

MINUTES

Horsley Parish Council Meeting Minutes

28 February 2023 | 19:30 | Marianne Simpson

23/021 To note attendance

Cllrs Kate Kay (Chair), Alistair Thomson, Chris Blackwell, Seb Howells, James Bowers, Matt Peters (arr. 7:50pm) and District Cllr Norman Kay. Also present: Marianne Simpson (Clerk), 3 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs Bryn Howells, David Walls, Christina McDonagh and District Cllr Natalie Bennett, County Cllr Steve Robinson

23/022 Declarations of interest or requests for dispensations

None.

23/023 Chair's announcements

None.

23/024 Approval of Minutes

The minutes, previously circulated, of the last meeting held on 24 January 2023 were confirmed as a true record and will be signed by Cllr Kay. All agreed.

23/025 Consider changes to the order of business

None.

Meeting adjourned for members of the public to address the Council

Simon Allen (Horsley Community Action Network (HCAN)) said the Hope talk on 16 March is on sustainable housing. The Hope talks will continue until June.

A resident asked if a 20mph speed limit is being progressed. Many cities and other villages have a 20mph speed limit, enforceable with speed cameras. Another resident added satnavs work by taking the fastest route so if a lower speed limit in place, drivers would use alternative routes. There needs to be a reduction in the volume of traffic. Cllr Kay noted that Horsley is setting up a Community Speedwatch Group to tackle this and will undergo training in the use of speed guns. Speeds and number plates are recorded and repeated speeding offenders can be reported to the police.

23/026 Reports from the County and District Councillors

County Cllr Steve Robinson and District Cllr Norman Kay had both circulated written reports prior to the meeting. Cllr Robinson has money for grit bins and there is potentially some money for the Youth Club.

District Cllr Norman Kay informed there is a meeting on 1 March to discuss bidding for some money from the SDC Cycling and Walking fund to improve the network of footpaths around the School, Community shop and down to Nailsworth. Cycling from Horsley to Nailsworth is difficult due to the hills, width of the road and speed of traffic. Cllr K Kay asked District Cllr N Kay to forward any bid to the parish council to review for support.

23/027 Clerk's report and Correspondence

The Clerk's report and all correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting. The rain gauge has been installed on the field with a fence around it as it is important it is not tampered with or damaged. Data will be available to view. The grass will need to be cut periodically around the rain gauge; a volunteer is needed to do this.

23/028 Climate Emergency

The cycling and walking proposals had been discussed under item 23/026. Cllr K Kay noted that the parish council has been holding money for HCAN, which should be disbursed. Clerk to make an online payment of £67.50 to Simon Allen (HCAN member).

23/029 Consider the Village Hub project

Cllr Kay recounted that the parish council undertook a village consultation on the Village Hub project last year. It includes the track, pavilion, play area, and shop. Following the consultation, the parish council has focused on improving the track and track safety. The council has recently invited tenders for the work. The old stone garage to be demolished, existing footpath 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. Planning consent is not required as the existing track is being improved. Three tenders had been reviewed by Cllrs Walls and Blackwell and they recommend accepting quote 2. Cllr Thomson proposed quote 2 is accepted subject to commercial checks, Cllr Kay seconded, all in favour.

23/030 Update on the community shop

Nothing to report.

23/031 Update on the play area

Signage needs to be installed for the bike trail. Action: Clerk to arrange a Bike Trail Safety Sign with disclaimer; Cllr Blackwell to install.

The need for repairs to the play area, following reports of worn equipment, were discussed under item 23/027. The chicken and cat rockers need to be replaced and the log steps are rotten. Cllr Thomson proposed S106 money is used to replace the rockers, all agreed. Action: Cllr S Howells to obtain quotes for replacement rockers for consideration at the next meeting.

23/032 Update on highways and footpaths

Nupend VAS is now working. Cllr Matt Peters to obtain access to the VAS data for both VAS devices.

Cllr Kay updated on turning off street lighting at midnight in some hamlets. Details have been sent to GCC. Streetlights can also be baffled if causing problems for residents.

A Community Speedwatch group is being set up and the local PCSO is arranging for the PC cadets to carry out speed checks.

23/033 Nominate a flood warden

A resident, Mike Vaughan, is a qualified flood engineer and has volunteered to become the Horsley Flood Warden. He will look at the Downend and Hay Lane flood issues and will report back at the next parish council meeting.

23/034 Update on the burial ground

The cemetery headstones, which were assessed as unsafe will be layed down, if the PCC cannot locate the owners. Action: Cllr Blackwell and Peters to lay the memorials down.

23/035 Update on the Gigaclear rollout

Cllr Howells gave an update on Gigaclear. He will ask Gigaclear to focus their efforts on Horsley as there are still Horsley residents who do not have access and Gigaclear need to have the work scheduled.

23/036 Report on planning decisions and planning applications

Planning applications

S.23/0130/HHOLD The Hayloft, Sugley Lane, Horsley - Replacement incidental outbuilding.

