

MINUTES

Horsley Parish Council Meeting Minutes

28 March 2023 | 19:30 | Cllr S Howells

23/043 To note attendance

Alistair Thomson (Acting Chair), David Walls, Christina McDonagh, Chris Blackwell, Seb Howells, James Bowers, Matt Peters and County Cllr Steve Robinson. Also present: 2 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs Bryn Howells, Cllrs Kate Kay, District Cllr Natalie Bennett, District Cllr Norman Kay and Marianne Simpson (Clerk)

23/044 Declarations of interest or requests for dispensations

None.

23/045 Chair's announcements

None.

23/046 Approval of Minutes

The minutes, previously circulated, of the last meeting held on 28 February 2023 were confirmed as a true record and were signed by Cllr Thomson.

23/047 Consider changes to the order of business

None.

Meeting adjourned for members of the public to address the Council

Two members of the public, representing the Youth Club, were present. They requested that the Council consider whether an increased grant could be awarded to the Youth Club this year. They presented their own budget and discussed the projected shortfall in funds. Supervision of the Youth Club has been provided by volunteers free of charge, but due to a lack of volunteers that may have to be a paid position in the future. A grant of £1,500 was paid in 2022-23. Attempts had been made to apply for further funding and they were successful in obtaining a £1,000 grant for raised beds, possibly alongside the basketball court. Lottery funding has been applied for as well. They also requested that the Council consider allowing them to use the area of land between the Burial Ground and basketball court for activities and a seating area. The possibility of having the Leyhill Prison volunteer group to clear and maintain the area was discussed.

23/048 Reports from the County and District Councillors

County Cllr Robinson reported that the 20mph speed limit blanket zone will not go forward, as all new 20mph zones require evidence towards a requirement for lower speeds. Nailsworth Town Council had been gathering evidence for the centre of Nailsworth for 9 years before their 20mph application. Community Speedwatch will help with evidence. VAS data could be used as further evidence.

He also reported that there has not been a Stroud District Council meeting since our last meeting in February.

There is £1000 per SDC district councillor area for grit bins (at least 1 for Horsley). It was suggested that this could be in Downend but Hay Lane was also suggested; perhaps a large bin in Downend and a smaller one at Hay Lane. The Meals on Wheels service was under threat as the supplier, Appetito, had withdrawn – the Grace Network (which work with The Long Table) are taking over the contract in Stroud. Discussions about the HCAN Cycling and Walking Group were continuing, and it was having a meeting early next month. The No.40 bus contract will be renewed but the operator has not been confirmed yet. Some people are concerned about a 5G mast in Nailsworth and a campaign group has been set up.

23/049 Clerk's report and Correspondence

The Clerk's report and all correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting. Council approved the Clerk to attend the SLCC Climate Change Summit on 26 April 2023.

Cllr Thomson gave an update on the planning enforcement issues. Action: Clerk to ask SDC /GCC for an update.

23/050 Climate Emergency

Cllr McDonagh reported that the Walking and Cycling group was working on formulating ideas for "quick win" initiatives which they could apply for funding to implement; to be followed by further work on a campaign about 30mph and possibly a feasibility study. Whether we might be able to fund this through a bid to the walking strategy fund was being investigated.

There had been discussion about tackling speeding and also school traffic, in partnership with the school. The group was having a meeting with County Cllr Steve Robinson and Simon Maher at SDC to discuss ideas. The need for better enforcement of the existing 30mph limit was discussed and whether a 30mph zone right through from Nailsworth to Horsley could be achieved in the longer term.

The practicality of walking to Nailsworth along the B4058 in the summer was also identified as an issue due to tree growth. Does the parish council want highways hedges routinely cut back? It was suggested that we ask Ruskin Mill if they would do it regularly in the summer, but some suggestion that perhaps HCAN should informally approach Ruskin Mill to put the case from a climate point of view.

The new flood warden has been talking to people in the village and working to identify low-tech solutions.

23/051 Consider the Village Hub project

Cllr Walls reported that the contractors can start work on the track improvements and moving the pavement to the Pavilion side in mid-to-late May. It was looking hopeful that the project would be complete by the start of the school summer holidays. The walls between the churchyard and the back of the sheds are not structurally sound; it was thought that the walls be taken down if needed.

