

MINUTES

Horsley Parish Council Meeting Minutes

23 August 2022 | 19:30 | Alistair Thomson

22/125 To note attendance

Cllrs Kate Kay (Chair), Alistair Thomson, Chris Blackwell, Seb Howells, James Bowers, Christina McDonagh, District Cllrs Natalie Bennett, Norman Kay, County Cllr Steve Robinson.
Apologies: Cllr Bryn Howells, Cllr David Walls and Marianne Simpson (Clerk)

22/126 Declarations of interest or requests for dispensations

Cllr Howells planning application 1776.

22/127 Chair's announcements

Thanks to Cllr Chris Blackwell who has prepared the concrete plinth for the Jubilee Bench. It was agreed that this would be positioned shortly before the Horsley Fete and a large notice displayed with the background to its purchase.

22/128 Approval of Minutes

Cllr McDonagh remarked that there were some words missing at the end of Page 4 and it was agreed that Cllr Walls' requested addition would be made to the July 7th minutes, which would then be approved.

22/129 Consider changes to the order of business

It was agreed to bring discussion on Highways up the agenda to enable District / County Councillors to leave early.

The meeting was adjourned for members of the public to address the council

A resident raised that she had sent a letter requesting a copy of the accounts in early August. It was explained that the final accounts had only been approved at the July 7th meeting, go back for ratification, and would then be published on the website / bus shelter. They will be forwarded to her personally when available.

Another resident recorded that there was now a weekly Talk Club in the Hog for any male who might be suffering stress / mental health.

22/130 Reports from the County and District Councillors

County Cllr Robinson reported that he was chasing up the 20mph signs for outside the school and it was hoped they would be in place by the start of term. He also advised that he had attended a recent youth club session in Horsley which had gone extremely well and was pleased to confirm that he had obtained £1,000 from the Build Back Better fund.

There was also a discussion regarding the forthcoming road closures / traffic lights in Nailsworth and questions of whether the Gigaclear works might make traffic for those in Downend more difficult.

22/131 Clerk's report and Correspondence

Cllr Kay read out the Clerk's report: two items were agreed which were later items on the agenda.

1. It was agreed that we should allow SDC to place the rain gauge on the playing field on the understanding that they agreed the positioning with a member of the parish council, carried out the necessary work to install it and ensured it wouldn't take up a significant area. It was also agreed that we would request SDC to make the rainfall figures available to those in the parish so it could be compared with their own rainfall measurements'.
2. The council were unanimous in wanting to retain the current external audit procedures.

22/132 Climate Emergency

Cllr Kate Kay reported on a meeting she had held with members of HCAN within the context of cost of living issues that everyone is suffering and building on the skills and expertise of people who live in the village. She put forward names of people who might be prepared to give talks in the winter months on various issues which could be of interest to many in the parish.

She also suggested that we should build a knowledge base of various projects which could be of help such as installing solar panels or Air Source Heat Pumps. Cllr Thomson offered to visit people who are prepared to share their knowledge on solar panel installation with a view to looking at any initiatives which could help to reduce energy bills.

22/133 Consider the Village Hub project

The discussion of the Village Hub project was deferred to the next meeting.

It was agreed that the Village Hall Car Park sign should be installed as soon as possible.

22/134 Update on the community shop

Cllr Kate Kay reported that it was hoped that the staffing difficulties in August would be resolved from September, but the Shop was in need of more volunteers and the appointment of a Chairman to oversee the strategy going forward, especially in the light of the increase in fixed price tariff of electricity. See section 22/141.

22/135 Update on the play area

Cllr Blackwell confirmed that the ROSPA actions for the Play Area had been implemented. Cllr Bowers agreed to discuss with the Bike Trail group before the next meeting to get an update on the Trail and review any action required from the ROSPA report.

Consideration of a request to paint a mural on the high wall of the play area. Cllr Howells raised the question of whether the mural would be consistent with a rural location and a discussion was held following which it was agreed that the mural could go ahead: it is understood that it will be replaced a couple of times a year and it was hoped that the mural would be consistent with the play area / village environment.

Action: Cllr Bowers to identify any actions from the RoSPA inspection of the bike trail.

22/136 Update on highways and footpaths

20MPH signs update in the District Councillor report, see 22/130.

The Nupend VAS operation was not really discussed, review for the next meeting, and ask David Marsh if he is keeping the data.

