



HORSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



DRAFT Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on Wednesday 19th October 2022 at St Margaret's Hall, Horsington

47. County / District Councillors Reports: Sarah Dyke (Somerset County Councillor) reported that:

- a). The Children/Young Persons Services had received a GOOD rating in the recent Ofsted report. She stated that the situation with the Service was improving following service delivery improvements, and that a new Director for that service was currently now being recruited.
- b). The current national problem with increased prices has meant that the County Council's costs have increased beyond anticipated budgets and that area where savings could be made were now being investigated and examined. She stated that this was a national problem and all councils were generally suffering the same effects and were lobbying the Government.
- c). The 'Warm Spaces' initiative was being sponsored by the County Council and were about to announce details on how the scheme will be processed and the availability of grants of up to £1,000 per unit. Cllr Dyke left the meeting.

48. Public Forum:

- a). Mr Skinner of Pumpkin Cottage, Cabbage Lane stated his concern over the perceived danger to road safety in Cabbage Lane. He stated that the restricted speed limit of 30 mph came to an abrupt end at an early stage of entry into the Lane, and the national speed limit applied from that point on. He reminded councillors of the narrowness of the lane and the unsuitability of an unrestricted speed limit, continuing to describe a recent accident involving a motorcyclist and horses. Fortunately, no one had been hurt but that was only a matter of time. He stated that he had discussed the problem with most residents of Cabbage Lane and they had all signed a petition to the speed limit reduced to 30 mph, and he intended to forward that to the local Highways Authority to try and prompt action. Following general discussion, the Chairman undertook, as a first stage in the process, to provide a letter of support from the Parish Council which could be included with Mr Skinner's application. Mr Skinner thanked the Council and left the meeting.
- b). Mr and Mrs Snowden referred to their concerns over the planned development at Rookes House. They stated that in the Amended Planning Application it was claimed that neighbouring property owners had been contacted over the changes, but wanted to put in record that they had not in fact been contacted. They stated their concern over the position of the new chimney flue pipe and the anticipated problem that would most likely occur with smoke being blown across their property, and suggested that the applicants might be encouraged to adopt an alternative heating system. They also stated their concern over the position of a planned skylight on the elevation that overlooks their own property and the potential intrusion into their privacy. Their third area of concern related to the planned connection for the new development to the water mains. They stated that it was planned to make the connection at a point inside the neighbouring property, their own, and raised their objection to the need for this as it would undermine their property and that there appeared to be adequate opportunities for making a connection within the applicant's own curtilage. After general discussion, it was agreed that the clerk should forward the comments shown in Minute 51.a (below) on behalf of the Parish Council:

Mr and Mrs Snowden thanked the Council and left the meeting.

49. Members present and apologies:

- a). Members present: Adrian Pratt (Chairman), Judy Hodges, Belinda Mann and John Sansom.
- b). Public present: Barry Druce (Clerk) and Sarah Dyke. 3 members of the public.

Apologies: Gill Miles, Angela Clayton, Mark Tucker and William Wallace.

50. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations: none

51. The Minutes of the meeting held on the 10th August 2022: were taken as read and approved.



HORSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



Proposed by John Sansom and seconded by Belinda Mann.

52. Matters arising from minutes

a) Referring to Minute 37.d The Chairman stated that the car park area had now been dealt with and was looking better. It was stated that the surface of the car park was being damaged by the way in which users were driving in and out, and that it was mainly visitors to the school. The question was raised over why the school did not contribute to the cost of the upkeep of the car park; the Chairman undertook to discuss this with the Head Teacher.

b) Referring to Minute 41, The Chairman stated that he supported the approach to purchase a new receipt book at the cheaper price and to purchase a personalised stamp to overprint it with, at a greatly reduced cost. He undertook to discuss this with Mrs Clayton.

