

# MINUTES

## Horsley Parish Council Meeting Minutes

24 January 2023 | 19:30 | Marianne Simpson

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### 23/001 To note attendance

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Cllrs Kate Kay (Chair), Alistair Thomson, Chris Blackwell, Seb Howells, David Walls, Christina McDonagh, Matt Peters (joined 7:40pm after his co-option) and District Cllr Natalie Bennett and County Cllr Steve Robinson

Apologies: Bryn Howells, James Bowers, District Cllr Norman Kay

Also present: Marianne Simpson (Clerk), PCSO Candice Francis and 1 member of the public

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### 23/002 Declarations of interest or requests for dispensations

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Cllr Blackwell declared an interest in planning application S.22/2659/HHOLD.

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### 23/003 Chair's announcements

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Cllr Kate Kay relayed the sad news that Sue Reid had died last week. Sue was a former Mayor of Nailsworth and a District Councillor for Nailsworth and Horsley and was enthusiastically involved in many community projects. Cllr Kay, on behalf of the Parish Council, wanted to extend our condolences to Sue's family and friends.

Cllr Kay reported on the recent event to welcome new residents into the village. About 20 people attended and she wanted to thank Paul and Jane Archer for helping to organise this event. Another event, a Gardeners Question time, organised by the HOP (Horsley Orchard Project) group and the Horsley Growers group, was also well attended. The next Hope Talk is on 16 February, aimed at Young People, and how we can help to make them more resilient.

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### 23/004 Approval of Minutes

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The minutes, previously circulated, of the last meeting held on 24 November 2022 were confirmed as a true record and will be signed by Cllr Kay. All agreed.

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### 23/005 Consider changes to the order of business

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Move the co-option of a new councillor up the agenda.

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### 23/006 Co-opt new Councillor

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Council had considered 2 applications for the Casual Vacancy at the last meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> November. The council was impressed with the strength and calibre of both candidates and Matt Peters was voted in. Cllr Kay recorded that he be co-opted onto the Council. Matt joined the meeting and signed the Declaration of Office book and Cllr Kay welcomed him onto the Council.

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

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There was 1 member of the public present, Simon Allen, who wanted to know when Gigaclear were completing his connection. He also wanted to inform on the Hope Talks on behalf of HCAN (Horsley Climate Action Network) under item 23/009.

The new PCSO for Horsley, Candice Francis, who had circulated crime figures for Horsley prior to the meeting, introduced herself. She covers Nailsworth, Horsley, Woodchester and Nymphsfield and recently carried out some patrols in Horsley and noted concerns about speeding were raised by residents.

Cllr Kay said the parish council is concerned about speeding, parking, and crimes, particularly against women, and asked what the Gloucestershire Police were doing to address this.

PCSO Candice said the crime rate is low in Horsley. The police are recording more crimes now. The Stroud Police Cadets could do some patrols in Horsley with a speed gun. Horsley could consider setting up a Speed Watch Group of volunteers who can be trained in using a speed gun and could have loan of 2 hand-held speed guns from Cllr Robinson. Drivers found to be persistently speeding would be sent a warning letter. PCSO Candice is also able to provide advice on preventing burglaries and can help with any antisocial behaviour and SDC can help set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme, if wanted. She noted a meeting was held tonight in the Stroud Sub Rooms addressing concerning around women's safety. Cllr Robinson reported that the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Gloucestershire Police Constable are confident in their stringent background checks of would-be police officers. Cllr Robinson added Police forces are coming out of special measures and the 101 service has improved.

The parish council requested PCSO Candice schedule in some speed checks with the Cadets over the next few months and thanked her for attending.

*PCSO Candice Francis left the meeting.*

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## 23/007 Reports from the County and District Councillors

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County Cllr Steve Robinson and District Cllr Norman Kay had both circulated written reports prior to the meeting.

Cllr Robinson was aware of the problems of ice on Hay Lane, due to a blocked drain and runoff from springs freezing across the road. It is scheduled to be repaired. He suggested Horsley have a few bags of salt available so that residents can clear the smaller lanes themselves as GCC Highways do not have the capacity to deal with these areas.

Cllr Blackwell reported there is some salt in storage, but noted the parish council will need to order more bags next winter. Cllr McDonagh requested Downend have another salt bin by St Stephen's Way. The parish council can purchase salt bins but needs approval from Highways on the siting of any new bins.

