

HARESCOMBE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD HARESCOMBE VILLAGE HALL

ON 26TH MAY, 2021 AT 8:30PM.

Present: Cllrs Andy Buckmaster (Chairman), Mike Hyett, Dafydd Lawday, Kath Pritchard, Caroline Ractliffe (Vice Chair),

Cllr Lawday acted on behalf of Mrs Sheila Murray as Clerk of the meeting.

There were no members of the public present

1. Election of Chair

Nominated:- Andy Buckmaster

Proposed:- Kath Pritchard

Seconded:- Caroline Ractliffe

Cllr Andy Buckmaster accepted the position of Chair.

2. Election of Vice Chair

Nominated:- Caroline Ractliffe

Proposed:- Kath Pritchard

Seconded:- Mike Hyett

Cllr Ractliffe accepted the position of Vice Chair

3. To sign Declaration of Office and Member Declaration of Interest Forms

All Councillors signed Declarations of Office and Declaration of Members Interest forms.

4. Public question time

None

5. To receive apologies for absence

Mrs Sheila Murray (Clerk) offered her apologies.

David Mossman has sent apologies but provided a report for the Councillors

Councillors unanimously received and accepted the apologies.

6. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes were approved

7. 1 Matters Arising from the Minutes not covered on the Agenda

Action – Cllr Buckmaster to get signs for Fly Tipping from SDC. There has been communication and images supplied. Request has been made for a preferred sign. Awaiting response from SDC.

8. Member's declaration of interest to items on the agenda

None

9. Report on roads, ditches and footpaths in the village

9.2 To update on the Ditch clearing project

Cllr Ractliffe updated councillors–

1. Ditch clearance work has been approved and is scheduled for August by a local contractor.
2. Pound of Candles
 - a. Highways have indicated that road condition on Pound of Candles would not be addressed but in line with safety policy they would replace 9 damaged bollards
 - b. Pipe work would be cleared further up from Hayes Farm / Bluebell Lane
 - c. Councillors raised a concern that there is now fibre-optic cabling that may be in the ditches.
 - d. Job raised with Highways for the collapsed drain by Brook Farm.

9.3 To update on the proposed passing places and signage

Pound of Candles – A representative from City Utilities has looked at the proposal. He is awaiting confirmation from GCC regarding key questions before a quote could be supplied.

Gruntas Footpath – Highways intend to patch the top end of the footpath to eliminate run off from the road at the top of the lane.

ACTION – The Clerk to inform / update the person making the initial report.

Mud slip – Work has been completed to address the problem. Scraped back the bank. Report that further pinning will take place at a future date.

A resident has raised the risk that hedgerows could cause an issue in future. The Councillors were informed that the landowner had cut back hedges. There has been further concern that the opposite bank is eroding due to cars moving away from the overhanging hedges.

ACTION – Cllr Buckmaster to email resident to clarify concerns and desired outcomes.

10. District Councillor's report

A written report was supplied by Cllr Mossman. There were no questions arising and it was agreed that Councillors would review the Local Plan before the end of June, as the deadline for comments was approaching.

11. Planning SDC decisions and new applications

Conservatory, Randalls Cottages – All were in approval, no objections

12. Finance

12.1 Presentation of finance report year to date and approval of bank reconciliation.
Postponed until next meeting due to the absence of Mrs. Murray.

12.2 To authorise payments and approve for payment via BACS for Council affairs' Invoices for payment

Councillors approved payments of invoices for Community First (annual insurance premium) and both payments for GAPTC

Clerks Salary: will be authorised at the next meeting.

13. Administration

13.1 Declaring the Council as an exempt authority by resolution that it meets the criteria for 2020/21 and signing the exemption certificate

Councillors unanimously agreed to the resolution and the Chair signed as such.

13.2 Approval of the Annual Governance Statement

a. Consider the Annual Governance Statement.

Councillors reviewed the Annual Governance Statement.

b. Approval of the Annual Governance Statement by resolution: and Councillors unanimously approved the Annual Governance Statement.

c. Sign and date the Annual Governance Statement by the RFO and Chair. Documents were signed.

13.3 Approval of the Accounting Statements for the year ending 31 March 2021

a. Consider the Accounting Statement;

Councillors reviewed the Accounting Statement

b. Approval of the Accounting Statements by resolution; and Councillors unanimously approved the Accounting Statement.

c. Sign and date the Accounting Statements by the RFO and Chair Documents were signed

14. Correspondence

None

15. Councillors' Submissions.

a) Defibrillators – Investigations and queries have been made through South West Ambulance and St Johns Ambulance for defibrillator, storage boxes and training. Councillors are keen to find out more and invite an official (e.g. St Johns) to provide us with further information and at a future meeting.

ACTION:- The Clerk to contact an appropriate person.

b) Consider whether Parish Council can contribute towards an annual Village Event. For example, suggestions were for a Village Social Group event. The councillors were supportive of a donation but further information was to be sought.

ACTION:- Cllr Buckmaster will make further enquiries to ascertain the type of events and a sensible amount.

c) Councillors raised the suggestion that meetings were effective via Zoom and whether future meetings can be held via Zoom.

ACTION:- The Clerk will confirm the status regarding digital meetings.

Meeting closed 9:15pm

d) **Date of next meeting** – 21st July, 2021 in the Village Hal

16/ The meeting closed at 9.40pm