53. Planning

a) : Applications:

22/02519/S73A : Solar Site At Sutor Farm Moor Lane Wincanton Somerset - Construction of a 9.3 hectare solar park with associated works. S73A application to amend condition 2 of approval 14/05472/FUL (as varied by 16/03675/S73A) to remove the time limiting element for the solar site of 30 years from the approval date, which will allow the permitted solar installation to continue in perpetuity. - **Councillors had no objections.**

22/02448/FUL : The Hollies Cabbage Lane Horsington Templecombe - Erection of fence - **Councillors had no objections**

22/00167/HOU : Rookes House Church Lane Horsington Templecombe - Convert existing garage and reconstruct detached single storey stable outbuildings to form residential annex and convert former trailer store to double garage for Rookes House. – **Councillors decided to make the following comments: *The Parish Council wish to express their gratitude and welcome the changes that are shown on the Amendments in respect of the overall height of the development being reduced. However, the Parish Council would like to raise their concerns over the following:- a) They question the need for a skylight on the side of the development which overlooks the neighbouring property and suggest that this should be removed. b) The position of the chimney in the development creates concern that the neighbouring property will potentially be adversely affected by the efflux from the chimney flowing over their property. c) The proposed drainage for the development undermines the neighbouring property and appears to be unnecessary when there is an adequate available alternative situated on the applicant's own property/premises.***

b) : Decisions:

22/02049/COU Land at Cheriton Manor Farm, Marsh Lane, South Cheriton – change of use of land for use as dog exercise area – **approved.**

22/01384/FUL Bow Cottage, Batchpool Lane, Horsington – single storey rear extension to the main dwelling, change of use of the workshop and conversion of the workshop to be an annexe – **approved.**

22/01278/HOU Beechfield Lodge, Tower Hill, Horsington – erection of a gazebo and resurfacing of driveway (part retrospective) – **approved.**

c) : Other: none

54. Play Area – Review Play Area Inspection Report. The Chairman stated that all OK in the report but suggested and it was agreed that this be deferred until he had had time to discuss it with Mark Tucker.

55. Footpaths – a). The Chairman reported that he had dealt with a recent issue over a padlocked gate on a footpath and despite the fact that the gate had a flimsy catch, it was now at least accessible.



HORSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



b) Mrs Mann stated that the stile on Cabbage Lane is completely overgrown. The Chairman undertook to examine the site.

56. Cemetery – Nothing to report other than the receipt book referred to above, and the fact that the hedges would need cutting back next year, which would be kept under review.

57. Horse Pond – The Chairman stated that now the tree had been removed, the area looked considerably better. He suggested that the edges would probably need attention soon and undertook to look into it.

58. Finance

a. The accounts as at 30th September 2022 were reviewed.

b. Authorised Cheques

1313 - £335.00 – RJ Peters – grass cutting and strimming play area and around the village – September 2022

1314 - £166.19 – Somerset Association of Local Councils – Annual Affiliation fee 2022-2023

c. Monies Received: none

59. Possible Speed Indicator Device for Parish

The Chair reported that he had been largely unsuccessful in obtaining support for the scheme. It was agreed that he and Belinda Mann advise interested parties that due to the lack of financial support from the village, the Parish Council are reluctantly shelving further progress until more support has been obtained.

60. Correspondence:

a). A letter has been received from a resident who wished to plant two new trees at the horse pond. The Chair undertook to contact the resident over their kind and generous offer and explain that he will seek advice from an appropriate expert before moving forward.

b). A letter has been received from local residents requesting that action be taken with regards to improvements being made on Lower Road to deal with the problems being encountered by pedestrians and village traffic. Judy Hodges and the Chair both stated that they have spoken with one of the residents, and examined the problem. The Chair stated that the verge was cut back only once a year and that was a problem. He undertook to contact the appropriate body. It was stated that traffic using the lane are driving too fast and pedestrians had nowhere to go to avoid them without suffering nettle stings, etc. It was agreed that this was a difficult problem to resolve, and not the best idea for the Parish Council to take the ultimate step and incur the cost, but would keep the matter under review.

61. Any other business of importance:

a). It was reported that the users on the Land at Cheriton Manor Farm were in default of their planning consent. While It was acknowledged that the site is currently operating under a minor breach of its planning consent, Councillors agreed that there should be no further interference while the operators lodge an appeal against the restrictions which appear to unfairly disadvantage the business commercially.

b). The Chair reported that he had made enquiries into the application for an Alcohol Licence at Unit 3 Cheriton Manor Farm and has been assured that this is being sought only to comply with the requirement to hold a licence for the storage of alcohol and that no retail of alcohol was ever intended.

c). The 'Warm Spaces' initiative – being introduced to help relieve pressure on families about to face the impending problem of heating cost increases was discussed. Several suggestions that may be appropriate in the local area were put forward and the Chair undertook to discuss this with the local school when dealing with other matters being referred there.

The Meeting closed at 21:20