

Minutes of Horsington Parish Council Meeting

On Wednesday 8th June 2022 at St Margaret's Hall, Horsington

DRAFT

Adrian Pratt signed his acceptance of office form.

1. Public Forum – John Sansom provided an update on the recent Queen's Jubilee event.
2. County / District Councillors Reports - clerk read out the Somerset County Council – Councillor's Report as provided by Sarah Dyke and Nicola Clark

3. Members present and apologies:

- a. Members present: Adrian Pratt (Chairman), Belinda Mann, Judy Hodges & Gill Miles
- b. Public present: David Chapman (Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

Apologies: Mark Tucker, Angela Clayton, Hayward Burt, William Wallace & Sarah Dyke.

4. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations: none
5. Approve the draft minutes of the meeting on 11th May 2022

Proposed by Judy Hodges and seconded by Belinda Mann.

6. Matters arising from minutes

- a) Clerk reported that he had passed on information regarding grants for schools for projects relating to recycling projects to the primary school.
- b) Clerk reported that he attended the Local Community Network meeting and that the local pilot is focussing on health and wellbeing.
- c) Clerk reported that the information regarding the request for dog poo bins in the Parish has been passed onto Sarah Dyke and she has promised to progress it with SSDC. Clerk will ask Sarah for an update.
- d) Chairman asked why the PCSO has not attended the meetings. Clerk reported that he is sent the agenda each month but that the times and dates have not matched his work patterns so far.

7. Planning

Applications:

22/00847/FUL Maltkiln Hill Farm, Marsh Lane, Horsington – erection and re-siting of new building for the purposes of accommodating horses in a private capacity, agricultural storage and as a carport – **Councillors had no objections in principle but had concerns about the height of the proposed barn when compared to the surrounding buildings.**

22/01278/HOU Beechfield Lodge, Tower Hill, Horsington – erection of a gazebo and resurfacing of driveway (part retrospective) – **Councillors had no objections.**

22/00356/FUL Sandpit, Horsington Road, Horsington – construction of replacement agricultural barn following demolition of existing agricultural barns – amended plans – **Councillors had no objections.**

Decisions:

22/00882/HOU Harbour House, Cabbage Lane, Horsington – erection of a garage / store – approved – **noted.**

Other: none

8. Play Area – It was agreed that Adrian Pratt would speak to Mr Peters about cutting the nettles around the small play area and other areas in the village.

9. Footpaths – It was reported that the footpath at Broadmoor Lane is not blocked.

10. Horse Pond

Clerk confirmed that the tree surgeon who cut the standing stems has inspected the tree in the metal cage and confirms that it is dead. He thought that it is not possible to say definitely that the oil spillage caused it to die. It was agreed to leave the tree for now just in case any signs of life appear.

Clerk reported that the removal of the fallen tree has been delayed to allow the moorhen chicks to fledge. It is hoped that the fallen tree will be cleared in the next month or so.

Adrian Pratt reported that the Environment Agency contractors say that recent tests have found no trace of oil and they intend to remove the last booms within a week.

11. Finance

a. Authorised Cheques

1296 - £40.00 – Information Commissioner– annual GDPR fees

1297 - £565.00 – RJ Peters – grass cutting and strimming of play area and around the village

1298 – £909.60 (including £151.60 recoverable VAT) – David Harness – cutting and removal of dangerous tree stems at Horse Pond

1299 - £372.91 – D Chapman – Clerk's salary June 2022 and expenses between 14th March and 8th June 2022 (including £138.25 cost of advert for new Clerk in Blackmore Vale magazine)

1300 –£240.50 - S Hawkins – cemetery maintenance

b. Monies Received:

£100.00 – purchase of cremation plot K5 Mr Miller

c. The accounts as at 31st May 2022 were reviewed.

12. Possible Speed Indicator Device for Parish

It was agreed that the proposed project should be separated between the A357 and the road from Horsington dip into the village.

Clerk will check that a grant from SSDC is still available and issue a costed proposal.

13. Correspondence:

a) Somerset Association of Local Councils – adoption of new Somerset Code of Conduct – Councillors agreed to adopt the new Code of Conduct.

b) Local resident – request for a mirror at the junction of Cabbage Lane and A357 to help traffic pulling out on to the main road. Clerk will check with SCC Highways Department if permission is required to erect a mirror.

c) Local resident – enquiry about the progress regarding a 20 mph speed limit through Horsington village. Clerk will respond outlining the current situation regarding the installation of a portable speed indicator device and collecting data to justify a change to the current speed limit.

14. Co-option of new Parish Councillor – it was agreed unanimously to co-opt John Sansom onto the Parish Council.

15. Vacancy for Clerk – update.

Clerk reported that the vacancy has been advertised in the Blackmore Vale magazine and that one person has applied so and the applicant appeared to be capable of doing the job. It was agreed to wait until 17th June before arranging interviews. It was also agreed that Adrian Pratt and the current Clerk would interview the candidates.

The amount of paid hours performed by the Clerk was discussed and it was thought that they should be increased to 20 per month.

16. Any other business of importance:

a) It was reported that some large limbs have been cut from a horse chestnut tree at Tower Hill. Clerk will check with SSDCV Tree Officer if permission had been sought before hand.

b) John Sansom reported that he is arranging for a classic car show at the Grange in Horsington on 14th May next year.

c) Adrian Pratt and the other Councillors thanked John for all his hard work arranging the recent Queen's Jubilee event.

d) Gill Miles reported that someone has asked for permission to clean the Village Hall sign situated on the wall of Horsington Manor. Councillors agreed that this was a good idea.

Meeting closed 21:30