23/052 Update on the community shop

Cllr David Walls had prepared a written update prior to the meeting. There was nothing further to report.

23/053 Update on the play area

The Bike Trail Safety Sign is awaiting collection, then Cllr Blackwell will install.

The need for repairs to the play area following reports of worn equipment was discussed; the chicken and cat rockers need to be replaced and the log steps are rotten. Cllr S Howells had obtained quotes for

replacement rockers. A cow rocker is £716 and a two-way seal rocker is £1514. Installation of one of the rockers, into grass, is £1225. Supply and install rubber grass matting (optional) to help prevent grass wear is £210.

Action: Obtain further quotes for log steps repairs and installation of rockers

23/054 Update on highways and footpaths

Cllr Peters had obtained the dataset for February for the lower VAS on The Street but had been unable to receive data for the upper Nupend VAS. There was a query about whether re-calibration is required for the upper VAS. Roadside Technologies had been contacted to troubleshoot.

The highest speed recorded was 58.7mph; Cllr Peters estimated that around half the traffic is 30-35mph.

No update on the PCSO arranging for PC cadets to carry out speed checks or on training for the Horsley Community Speedwatch group, although some residents have expressed an interest in participating.

23/055 Update on the burial ground

No update.

23/056 Update on the Gigaclear rollout

Cllr S Howells gave an update on the Gigaclear rollout. Some roadworks had been planned for Barton End but they did not seem to have occurred on schedule. It was noted that a set of road closures in Shortwood had taken place over the last 6 weeks, with a focus on Rockness planned in April. Cllr S Howells would contact Gigaclear to ask if they would consider moving forward the unfinished parts of the build in Horsley. Remedial works on Hay Lane were also planned to take place in April. A query was raised regarding wayleave permissions. Cllr S Howells reported that the Council had been told previously that all relevant wayleave permissions required were already in place.

23/057 Report on planning decisions and planning applications

Planning applications

No planning applications.

Planning decisions:

S.23/0130/HHOLD The Hayloft, Sugley Lane, Horsley - Replacement incidental outbuilding. Withdrawn
S.23/0054/FUL 1 & 2 Field View, Bath Road, Nailsworth - Alteration to existing access. Permitted

Planning enforcement considerations:

Refer to section 23/049.

23/058 Website update

The website contract has been awarded to a local company and the design should be completed in the next month.

23/59 Authorise payments of the parish council and receive financial matters

59.1 Payments made between meetings were ratified:

date	payee	description	total	pay
02/02/2023	L McLaughlin	Pavilion cleaning (Feb)	£144.00	FPO

08/03/2023	HMRC	HMRC Tax	£25.65	FPO
09/03/2023	NEST	Clerk pension (Feb)	£19.70	DD
14/03/2023	British Gas	Pavilion Gas	£56.65	DD
22/03/2023	Simon Allen	Return of Horsley Climate Action Network funds	£67.50	FPO

59.2 Payments received between meetings:
None

59.3 Payments for authorisation:

date	payee	description	VAT	total
21/03/2023	GAPTC	Annual membership subscription 2023-34	0	£217.52
22/03/2023	CR Signs	Bike trail safety sign – A4 aluminium	£4.00	£24.00
24/03/2023	Joe Price	Gravedigger plot B4-003 on 21 March	0	£575.00
24/03/2023	Joe Price	Gravedigger plot B4-004 on 31 March	0	£575.00

59.4 Council approved the bank reconciliation as at 24 March 2023.

59.5 Council approved the budget; final version to be circulated prior to the next meeting.

23/060 Councillor items for future discussion

Councillors discussed the coronation. Beacons will be lit to mark the event, as for the Jubilee. There was discussion as to whether the Pavilion will be open so that the toilet is available. Also, the insurers may need to be notified if there is to be a coronation event on the playing field. It was suggested that the new website could have a Calendar page to include village events.

23/061 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 25th April 2023 in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 20:48

Chair's signature..... Date