parish Clerk of PC
Robert Wainwright	- Councillor of PC
Richard Senior	- Chair of Hovingham Village Hall Committee (VHMC)
Mark Wilson	- Councillor of PC, Treasurer and Member of VHMC
Ian Battersby	- Vice-chair of PC, Member of VHMC
James Russell and Kathryn Chapman	- Representing Community First Yorkshire (CFY)

## Summary of Meeting

- 1) Sir William welcomed everyone and handed chair of the meeting to Phil Chapman
- 2) Phil Chapman stated that the Village Hall must be run for the benefit of the Hovingham Community, and the surrounding area, both now and in the future, and that any proposal must be appropriate of an organisation with a turnover last year of under £8,000.
- 3) Richard Senior outlined objectives of VHMC new constitution; to ensure that the VHMC is properly constituted and that members of the organising committee are not personally financially liable for any debts of the VHMC
- 4) James Russell commented on current proposed constitution and clarified a number of issues raised, he confirmed that the VHMC own the land which the Village Hall occupies, plus the bowling green and tennis court, subject to the conditions of the 1930 conveyance which include:
  - to sell the property there must be a majority of the VHMC supporting the sale and then a majority of those attending a meeting of Hovingham Parish residents, aged 18 and over, must also agree
  - any Hovingham Community Group may appoint a representative to the VHMC
- 5) James Russell recommended:
  - pre-merger vesting declaration to transfer property and responsibilities to new organisation
  - the new constitution must recognise obligations of conveyances of 1930
  - it would be much better to use the template constitution of the CFY replacing currently proposed constitution, as this has been proven in practice and is approved by the Charity Commission
- 6) James Russell advised the meeting:
  - that it was practically impossible that a mortgage would be granted for the property, hence very unlikely the property would be usable as security and it would not be a viable option
  - the Car Park belongs to the Parish Council; the agreement to jointly share responsibility for its maintenance would still apply following the creation of a Village Hall CIO
- 7) The Parish Councillors present were in principle in agreement to this recommendation and they would await the new Constitution, this would need to be formally discussed at a future meeting of the PC.
- 8) The Stakeholders in the Village Hall would be consulted on the revised Constitution and there would be a meeting organised to inform Villagers of the proposed changes and answer their questions and concerns
- 9) Copies of the template constitution, pre-merger vesting declaration and notes were distributed by James Russell and are attached to this summary
- 10) All attendees were thanked for a very positive and constructive meeting
- 11) The meeting closed around 15:30

## Comments added following Parish Council Meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017

These notes were proposed and passed unanimously at this meeting. It was agreed to immediately forward copy to the Hovingham Village Hall Management Committee. The Parish Council support the VHMC's efforts to rewrite their constitution using the template of Community First Yorkshire and including the obligations of the 1930 Conveyance.