



HORSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on Wednesday 10th January 2024 at St Margaret's Hall, Horsington

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

Barry Druce (Clerk)

2 members of the public.

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

Public Forum – (a) Ben Heath (Wessex Internet) stated that their service was coming into South Cheriton, with roads being temporarily closed at the end of January. He stated that Wessex Internet was holding a public meeting in the village hall from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm on the 17th January 2024. He commented that the Company were offering promotion-based sponsorships and/or donations which could be made for approved events in the village, and invited suggestions. A member stated that he was organising an event in May and had tried to obtain sponsorship for it but had heard nothing. Ben undertook to follow that up.

(b) A member of the public raised a query on PA 23/02096/COL and 23/03194/P3MA, stating their concern that this application was in respect of the conversion of a barn to a small dwelling. The Chair reminded members that this notice was for 'Notification Only' and undertook to contact the owner and then report back to members.

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

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

90. The Minutes of the meeting held on the 13th December 2023: were taken as read and as PROPOSED by John Sansom, SECONDED by Gillian Miles, were approved unanimously.

91. Matters Arising: (a) Referring to Minute 87, the Chair confirmed that if a local resident was prepared to have a mirror erected on their property, they are quite at liberty so to do.

b) Referring to Minute 74(e) a member stated that the repairs to the play area fence had still not been carried out, and the Clerk undertook to chase this up with the contractor.

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

23/03126/HOU - Erection of a 2 storey side extension to replace an existing single storey side extension Demolition of an existing porch and replace with a new porch and front door. Demolition of an existing rear lean to extension Replace existing windows – **The Mead Cheriton Street South Cheriton** - Members discussed this application and commented that the proposed use of timber cladding was not as preferred as using matching stone, and it was decided that comments should be submitted on that basis.

23/03171/TCA – Notification of intent to carry out tree surgery works to 02 No. trees and to fell 05 No. trees within a Conservation Area - **The Mead Cheriton Street South Cheriton** – Members noted this application.

23/03194/P3MA - Prior approval for proposed Change of use from Commercial, Business and Service use (Class E) to dwellinghouse (Class C3) for 1 No. dwelling - **Land OS 8238 Cabbage Lane Horsington** - Members noted this application.



HORSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



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

23/02803/TCA - Notification of intent to fell No.01 tree within a Conservation Area -
Barton Ridge Rectory Lane Horsington **APPROVED - NO TPO**

23/02853/TCA - Notification of intent to carry out tree surgery works to No.1 tree within a
Conservation Area - **Lawnside 62 South Cheriton** **APPROVED - NO TPO**

(c) : Other Planning: None.

93. Footpaths – a) Referring to Minute 82, a member stated that the footpath was now open and asked if the collapsed wall had been repaired. The Clerk undertook to check this out with the Somerset Council Rights of Way Officer.

b) A member reported that the Footpath Direction Arrows had now been received and that they would be installed in due course.

94. Cemetery – (a). A member reported that the cremation plaque referred to in Minute 83 was now in place. A member stated that new wording was needed for the Cemetery regulations and that they would provide them to be displayed once approved.

(b) A member reported that there was a dangerous tree in the cemetery which was a potential safety hazard. They reported that they had already dealt with two fallen boughs but felt that there was a need to have the tree completely removed. Members agreed that this should be done and the Clerk was instructed to contact David Harness and make appropriate arrangements.

95. Play Area – The Chair reminded members that the general repairs required at the Play Area had not been carried out yet, and reiterated that a small working party will need to be organised in the Spring to attend to it.

96. Finance

(a) The accounts as at 31st December 2023 were reviewed and noted.

(b) The following payments were approved:-

£204.20 - B Druce – Clerk Salary and expenses to 31 December 2023.

£45.00 - HMRC – Payment of PAYE deduction from clerk's salary

£220.00 – Edward Faithfull – Invoice No. 23-24/27/02

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

(i) £100.00 – Donation from The Grange (Andy Yeow) towards replacement of tree.

(ii) £17.12 – Bank Interest

(d) **On-Line Banking** – Two members still only registered for online banking, but the Chair stated that his registration is progressing.

(e) **PRECEPT FOR 2024-2025** – The Clerk referred to the prepared report on various alternative precept values that had been presented to members for consideration. A full discussion then followed with questions raised in respect of the different levels of proposed precept shown in the report, when compared to the budget proposal for the coming financial year. It was eventually **PROPOSED** by Mark Tucker, **SECONDED** by Angela Clayton and **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED** that the precept for the 2024-2025 financial year should be raised at the level of £14,278.00. The Clerk was instructed to notify the Local Authority accordingly.



HORSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL



97. 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, making particular attention to the notification concerning Grants for Places of Religious Worship, and the new Footpath Plan which had been issued by Somerset Council.

98. Any other business of importance: (a) A member reported that there appeared to be a situation developing in Hull Lane near Goathill Farm, where signs are that a stretch of land is seemingly being 'land-grabbed'. Members noted this with concern and the Chair undertook to investigate the situation, and the Clerk undertook to notify the Unitary Councillor.

(b) The Clerk reminded members that as it had been decided that the Parish Council would no longer have a meeting in February, the next meeting will be on the 13th March 2024.

The meeting closed at 20:45.