The council considered making an application to the GCC Community Speedwatch Safety Fund. There was discussion about Long Newnton's action to plant flowers along the bank of the village in the hopes of reducing speeds and Cllr Kay reported that she would make an application for funding.

22/137 Update on the burial ground

A stone mason will be visiting the village in the next few weeks to look at cleaning the War Memorial and carrying out a safety check on gravestones in both the burial ground and the Church graveyard.

22/138 Consider a request to locate a rain gauge on the playing fields

See section 22/131.1.

22/139 Update on the Gigaclear rollout

Cllr Howells gave an update and agreed to chase up to try and identify the person responsible for liaising with Horsley. There are areas where the ducting has been laid but fibre has been installed and there seems to be no project plan timing. He also agreed to issue a review of the road closures over the next few weeks.

22/140 Report on planning decisions and planning applications

Planning Applications

- S.22/1649/CPE Land at Barton End - Certificate of Lawfulness for the use of the land as agricultural.
No comment.
- S.22/1776/CPE Land At Manor Farm Hollingham Lane - Existing use as a garden, ancillary to the house.
Comment with a request for a covenant that there could be no residential buildings placed on the land.
- S.22/1716/HHOLD Barton End Manor Shiptons Grave Lane - Relocation of a swimming pool granted prior approval S.09/2068/HHOLD & S.09/2069/LBC.
No comment.

Planning Decisions

S.22/1190/HHOLD and S.22/1191/LBC 2 Park View, Nupend - Renovations including replacing window casements, reinstating original window openings and a single storey rear extension. Refused.
S.22/1111/HHOLD Box Tree Cottage, Hartley Bridge Hill - Erection of outbuilding. Permitted.

22/141 Authorise payments of the parish council and receive financial matters

Payments made between meetings were ratified.

date	payee	description	total	pay
18/08/2022	Shaw & Sons Ltd	Register of Burials book and Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial book	£356.40	DC
03/08/2022	Royal Mail	Tracked postage x2 Subject access request letters	£5.90	DC
01/08/2022	NEST	Clerk pension (July)	£16.40	DD
01/08/2022	Ace Comfort Cooling	Air-conditioning service	£114.00	
01/08/2022	GAPTC	Internal audit fee (not £235.00)	£195.00	
01/08/2022	L McLaughlin	Pavilion cleaning July	£133.56	
22/07/2022	British Gas	Pavilion elect	£401.60	DD
11/07/2022	NEST	Clerk pension (June)	£37.02	DD
20/07/2022	Horsley Youth Club	Grant 2	£1500.00	
04/07/2022	L McLaughlin	Pavilion cleaning June	£110.97	

13/07/2022	Cotwold Decorating	Painting pavilion woodwork inv 2	£540.00	
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Payments received between meetings were noted.

04/08/2022	SDC	Burial ground annual allowance	£3004.72	
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Payments for authorisation were agreed.

date	payee	description	VAT	total
16/08/2022	Golden Stones Gardening	To supply 4 x bags Play Sand	£55.20	£276.00
16/08/2022	Golden Stones Gardening	To supply 1 x Bench Pad	£23.04	£138.24
30/06/22	C Perla	Payroll services Apr – June 2022		£45.00
14/01/22	TW Hawkins	Contract mowing from 16/9 – 6/12	£38.72	£232.32
25/08/22	TW Hawkins	Contract mowing from 31/3 – 24/6	£71.15	£462.89
27/07/22	Walker Fire Ltd	Fire extinguisher inspection	£17.81	£106.91

Council considered the renewal of fixed price energy plans for the Pavilion gas and electricity

There was much discussion regarding the implications of a fourfold increase in the fixed energy tariffs. Cllr Thomson stated that this would mean that the energy for the shop would increase to £12,000pa which is more than 1/3rd of the total precept. It was agreed with reluctance to fix for one year with a view to action on the following:

- Check Solar Panels are working in the shop and delivering the right amount of electricity, and review the payments received for supplying to the grid
- Install meter so Football Club pays for its electricity
- Discuss with shop the increase in costs, the implications, and areas where energy can be saved.

Council noted the option to opt out of the SAAA central external auditor appointment arrangements, already discussed, see section 22/13.

22/142 Councillor items for future discussion

Council to carry out a poll on street lighting using Everything Horsley to canvas views.

22/143 Confidential item to discuss staff remuneration

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the Council resolved that, due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted under this agenda item, the public is excluded from the meeting during the consideration of this item.

22/144 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 27th September 2022 in the Village Hall.
Meeting closed at 22:10

Chair’s signature..... Date