

Harescombe Parish Council

Harescombe Parish Council Meeting

7.30pm, Monday 11th November 2024 at Harescombe Village Hall.

Minutes

Meeting commenced at 7.35pm

Present, Councillors. T. Leeper, P. Richards, C. Ractliffe, District Councillor Turner-Wilkes, Clerk Mr. S. Hale

- 24.81 No members of the public were present.
- 24.82 Council received and accepted apologies for absence from Cllr. Perkins.
- 24.83 There were no member declarations of interest to items on the agenda.
- 24.84 Council resolved to approved the minutes for meeting on 9th September 2024.
- 24.85 Council noted the report from District Councillor Turner-Wilkes. A pdf copy will be uploaded to the website once received.
- 24.86 Regular monthly reports are received from County Councillor Williams, but nothing specifically for this meeting.

Finance.

- 24.87 Council resolved to remain with Lloyds banking and accepted the new minimal charges. Delegated authority to the clerk to settle bank fees and charges when required.
- 24.88 Council resolved to appoint Mrs. Irena Litton as the internal auditor for 2024 / 2025. Mrs. Litton has appropriate experience and qualifications. She was deemed to be competent and independent of the council. Her fixed fee of £200 was agreed.
- 24.89 Council resolved to pay quarter of the clerks SLCC membership renewal fee. £45.75.
- 24.90 Council resolved to renew the GAPTC annual membership £62.36.
- 24.91 Council resolved to authorise the 2024 / 2025 national pay award.
- 24.92 Council resolved to ratify the following receipts and payments;

Date	Receipts	Amount
09/09/2024	Gross interest on savings	£9.35
26/09/2024	Precept 2nd instalment	£2,625.00
09/10/2024	Gross interest on savings	£9.06
Date	Payments	
30/09/2024	PATA Payroll Q2	£16.85
	Clerk Q2 salary, mileage & HW Allowance	
07/10/2024	HMRC PAYE Q2	

- 24.93 Council noted the result of the internal controls and bank reconciliation as completed by the clerk and Cllr. Richards. Some councillors had problems accessing the online internal controls folder, so they will receive emailed documents in future.



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Bank reconciliation as at 4th November 2024

Balance on 01/04/2024	£17,968.98
Receipts to date	£ 5,461.07
Payments to date	£ 4,040.64
Fund balance as at 4 th November 2024	£19,389.41

Represented by,

Lloyds current account	£ 8,362.08
Lloyds Savings Account	£11,027.33
Balance	£19,389.41

24.94

Council reviewed and noted the mid-year expenditure review

2023-24	Category	2024-25	Apr - Oct	Nov - Mar	2024-25	
Previous year	Payments	Budget	Actual	Predicted	TOTAL PREDICTED	Variance
£2,050.00	Clerks Gross Salary (& PAYE)					£95.00
£16.00	Clerk's expenses / mileage	£80.00	£52.00	£28.00	£80.00	£0.00
£26.00	PATA Payroll	£60.00	£51.00	£17.00	£68.00	-£8.00
£50.00	Councillors expenses	£50.00	£41.00	£0.00	£41.00	£9.00
£200.00	Internal audit	£200.00	£180.00	£0.00	£180.00	£20.00
£100.00	Training	£100.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£100.00
£220.00	Hire of Village Hall	£235.00	£0.00	£235.00	£235.00	£0.00
£100.00	Subscriptions	£132.00	£35.00	£107.00	£142.00	-£10.00
£700.00	Donations / S 137	£0.00	£700.00	£700.00	£1,400.00	-£1,400.00
£200.00	Insurance	£140.00	£128.00	£0.00	£128.00	£12.00
£160.00	Website & admin	£160.00	£222.00	£30.00	£252.00	-£92.00
£1,000.00	Village maintenance	£400.00	£0.00	£1,400.00	£1,400.00	-£1,000.00
£4,822.00	SUB TOTAL	£5,232.00	£4,034.00	£3,472.00	£7,506.00	-£2,274.00

24.95

Council deferred to the next meeting, a decision on next year's budget.

24.96

Council deferred to the next meeting, a decision on next year's precept demand.

Planning Matters – Council noted the following ongoing applications.

24.97

Reference S.23/2414/LBC
 Application validated 6th December 2023
 Horsepools House, Sevenleaze Lane, Edge, Stroud. GL6 6NJ
 Window alterations & replacement.
 Status Awaiting decision

24.98

Reference S.23/2428/OUT
 A full objection to this application has been submitted by the parish council.
 Land At Whaddon Gloucester Gloucestershire
 Outline application for up to 2,550 new dwellings, etc ...
 Status Awaiting decision

Policies and Procedures

24.99

Casual Vacancy was considered by council.

Highways

24.100


Passing Places – The Pound-of Candles passing place was considered the most deserving of further consideration at this time, although a village WhatsApp group, and

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parish council website appeal for suggestions only solicited 2 replies. Council resolved that the clerk should put a fresh appeal on the news broadcast facility, and Cllr Ractliffe would speak with parishioners and recirculate on WhatsApp for consultation on Pound-of-Candles Lane. Responses to be considered at the next meeting.

- 24.101 **Road surface** – Council noted the clerk has reported to GCC Highways, 33 road surface deficiencies throughout the parish. Many have been earmarked for action within 28 days.
- 24.102 **Fingerposts at Edge Church** – Council considered options for refurbishment and noted that Highways have agreed to remove and replace the signs at their expense. Council was content with this arrangement and resolved that the preferred option was to use a local craftsman at Leonard Stanley to refurbish the signs using existing letters. The second option, was to use the Dorset craftsman. Budget of £1,000 agreed and delegated to the clerk to make the necessary arrangements.
- 24.103 **Overgrown verges from the triangle to the Harescombe sign** – Highways have confirmed that they do one cut a year, 1m from the carriageway. Any additional cuts or drain clearing is the responsibility of / at the discretion of, the relevant farmer / land owner. It was observed that Haresfield recently had drainage ditches cut out. Cllr. Turner-Wilkes offered to contact Haresfield to clarify the situation.
- 24.104 **Parish Grass Cutting** – Council resolved that the clerk should get 3 quotes for grass cutting of the triangle and the verges as far as the Harescombe sign.
- 24.105 **Damaged Harescombe sign at the village entrance** – Council resolved that enquiries should be undertaken to try and identify the vehicle involved. If this was unsuccessful, council further resolved to set a budget of £500, and delegate responsibility to the clerk to arrange for a GCC Highways sign replacement.
- 24.106 **Request for a sign to “Church and Hall”** – Council resolved to set a budget of £400 for a fingerpost sign at the junction of Pound of Candles Lane and Gruntas Lane, near Threshold Farm. Delegated to the clerk to facilitate.
- 24.107 **Water coming through road surface, Harescombe Lane to Spring Acre** – council noted this was reported to Highways who have added repairs to the list for consideration from next year’s budget.
- 24.108 **Damage to verges at Gruntas Lane** – Council noted that Highways had cleared up at the expense of the recovery driver causing the damage.
- 24.109 **Matters arising (no decisions can be made on such matters).**
- 24.110 **Date of the next meeting**
7.30pm Monday 13th January 2024

Meeting concluded at 8.35pm



13/01/25