Cllr Thomson asked Simon Allen about this application. The building is a stable and the application is for an Airbnb. The public right of way (PROW) has been moved and a kissing gate installed. Businesses are already run from the property. Cllr S Howells had looked at the planning application and noted the PROW officer could not comment as the new building is larger and the limited plans do not show the footpath. Cllr Howells agreed that the application has little detail, the plans are not clear, and the proposed building is significantly larger than the existing.

Council do not support the application. Council to comment. There is a lack of detail in the application and there are serious concerns that the application is not for a replacement incidental building but is an application for living accommodation for an Airbnb. The existing stable is being replaced with a larger building with insulation and double-glazed windows. The parish council are concerned to have clarity about the Public Right of Way location and a clearer map should be provided. The parish council would also be very concerned if this was an application which enhanced or increased the residential units on the site. Therefore, can you check this is a correct application, for a replacement stable, or should it be an application for a change of use. It is outside the settlement boundary.

Planning decisions:

S.22/2488/LBC and S.22/2487/HHOLD 2 Park View, Nupend - Renovations including replacing window casements and a single storey rear extension. Permission

S.22/2659/HHOLD 1 New Cottages, Upper Barton End Lane - Conversion of detached garage into granny annexe. Permission

Planning enforcement considerations:

Barn on Davids Lane – Two very large barns are being built on land North West Of Ragged Barn. Planning application S.23/0035/AFPA for an agricultural building to replace an existing barn, was consented under S.16/1050/AGR. Cllr Blackwell informed that a Nympsfield farmer is expanding their farm and building a new farmyard in Horsley parish. New barn to be a livestock unit for dairy cattle. Nympsfield parish council have lodged an enforcement action, with concerns about the large works, piles of spoil, significant lorry traffic and dumping. Action: Cllrs Blackwell and Kay to visit the site to consider enforcement action.

Wheelbarrow Farm, Sugley –buildings erected in breach of planning permission and being used as residential dwellings. The Clerk outlined a previous request for enforcement on this site following concerns by several residents over the years. It was put on hold for 6 months by SDC; enforcement were told the buildings were temporary during covid. Cllr Kay recounted the history of the site as it was a major issue with residents at the time of the original application. The access was a bridleway class 4 highway and there was a lot of concern from villagers about the level of traffic if this was permitted. The application was turned down by SDC but it was won on appeal, on the basis it was to be a working farm and permission was granted for one family home. It has never been a working farm. The number of cars is a concern and impacts heavily on walkers, and horse riders using these paths. Council noted there must be a consistent

approach to planning, rather than let it go on, as villagers question why new residential/office buildings are being allowed. Cllr Howells requested that the council consider material planning considerations only.

Action: Cllr Peters to speak to the owner and ask them to formalise the planning situation.

23/037 Website update

The website designs and quotes have been further assessed by Cllr Kay, Howells and the Clerk and quote 1 was chosen as it is good value, and the company is local.

23/038 Authorise payments of the parish council and receive financial matters

38.1 Payments made between meetings were ratified:

date	payee	description	total	pay
02/02/2023	L McLaughlin	Pavilion cleaning (Jan)	£171.00	FPO
15/02/2023	HMRC	HMRC Tax	£37.85	FPO
09/02/2023	NEST	Clerk pension (Jan)	£20.65	DD
10/02/2023	British Gas	Pavilion Gas	£54.93	DD

38.2 Payments received between meetings were noted: None

38.3 Council approved the accounts for payment:

date	payee	description	VAT	total
18/02/2023	GeoXphere	Parish online Digital Mapping (18/2/23-18/2/24)	£7.50	£45.00
03/02/2023	Siren Alarms	Intruder alarm monitoring services	£36.00	£216.00

38.4 Quote for Playing field grass-cutting 2023-24 was agreed. The cost for mowing the playing field will increase by 7% to £54.37.

38.5 Council approved the bank reconciliation as at 24 February 2023.

23/039 Adopt the Unified Code of Conduct for Parish/Town Councils

Cllr Kay proposed the council adopt the Unified Code of Conduct for Parish/Town Councils to provide both clarity and consistency for both the councils and their members as well as ensuring that all councillors only need to pay regard to one set of rules reflecting upon the fact that some members serve on multiple councils within the County. Cllr Thomson seconded, all in favour.

23/040 Adopt the SDC Parish/Town Council Charter

Cllr Kay recapped that the parish council was consulted on this document and provided feedback which was considered. The Parish and Town Council Charter has been developed to provide a clear and mutual understanding of roles and expectations of officers and members of both SDC and Parish Councils. It promotes partnership working and co-operation between SDC and Parish Councils beyond statutory frameworks and will assist with developing improved working relationships between councils. Council unanimously agreed to adopt the charter. Council also agreed to provide email addresses to enable access to the SDC hub.

23/041 Councillor items for future discussion

None.

23/042 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 28th March 2023 in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 21:50

Chair's signature..... Date