Cllr Bennett reported SDC are raising their precept by the maximum of 3%, which is a £6.65/year increase for a Band D property. Cycling and Walking and Carbon Neutral 2030 will be getting extra funding. SDC are applying for funding to build houses for people who are fleeing conflict, to fund 15 houses.

Cllr Kay noted that the parish council would like to bid for some of the cycling and walking fund to improve walking to Nailsworth.

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## 23/008 Clerk's report and Correspondence

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The Clerk's report and correspondence was circulated prior to the meeting.

GCC are running a survey on How to reduce Gloucestershire Transport Emissions. Action: Cllr Howells to complete the survey.

SDC have set up a Flood warden scheme and as Horsley has suffered from blocked drains and flooding this year due to the amount of rainfall, it was agreed to ask parishioners if anyone wants to volunteer to become a Flood Warden. Action: Clerk to ask GCC Highways to investigate the culvert in Downend that blocks frequently from debris catching on the grill.

SDC have revised their Planning Enforcement protocols. These are now in operation and therefore the opportunity for action has improved. The council to reconsider pursuing enforcement action against previous planning infringements. Cllr Kay noted Wheelbarrow Farm has expanded a lot beyond the planning permission granted, and was previously reported to SDC planning enforcement during covid, but at the time, the planning enforcement officer said the extra buildings were temporarily allowed due to covid. Cllr McDonagh was concerned any planning infringements set a precedent. Clerk noted previous complaints have been made by parishioners about Wheelbarrow Farm planning infringements. Action: Cllr Kay to consider requesting planning enforcement investigate the buildings at Wheelbarrow Farm.

Folly Cottage had a condition on landscaping and making good the footpath which has not been completed. Action: Clerk to write to SDC to ask if there is a condition on the path to finish the works as the bottom of the path is in a dangerous state.

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### 23/009 Climate Emergency

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Simon Allen, from HCAN, informed on the future Hope talks and requested that a bid was submitted for a cycling and walking grant from SDC. There are further Hope talks on 16 February, 16 March, 20 April and 18 May and urged everyone to attend.

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### 23/010 Consider the Village Hub project

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Cllr Walls is obtaining 3 quotes for the Village Hub project to demolish the garage and move the existing path along the Village Hall to be moved to the opposite side of the track to provide a safe area with a tarmac surface, for pedestrians, pushchairs, and disabled access, between Priory Fields, the churchyard, the Pavilion, and the play area.

Action: Cllrs Walls, Blackwell, and Bowers to obtain full quotes and circulate.

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### 23/011 Update on the community shop

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Cllr Walls had circulated a report on the shop prior to the meeting. Footfall is the same as last year, but customers are spending less.

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### 23/012 Update on the play area

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The signage needs to be agreed for the bike trail. Deferred until next meeting.

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### 23/013 Update on highways and footpaths

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Cllr McDonagh reported the VAS sign in Nupend, which had not been working, has been replaced but now waiting for the electricity to be connected.

Cllr S Howells noted no data has been gathered on the VAS signs. Action: Cllr Peters to contact David Marsh to request the login details to access to the speed data for both VAS devices.

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### 23/014 Update on the burial ground

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The Parochial Church Council has been looking through the Church records for the ownership details of the unsafe memorials in the Churchyard so that they can arrange repair of the memorials, as it is the owners responsibility. Each memorial costs £230 to repair. Council agreed that if no contact details can be found, the memorials will be layed down.

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### 23/015 Update on the Gigaclear rollout

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Cllr Howells gave an update on Gigaclear. The work on Hay Lane was too shallow so is due to be done again in April.

A resident of Hollingham Lane wanted to know when Gigaclear would finish installing to his property. Cllr Howells gave some information but was unclear what the problem was with this particular property.

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### 23/016 Report on planning decisions and planning applications

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#### **Planning applications**

**S.22/2487/HHOLD and S.22/2488/LBC 2** Park View Nupend Horsley - Renovations including replacing window casements, reinstating original window openings and a single storey rear extension (Resubmission of Planning

Permission ref: S.22/1190/HHOLD). Cllr McDonagh to review this application and circulate response to confirm whether it meets our previous concerns.

