

MINUTES

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

23 July 2024 | 19:30 | Marianne Simpson

24/070 Attendance and Apologies

In attendance Cllrs Kate Kay (Chair), Seb Howells, Chris Blackwell, Christina McDonagh, Miranda Waller. Also Present: Clerk Marianne Simpson.

No members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs Alistair Thomson, Matt Peters, James Bowers, County Cllr Steve Robinson, District Cllr Maggie Dutton

24/071 Declarations of interest or requests for dispensations

None.

24/072 Approval of Minutes

The minutes, previously circulated, of the last meeting held on 25 June 2024 were confirmed as a true record and Council resolved to accept the minutes.

24/073 Chair's announcements

None.

24/074 Consider changes to the order of business

None.

Meeting adjourned for members of the public to address the Council

There were no members of the public.

24/075 Receive reports from District and County Councillors

District Cllr Kay had circulated her District Council report prior to the meeting. She had Chaired the SDC council meeting last week. There was an item to take the Stratford Park Leisure Centre in-house and money has been set aside to improve the leisure centre and lido. The refurbishment should take place in the next 6 months. It was reported that SDC is financially stable.

24/076 Clerk's report and Correspondence

The Clerk's report (for information only) and all correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting and confirmed. There were several items raised by the Clerk to be considered and addressed.

1. Should the PC review the Pavilion energy costs in September, as the costs are high and it is out of contract as the PC did not sign a new contract in September 2023. Council agreed for the parish council to employ an energy specialist to look at alternative rates.
2. The Cabinet office is providing funding this year 2024-25 to encourage parish councils to use a gov.uk domain names. It is not a legal requirement, but the new JPAG Practitioners Guide recommends it as best practice. The funding is for £100+VAT to cover the first year of costs. Council agreed for the Clerk to pursue this and to choose a horsley parish council .gov.uk domain name. Cllr Howells explained that it will be possible to keep the existing horsleyparishcouncil.co.uk domain name as it can be re-directed to the gov.uk domain for the first year, until people get used to the new domain name.

3. Council agreed that the Clerk should explore cloud-based financial management solutions to see what they cost and what the benefits are over the current accounting system using spreadsheets.
4. Ash Dieback works are planned on 14th – 15th August and the B4058 will be closed from A46 Junction at Nailsworth to Jct with Wormwood Hill and Narrowcut Lane.

24/077 Report on planning decisions and planning applications

Planning applications

- S.24/1138/HHOLD Little Stoke Cottage Hartley Bridge Hill Horsley GL6 0QB - Extension of parking area to provide platform for timber framed and timber clad garage. Installation of timber framed and timber clad garage. No Comment.

Planning decisions

- S.24/0229/HHOLD Lieramont Downend Horsley - Erection of a two storey extension. Resubmission of S.20/2580/HHOLD. Permission.
- Camping site refused.

24/78 Authorise payments of the parish council and receive financial matters

78.1 Payments made between meetings were ratified:

date	payee	description	total	VAT	pay
24/06/24	NEST	Clerk pension	£23.50	-	DD
25/06/24	British Gas	Pavilion electricity	£568.04	£94.67	DD
04/07/24	Hugo Oliver	Pavilion clean June 17-22, July 1-3	£240.00	-	
04/07/24	AJGIBL	PC annual insurance	£1958.94	-	
08/07/24	Water Plus	Pavilion water	£260.10	-	DD
11/07/24	British Gas	Pavilion gas	£37.95	£1.80	DD

78.2 Payments received between meetings were noted:

date	from	description	total
05/07/24	Cotswolds National Landscape	Walking project grant	£2324.27
09/07/24	Bus Bank Inst	Interest	£24.09

78.3 Payments for authorisation were approved:

date	payee	description	VAT	total
08/07/24	HM Prison & Probation Service	Leyhill Supervised Work Party 12 and 21 June	100.00	600.00
02/07/24	Gloucestershire Playing Fields Assoc	Annual membership		£50.00

78.4 Council received the monthly financial update and the Q1 bank reconciliation to 30 June 2024. Total balance is £75,455.82 .

Finance Cycling project:

The Build Back Better Fund application for the Cycling grant has been accepted and the total payment of £1,000 will be paid within a month. The project must proceed within 12 months of receiving the grant payment.

Estimated project cost:	£12,655.00
<u>Contingency at 12.5%:</u>	<u>£1,581.88</u>
Total:	£14,236.88

Secured sources of funding are:

Cotswold National Landscape (received)	£ 2,140.96
GCC Build Back Better	£ 1,000.00
Rural England Prosperity Fund	£ 5712.00
HPC Core Project	£ 3,802.04
<u>Plus HPC Potential Contingency</u>	<u>£ 1,581.88</u>
Total	£14,236.88

78.5 Cllrs McDonagh and Howells have been added to the bank mandate and are now online banking approvers. Cllr Thomson also remains as a payment approver.

24/079 Update on highways and footpaths

79.1 Update on the Cycling and Walking Project – see section 78.4 for financial details. The footpath project is complete. The cycle shelter option and location, next to the Pavilion, were agreed at the last meeting. The progress on the cycling project is stalled currently while SDC clarifying the measurement of the cycling grant's and project's success. Thus, the foundation work for the cycle shelter has not started yet. HOP is aware that their shed is to be moved to the prison wall.

