



HORSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on Wednesday 13th December 2023 at St Margaret's Hall, Horsington

Present: Adrian Pratt (Chairman), Mark Tucker, Judith Hodges, Gillian Miles, John Sansom, Belinda Mann and Angela Clayton.

Barry Druce (Clerk)

Apologies: Apologies were received from Nicola Clarke (Unitary Councillor).

No members of the public were present.

Public Forum – No matters were raised

77. Unitary Councillors' Report – The Unitary Councillors' written report having been circulated was taken as read and noted.

78. Declarations of Interest / Dispensations: There were none declared.

79. The Minutes of the meeting held on the 8th November 2023: were taken as read and as PROPOSED by Gillian Miles, SECONDED by Mark Tucker, were approved unanimously.

80. Matters Arising: (a) Referring to Minute 76, a member stated that promised Footpath Direction Arrows had still not arrived and the Clerk undertook to chase this up again with the Footpaths Officer.

81. Planning - a): Applications: The following applications had been received since the previous meeting:-

23/03023/AGN - Erection of a grain store and roof over an existing silage clamp - Marsh Barn Farm Marshbarn Farm Lane Horsington	NOTED
23/02853/TCA - Notification of intent to carry out tree surgery works to No.1 tree within a Conservation Area - Lawnside 62 South Cheriton	NOTED
23/02096/COL - Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for the proposed insertion of windows and that the use of the building falls within Use Class E. - Land At Pevlings Farm Cabbage Lane Horsington	NOTED

b): Decisions: The following decision had been received since the previous meeting:-

23/02796/DOC1 - Discharge of Condition Number 3a-f (Schedule of Materials and (Colour) Finishes of planning application 21/01999/HOU - Cheriton House High Road Horsington	CONDITIONS DISCHARGED
23/02818/DOC1 - Discharge of Condition Number 3a-f (Schedule of Materials and (Colour) Finishes) of planning application 21/02000/LBC - Cheriton House High Road Horsington	CONDITIONS DISCHARGED
23/02096/COL - Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for the proposed insertion of windows and that the use of the building falls within Use Class E - Land At Pevlings Farm Cabbage Lane Horsington	APPLICATION PERMITTED

(c) : Other Planning: A general discussion took place on the current procedures and processes that are being operated with regards to planning applications, and it was agreed that the growing impression is that the general



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attitude being demonstrated by the planners, is one of assumption and presumption that the applications are going to be accepted.

82. Footpaths – The Chair reported that he had been contacted by a resident concerning a collapsing wall along the footpath which ran from the churchyard. A member undertook to investigate and report back for further action to be taken if necessary.

83. Cemetery – (a). A member reported that the fee had been received in respect of a cremation plaque, and the fee for another cremation plaque was due the following Tuesday.

(b) The Clerk reported that the parish council's website now displayed a designated page for the Cemetery.

84. Play Area – (a) A member stated that the notice at the play area still showed contact details for the previous clerk, and undertook to look into organising a replacement.

(b) The Chair reminded members that the Play Area Inspection Report had revealed that there was a need for general maintenance of the equipment, and reiterated that a small working party will need to be organised in the Spring to attend to it.

85. Finance

(a) The accounts as at 30 November 2023 were reviewed and noted.

(b) The following cheques were authorised for payment:-

1367 - £186.00 – David Harness – Inv 4757

1368 – £211.50 - B Druce – Clerk Salary and expenses to 30 November 2023.

1369 - £45.20 - HMRC – Payment of PAYE deduction from clerk's salary

1371 - £38.99 – Liela Moss – Village Christmas Tree and Lights

1372 - £15.00 - SPFA Membership

(c) The following payments had been received since the previous meeting:

(i) £40.00 – Cremation Plaque Fee – S Reynolds

(ii) £16.57 – Bank Interest

(d) **On-Line Banking** – It was established that two members are now registered for online banking and it is now possible to move to online payments.

(e) **Contract for Maintenance Works 2024-2027** – The Clerk referred to the tenders that had been submitted by FOUR prospective contractors and to the summary sheet that had been previously distributed. Members discussed the information that had been provided and clarified what each quotation consisted of. General discussion took place on the merits for each contractor and after due consideration it was eventually PROPOSED by Mark Tucker, SECONDED by Belinda Mann, and unanimously AGREED that the Contract for Maintenance Works for the period from the 1st April 2024 to the 31st March 2027 should be awarded to **GREENWAYS GARDEN MAINTENANCE**. The Clerk was instructed to notify all contractors accordingly.

86. Correspondence - The Clerk reported that items of interest that had been received through email had been circulated to all councillors, and referred to the other items that had been similarly distributed.

(a) The Clerk referred to the letters that had been circulated from Somerset Council concerning Assets and Service Devolution, the Avon and Somerset Police Funding Survey, Somerset Council's Waste Collection notification, and the NHS confirmation on their decision in respect of county wide Stroke treatment, and these were all noted.



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87. Any other business of importance: The Clerk reported that a request to attend a meeting had been received from Wessex Internet who are working in South Cheriton at the moment and are looking to move into Horsington, and advised that they had been advised this would be in order.

A member reported that the local vicar was due to leave the village in the Spring.

A member reported that they had been approached by local farmers who had requested that a mirror should be installed at particular location in the village. Discussion followed and members were reminded that before this could take place on a roadside verge, permission would need to be granted by the Highways Department, and it would be subject to very stringent regulations. If the mirror could be located on private land, that would not require the same permission, and the member was advised to discuss with the land owner adjacent to the suggested location, if they would be willing to have the mirror installed on their land.

The meeting closed at 20:30.