

# Harescombe Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024

## Minutes

Meeting commenced at 7.33pm

Present, Cllr. Leeper (chairman), Cllr. Richards (vice-chairman), Cllr. Ractliffe, Cllr. Perkins and District Cllr. Turner-Wilkes.

- 24.20 Public participation – Kath Pritchard attended with flowers from her and councillors to thank Cllr. Ractliffe for her time served on the parish council as both a councillor and as the chair. Furthermore, councillors gave a garden centre voucher to Kath Pritchard and thanked her for her service as a councillor. Both were thanked by the chairman. Funding for the gifts was personally provided by councillors and Mrs. Pritchard. No public money was spent on any of the gift purchases.
- 24.21 Apologies for absence from County Councillor S. Williams.
- 24.22 Member's declaration of interest to items on the agenda – Cllr. Richards declared an interest in planning application S.24/1015/HHOLD.
- 24.23 Council resolved to approve the minutes for meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024
- 24.24 Report received from District Councillor Demelza Turner-Wikes included local GCC Highway updates, a local canals 'Take the Lock Challenge', and details of a Stroud Museum exhibition. Report uploaded to the parish council website for the information of parishioners.
- 24.25 Report from County Councillor – monthly reports received are circulated and published on the website.

### Finance.

- 24.26 Council resolved to approve reimbursing Cllr. Ractliffe for refreshment purchases made for the Annual Parish Meeting £40.87.
- 24.27 Council noted that formal acknowledgement has been received from the external auditors that HPC is exempt from external audit.
- 24.28 Council noted the Lloyds banking update,
- Lloyds have removed K. Pritchard from our account.
  - Cllr. Richards is now a payment authorising delegate.
- 24.29 Council noted and ratified the following receipts and payments,

#### Receipts

24/06/2024	HMRC VAT refund 2023/24	£24.00
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#### Payments

17/05/2024	Community First Insurance	£128.08
17/05/2024	Town & Parish Council Websites	£70.00
17/05/2024	Ink cartridge	£5.97
01/07/2024	HugoFox annual webhosting	£122.28
01/07/2024	PATA Payroll	£16.85
01/07/2024	Clerk net quarterly pay	£734.08



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24.30 Council noted details of internal controls, and bank reconciliation.

## **Bank reconciliation as at 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2024**

Balance on 01/04/2024	£17,968.98
Receipts to date	£ 2,808.74
Payments to date	£ 2,864.29
Fund balance as at 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024	£17,913.43
Represented by Lloyds account	£17,913.43

24.31 Council resolved to delegate authority to the clerk to transfer funds as appropriate into a linked savings account to accrue interest on reserves.

## **Planning Matters**

Council noted the following planning applications.

24.32 Reference S.24/1015/HHOLD  
Perrycroft, Brook Lane, Brookthorpe, GL4 0DS.  
Demolition of existing barn and replace with a garage workshop and studio.  
Status Awaiting decision

24.33 Reference S.23/2414/LBC  
Horsepools House Sevenleaze Lane Edge Stroud Gloucestershire GL6 6NJ  
Window alterations & replacement.  
Status Awaiting decision

24.34 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  
A general discussion took place regarding this application and also the Local Plan.

## **Policies and Procedures**

24.35 Council to consider how to fill the casual vacancy – it was suggested that councillors being able to dial in may widen who could become a councillor. The clerk believed this to be unlawful and will research the specific legislation. Clerk to make initial enquiries and research possibility of free broadband for the parish hall.

24.36 Council noted that the clerk delivered election expenses forms to Ebley Mill.

24.37 The new website is up and running. Cllr. Perkins agreed to encourage local residents, through the village WhatsApp group, to sign up for news updates.

## **Highways**

24.38 Council considered winter plans; Cllr. Richards to remain as the snow-warden. Clerk to contact local snow-plough operator for availability this winter. Clerk to request a contingency of 20 bags of salt to be delivered by GCC. Council noted that the clerk has checked all salt bins in the parish. There are a total of 21, including 11 HPC bins. 14 HPC are historically listed on the asset register but 3 have either been replaced or

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moved elsewhere. Asset register value to be reduced by £3.00, that being the nominal value of the missing bins.

- 24.39 Pound of Candles Lane passing place is full of mud and debris and this was reported on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, followed up on 30<sup>th</sup> June and again on 7<sup>th</sup> July. Site meeting agreed with GCC Highways manager on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>.
- 24.40 Telegraph pole update – clerk has arranged a site visit on 11<sup>th</sup> July with local GCC Highways Manager
- 24.41 Fingerposts at Edge Church - update – The post and fixing brackets are in good order (just needing a wire brush and white Hammerite). Clerk to present all options at the next meeting and consider grant opportunities to fund any approved project.
- 24.42 Bank slippage at Grunters Lane update – Highways have inspected this and are taking NFA at this time.
- 24.43 Grated drain between Mayo's Farm and Haresfield Lane Triangle – update. Has been excavated. NFA

## Training

- 24.44 No councillors expressed an interest in training at this time, Clerk to circulate the latest version (2024) of The Good Councillors Guide pdf.
- 24.45 Council resolved to pre-authorise 'new councillor' training for as and when a councillor is coopted onto the council. Delegated spending authority to the clerk.
- 24.46 **Matters arising (no decisions can be made on such matters).**  
No matters arising
- 24.47 **Date of the next meeting**  
7.30pm Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Meeting concluded at 8.35pm



09/09/24