**S.22/2659/HHOLD** 1 New Cottages Upper Barton End Lane - Conversion of detached garage into granny annexe. Cllr Blackwell declared an interest. Cllr Thomson requested that a condition is attached so that the annexe cannot be used or sold as a separate property.

**S.23/0035/AFPA** Land Parcel North West Of Ragged Barn Horsley - Prior Approval for a new agricultural building to replace existing barn, previously consented under S.16/1050/AGR. No Comment.

**S.23/0054/FUL 1 & 2** Field View Bath Road Nailsworth - Alteration to existing access. No Comment.

### Planning decisions

S.22/2334/TPO The Priory, Priory Fields - Lime trees T2, 3 & 4 - remove epicormic growth on the base of the tree and crown raise each tree by 3 metres. Permitted.

### 23/017 Consider website quotes

The Clerk had obtained 3 quotes for a new website. One quote had recently been withdrawn. The other 2 quotes both met the project scope and would be compliant with our legal obligations. Costs will need to include website design and build, domain name and hosting. The quotes were similar for the website setup, with annual charges and email costs differing slightly.

Action: Cllrs Kay, Howells and the Clerk to carefully consider both designs and quotes and select the web designer.

### 23/018 Authorise payments of the parish council and receive financial matters

#### 18.1 Payments made between meetings were ratified:

date	payee	description	total	pay
02/12/2022	Forest Green & Nailsworth RBL	HPC Poppy wreath	£25.00	FPO
02/12/2022	L McLaughlin	Pavilion cleaning (Nov)	£151.56	FPO
02/12/2022	NEST	Clerk pension (Nov)	£24.76	DD
13/12/2022	British Gas	Pavilion Electricity	£159.93	DD
28/12/2022	British Gas	Pavilion Electricity	£995.10	DD
06/01/2023	L McLaughlin	Pavilion cleaning (Dec)	£134.25	FPO
10/01/2023	HMRC	HMRC Tax	£26.00	FPO
12/01/2023	NEST	Clerk pension (Dec)	£49.16	DD
12/01/2023	British Gas	Pavilion Gas	£42.50	DD

#### 18.2 Payments received between meetings were noted:

Lloyds Bank	Bank account interest	£126.63
Horsley Community Shop	Contribution to Pavilion cleaning (Apr-Dec 2022)	£501.03
Horsley Community Shop	Contribution to Pavilion utility costs (Jan-Dec 2022)	£3000.00
National Grid	Wayleave payment	£11.03

#### 18.3 Council approved the accounts for payment:

date	payee	description	VAT	total
31/12/2023	Clare Perla	Payroll services inc pension Oct-Dec	£0	£45.00
15/12/2022	Golden Stones	Supply & Plant 10no trees for Graveyard to include planting time	£42.00	£252.00
15/12/2022	Golden Stones	Supply & Plant 4no trees for Nutgrove to include planting time	£20.00	£120.00
05/12/2022	Glos Playing Fields Association	Membership renewal	£0	£50.00

25/11/2022	SLCC Enterprises Ltd	Qualification Fee: Marianne Simpson (GDPR eLearning)	£6.00	£36.00
06/07/2022	Golden Stones	Burial ground maintenance 28/4, 12/5, 26/5, 10/6, 23/6	£214.00	£1284.00
21/01/2023	M Simpson	Printer supplies – black ink and paper	£0	£46.80
31/01/2023	L McLaughlin	Pavilion clean (Jan)	0	£134.25

18.4 Council approved the Q3 bank reconciliation at 30 December 2022 and the budget vs spend.

18.5 Council considered the draft budget 2023-34 and agreed to earmark reserves of £50,000 for the Village Hub project to move the footpath to the Pavilion side of the track to enable safe access to the play area and playing field.

18.6 Council unanimously agreed to increase the precept to £37,000 for 2023-24. The Parish Council element is small compared with the County and District precepts, and the parish council needs additional budget to cope with increased costs in order to maintain services and assets to the current standard. The parish council was mindful of the cost-of-living crisis and the impact on parishioners, so limited the increase in precept so that a band D (average property) parish council element will be £102 for the year. This is an increase from last year of under £9/year or 17p/week for a Band D property.

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23/019 Councillor items for future discussion

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None.

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23/020 Date of Next Meeting

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The next meeting will be on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023 in the Village Hall.  
*Meeting closed at 21:30*

Chair’s signature..... Date .....