

HALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Hale Parish Council Meeting held at 7.00 pm on Tuesday 8 January 2019 in Hale Village Hall, Hale

Present:

Cllr Aitken-Sykes – Chairman, Cllrs Hartas, Gemmell, Mangan, Templeton

In attendance:

Miss K Cleary – Clerk

Mr S Whitmarsh – Tree Warden

23 members of the public

1. **To receive apologies for absence** – Cllr Lucas, who was unwell. Cllr Aitken-Sykes agreed to Chair the meeting, with the exception of item 6 which would be Chaired by Cllr Mangan.
2. **To receive any Declarations of Interest** – Declarations of interest in respect of Item 8 were made as recorded in Appendix 1 of these minutes. All Councillors declared a pecuniary interest in Item 7 of the agenda – Precept request.
3. **To consider and approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 4 Dec 2018** – Minutes having been circulated in advance were approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising from the minutes

- 3.1. Sharon Barnett had replied to Clerk on behalf of Hale Neighbourhood watch confirming that an annual basis of funding would be acceptable. It was proposed Cllr Aitken-Sykes and seconded by Cllr Mangan and therefore **RESOLVED**: to send a cheque for £50 for 2018/19 as agreed in the Nov 18 meeting.
- 3.2. Clerk hours to be discussed with personnel committee instead of closed session of full council – meeting arranged 22 January.
- 3.3. As requested by a Parishioner, Clerk has written to Steve Avery to ask for advice on the specific circumstances in which planning permission may be available for Parishioners to create 'Granny Annexes'. No response yet been received
- 3.4. No response from National Grid to request to reconsider tunnelling; Clerk to chase
- 3.5. No response yet from application to County Cllr Heron for Car Park Funding; Cllrs noted that the process could take 10 weeks. Clerk to check all necessary contact information has been submitted.
- 3.6. Cllr Gemmell reported that rights of way priority cutting list was in progress for 1 Feb deadline. A fallen tree had been noted on the footpath behind Sorrell. Rhododendrons had been cleared in Stricklands Plantation, presumably by National Grid.
- 3.7. Cllr Mangan advised that he had inspected the bus shelter as an alternative site for the new noticeboard at Woodfalls Cross and it should be possible. Cllr Mangan to approach Mark Nobes to help. Clerk to check who owns bus shelter. It was proposed by Cllr Hartas and seconded by Cllr Templeton and therefore **RESOLVED** to erect new noticeboard at Woodfalls Cross in the bus shelter, subject to ownership check. All agreed.
4. **Members of the public are invited to address the council on agenda matters and to raise any matters not otherwise on the agenda.**
 - 4.1. Two parishioners questioned why the publication of Parish Council minutes in the Parish magazine had been sporadic. Clerk apologised and repeated her offer to distribute paper copies to anyone who wanted to read but did not have internet access. Clerk now had definitive dates from the Parish Magazine editors and every effort would be made to meet deadlines going forward.
 - 4.2. A parishioner member of PHPM clarified that they were very willing to look positively at tunnelling as a new option for the Visual Impact Project. However, this position could not be

finalised until details of the construction required at the two sealing ends had been considered and members' views were established.

- 4.3. A parishioner member of PHPM highlighted the relevant sections of European and UK legislation that PHPM asserts would be breached by the Visual Impact Project in current form.
- 4.4. The Parish Tree Warden noted that a mobile phone had been found in Hale Cemetery and was being kept safe. If anyone had lost one, please get in contact.
- 4.5. Steve Whitmarsh advised that National Trust have appointed Sue Blanch to coordinate the National Trust response to the National Grid Visual Impact Project proposals.
- 4.6. A parishioner on behalf of the Protect Hale Purlieu Movement requested the Parish Council support the PHPM in a legal challenge to the use of IROPI in respect of the National Grid VIP project.

The Chairman proposed that given the time constraints and deadline, the precept should be moved up from Item 7 to Item 5. All agreed

5. To review and determine the draft Parish Council budget and precept request for 2019/20

- 5.1. Clerk presented draft 2019/20 budget incorporating feedback from 18/19 rebudget in Nov 18 meeting and discussion of 2019/20 budget in Dec 18 meeting. Car Park repairs would be funded by reserves (c.£4500) in the event that the lottery application was not successful. In order to deliver the items as budgeted, the precept would need to be raised by c.3% to £12,177.
- 5.2. Cllr Mangan noted that the 2019/20 budget included some areas where reserves could be potentially built up again if not spent e.g £500 reserve for potential by-election costs.
- 5.3. It was proposed by Cllr Templeton and seconded by Cllr Hartas and therefore **RESOLVED:** that HPC submit a precept request of £12,177 to NFDC for 2019/20. All agreed.

6. To review information received and determine next steps in relation to the National Grid visual impact project; including

- **receiving a report from Stakeholder Reference Group meeting 13 Dec**
 - **correspondence received from members of the public**
- 6.1. A parishioner member of PHPM had written to the Council declining to publish full details of their lawfulness challenge at this stage given confidentiality of research. Council noted the response.
 - 6.2. Cllr Hartas reported that she attended the SRG meeting on 13 Dec in place of Cllr Lucas who was on holiday. Points of note
 - A number of stakeholders continued to express concern about the proposed route, given the site SSSI status.
 - The meeting was advised that the Stakeholder Advisory Group (national stakeholders rather than local) was supportive of direct burying. Tunnelling was '50% more expensive' than direct bury method.
 - Work into impact on the temperature of the headwater mire was still ongoing.
 - Meeting was followed by Alaska site visit; restoration results were impressive although it was noted that more soil depth was retained
 Clerk to request for HPC review and general distribution (a) minutes for SAG as well as SRG and (b) cost analysis to support 50% claim.
 - 6.3. Cllr Hartas advised that date of follow up meeting with National Grid and Commoners was still to be finalised.