79.2 Update on the Community Speedwatch Group - Cllr Waller and Kay had a meeting to discuss this.

79.3 Update on the VAS data. Cllr Walla to take over the collection of the VAS data.

Council noted correspondence from a resident concerning the speed and noise of traffic along the B4058.

Further traffic calming signs were considered, with possibility of more personalised road signs. It was also suggested that the hours of opening of the tip could be reduced, particularly on Sundays. Cllr Kay agreed to take this up in an effort to reduce traffic volumes.

24/080 Consider maintenance of Parish Council owned land

Cllr Kay noted that the war memorial area needs tidying up and the grass cut back, the Nupend Orchard may require more attention, and the grass around the village gateway has become overgrown.

The HOP (Horsley Orchard Project) group has not been active this year as a few members have left. They have a licence from the Parish Council which states they must report to the council each year detailing their plans and volunteer efforts to keep it neat and tidy. This has not happened for a while.

Action: Cllr Kay to liaise with the HOP group to assess what level of support they currently have and what their plans are.

Action: Clerk to obtain tenders from commercial companies to maintain the orchard – to mow the grass and maintain the fruit trees.

Cllr Blackwell reported that there had been an occasion last week where cars drove onto the playing field pitch. It is thought that it was during the end of school camp. The Parish Council does give permission for the Y6 camp, but vehicles should not be driven onto the field, particularly when it is wet, as it was last week. Council agreed to fit a combination lock onto the gate to prevent vehicles from accessing the field.

24/081 Consider the Pavilion maintenance and refurbishment of the toilets

Defer to the September meeting when all councillors are present.

Cllr Blackwell added that he has arranged for the Pavilion boiler to be removed and a PAYG meter to be installed instead for the emersion heater. It is only the football club that uses the hot water.

24/082 Receive update on the Community Shop

Cllr Kay recently attended the Community Shop '15th birthday celebration'. Financially, the Community Shop is doing all right although it is short on volunteers. Cllr Peters to report further on the Shop at the September meeting.

24/083 Update on play area and any general repairs for the year

The Clerk noted that the end of one of the large log seatings had rotted and a small child had hurt their hand on a screw. Cllr Blackwell reported that Cllr Bowers had removed the log support, which had the screw in it, and it was now safe; the log will not move. Council agreed to fully assess any remedial works in the play area in September, with a view to scheduling the work ready for Spring next year.

Action: Cllr Blackwell to obtain a quote for the sunsail shade to be replaced. The timber supports will need to be replaced and a new shade purchased. He asked if the Parish Council would permit a logo on the sail. Council agreed, so long as it was relatively small.

Action: The recent RoSPA report highlighted that the zipwire should be dismantled and inspected by the manufacturer. Clerk to action the zipwire check inspection. Council also agreed for the Clerk to purchase an accident book.

24/084 Consider Football Club agreement and review of licence

Cllr Kay has amended the Football Club licence. Cllrs Blackwell and Kay to meet with the Football Club to discuss the new agreement.

24/085 update on new website

The Clerk reported that the new website now has the core documents on it. This needs to link in with the decision to have a .gov.uk website. The website needs to be moved to a new domain. Cllr Howells explained that the existing domain name can still be live, so that anyone who tries to access it will be re-directed to the new domain name. Council agreed to pay for the existing domain name of horsleyparish.co.uk for one more year and to progress the application for a .gov.uk domain name.

24/086 Update on Gigaclear

Cllr Howells gave an update on Gigaclear. Downend Gigaclear works are being carried out on 24-26 July. Hay Lane is now live and fully connected. There is planned work in Barton End in September by Openreach. Washpool and Lower Barton End have never had fibre installed. Cllr Howells will ask Gigaclear to do this work. Gigaclear also needs to be installed in the Village Hall.

24/087 Update on the Horsley Orchard Project (HOP)

Cllr Kay will ask the HOP group what their plans are. The orchard needs to be properly maintained and the HOP group should be reporting annually to the PC to meet its obligations.

Clerk to obtain 3 quotes from companies to maintain the orchard.

24/088 Consider the 3-in-1 Church Hall report

Cllr McDonagh had attended the event in the 3-in-1 Church Hall, to discuss its future, as the building needs expensive repairs and cannot afford to pay for them. The main issues are that the roof needs replacing, the heating system is not working, and there is a large maintenance backlog, and insufficient funds to pay for it.

Cllr McDonagh reported that about 60 people attended; 30% offered to help. The School Headmaster was there to explain how the school benefits from the Hall, representatives of the Church and Parochial Church Council, residents, and parents of children attending the school. Options to improve community usage, ways to raise money and apply for grants, project management of the building works were discussed. Cllr Kay reported that SDC are planning on setting up a Stroud funding platform for the district.

24/089 Consider a Village Consultation

Defer to the September meeting.

24/090 Councillor items for future discussion

None

24/091 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 24th September 2024 in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9:00pm

Chair's signature..... Date