7. To consider and determine next steps for Affordable Housing project including

- **receiving a report from the Housing Consulting Group meeting 18 Dec**
- **Receiving a report from the CLT members meeting**

- **Receiving a report from the CLT public meeting 4th Jan**
- **Correspondence received from members of the public**
(Cllrs Templeton and Aitken-Sykes moved to the public area for the duration of this item)

- 7.1 Ian Winson reported that there was a meeting of HCG on 18th December. There were 17 attendees and 13 apologies for absence. Following resignation of Cllr Gemmell, Ian Winson was invited to join committee and appointed Chairman. Answers to the 89 questions asked of Hale CLT were not reviewed in depth. Seven potential affordable housing sites were identified which will be 'scored' by members, with results due for review at the next meeting on 29th Jan, to report back to HPC at the February meeting.
- 7.2 Cllr Mangan added that he found the meeting useful and constructive and thanked the HCG formally.
- 7.3 Bill Templeton, as director of Hale CLT reported that the CLT held a members meeting on 4th Jan. The concept plan was discussed and a Q&A session was held with the architect.
- 7.4 Bill Templeton, as director of Hale CLT reported that the members' meeting on 4th Jan was followed immediately by an open public session where the concept plans were presented and another Q&A session was held. CLT directors took detailed notes of all comments raised and as a result of this feedback, the concept plan was likely to be very substantially amended.
- 7.5 Cllrs Hartas, Gemmell and Mangan, who attended the public meeting unanimously thanked the directors and members of Hale CLT for holding the meeting which they felt was helpful and a positive step forwards. Cllrs expressed some initial concerns about the concept plans, particularly in the increase in the number of properties on the two sites discussed and the general level of interaction with Carters Close residents prior to the unveiling of the plans but felt that the level of public engagement was encouraging and they looked forward to hearing details of revised concept plans as soon as they were available. Cllrs expressed desire that Hale CLT continue to actively seek to increase membership levels.
- 7.6 Directors of the CLT had requested that Hale Parish Council consider nomination rights for a representative of HPC to join the CLT committee. Clerk to liaise with CLT to research legalities and process and report back to the Council for consideration at next meeting.

8. Correspondence

- 8.1. 30 Nov – NFNPA Western Escarpment Steering Group ref redundant signage mapping project – Clerk to clarify precise requirement; nil return expected.
- 8.2. 5 Dec – NFNPA Historic Route and Past Pathways Project – request for review of proposed trail route in Hale. Cllr Gemmell to coordinate alongside rights of way cutting project;. Concerns were raised about potential increase in traffic to the village.
- 8.3. 12 Dec – National Trust – ref pony shot on Hale Purlieu – Noted; this had already been circulated as an appeal for information. Police and Verderers are dealing.
- 8.4. 17 Dec – Hampshire Highways re postponement of Moot Lane works 'Project Resilience' until New Year. Noted
- 8.5. 20 Dec – Parishioner ref track access to properties on right hand side of village hall. It was noted that residents did park along the track but that parking on verges would not be permitted. Clerk to clarify request from Parishioner and review legal documentation for Council to review proposed response in next meeting.
- 8.6. 6 Jan – included by Clerk as urgent correspondence – A Parishioner complaint in relation to Clerk draft minutes and legality of Councillor meeting held 23 July 2018. Clerk noted that this was a complaint ref Clerk capabilities and integrity and therefore it was inappropriate for her to coordinate response which would be dealt with by Chairman.

9. To consider any matter referred by the Planning Committee - none

10. To consider and approve the following payments:

08.01.19	Cutting Edge (cemetery maintenance Dec 18)	85.00
08.01.19	PAYE (due quarterly on Clerk's salary)	247.20
08.01.19	Friends of the New Forest Subscription	17.00
08.01.19	Susan Witt (Plants for cemetery)	18.99
08.01.19	Lengthsman expenses (cemetery weedkiller)	32.69
24.01.19	Clerks salary	330.17

It was proposed by Cllr Templeton and seconded by Cllr Gemmell and therefore **RESOLVED:** that the payments be approved. All agreed.

11. To approve the accounts for Nov 2018 and to record the bank balances – approved.

Treasurers Account	£14,523.92
Savings Account	£ 6,316.18

12. Any other business

- 12.1. Cllr Mangan advised the Council that Godshill hall had been booked for the 16th Jan meeting of HPC and other local Parish Councils with Tim Davies of NFDC on Affordable Housing matters.

13. To note the date of the next meeting is Tuesday 5th February 2019 at 7.00pm at Hale Village Hall

There being no further business to discuss, the Meeting closed at 9.36pm

Signed:
Chairman

Date: 8 January 2019

Clerk: Miss Kathy Cleary, 5 Saddlers Close, Fordingbridge, SP6 1AE
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