

# HUNTLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

## MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT HUNTLEY VILLAGE HALL - TUESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019 at 1930 hrs

Attendees: Cllrs. Alan Wood (Chair), Mrs J Green, T Hill, I Richards, Mrs I Walker (arrived late), RC Watkins

Present: 3 residents, Cllr. Brian Robinson, Miss A Jones (Clerk)

### 1. MEMBERS' INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA – none declared

### 2. APOLOGIES – Cllr. R Barwell

#### **Members of the public, District and County councillors will be invited to address the council at this time**

A resident provided the council with information taken from the Village Hall Charity's "Statement of Objectives", which included "provide and maintenance of hall including a car park, for use of the inhabitants of the parish." Cllr. Richards stated that the parish council had tarmacked the car park in (around) 2002.

Cllr. Mrs I Walker arrived at 19.37 hrs.

The resident advised that when the village hall charity was set up. Documents between them and the parish council agreed the split of responsibilities (approx.. 1970) and that the VH charity created a revised constitution in 2011

Cllr. Robinson provided an update as follows:

- The District Council are looking at controlling carbon emissions, including charging points and planning policy changes.
- The county council has set up a youth panel (age 18-26) looking at climate issues and is currently seeking applications from interested parties. Carbon emissions have already been reduced by 40% since 2010, in part due to the replacement of street lamps with LEDs and the ability to both dim and remotely control when they come on, the recent Shire Hall refit also included a solar panel exterior
- Locally, Ben Hampson of Highways England has agreed to delegate the responsibility of siting vehicle activated signs on the A40 to the county council. The county council will supply and install the posts and the parish council will need to purchase the signs.
- He would try to discuss the pavement camber with the person who inspected it in order to fully understand why no action was deemed necessary.
- He would ask the lengthsman to carry out some bramble clearing work around the village as soon as they are able.
- He advised that the county council only cuts grass (verges etc.) once a year, or twice if there are specific safety issues) and that the parish council should therefore add the weed clearing to the list of jobs for the lengthsman to their list of required work at the beginning of each year.
- The district council is now having to look at its new housing development plan for the period 2026-2041, on top of the 4000 houses already planned, a further 4000 will be required. One possible solution would be to build a new town / village. This would require a location with good access to the road network, and there are relatively few locations that satisfy this requirement. For this reason he advised the parish council to reconsider its decision not to progress an NDP, and such a document would help to protect the interests of local residents in the future when pressure for new housing becomes greater.
- In the last 8 months there had been no road fatalities in the FoD.

Cllr. Robinson left the meeting at 20.22 hrs.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON 2<sup>ND</sup> JULY 2019.

**It was resolved** that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, subject to the public comment para. being corrected to read "...gate to the A40" and Item 6 (b) 1. B amended to read Bramley Drive, and they were duly signed by the Chair

**APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON 4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2019.** It was noted that the Clerk had realized, after the previous meeting, that the minutes that had been signed off had the incorrect date on them. **It was resolved** that the date be amended and initialled by Cllr. Mrs Green, who had chaired the previous meeting.

4. (a) **PLANNING APPLICATIONS (received)**

P1206/19/OUT Land Adjoining Maydene, Broom Hill, Huntley

Outline application for the erection of 2 residential dwellings and associated development (all matters reserved)

It was resolved that the parish council would object to the application on the following grounds:

- It is outside of the settlement boundary
- It is contrary to the adopted core strategy and allocations plan
- It represents an intrusion into open countryside

P1264/19/FUL Plot 1, Huntley Court, Ross Road, Huntley

Creation of new vehicular access and dropped curb together with associated works.

**Resolution :** That the council object on the grounds on highway safety due to the proximity to the junction and existing issues, as the property already has an existing access.

**Proposed :** Cllr. Mrs I Walker **Seconded :** Cllr. T Hill

**Voting :** 4 in favour, 2 against

(b) **PLANNING APPLICATIONS (decisions) – Noted by council**

Appeal Ref. APP/P1615/W/19/3225944 (P1709/17/OUT) - Land Adjoining The Laurels, Main Road, Huntley

Appeal dismissed and application for award of costs refused.

(c) **PLANNING APPLICATIONS BETWEEN MEETINGS**

P0086/19/DISCON Northend Farmhouse, Newent Lane, Huntley

Discharge of Condition 04 (external Lighting Scheme) relating to planning permission P1569/17/FUL.

The parish council raised no objection

P1155/19/FUL Wishing Well Cottage, Huntley Manor, Newent Lane, Huntley

Erection of a single storey extension with associated alterations and works, including landscaping to garden and demolition of existing garage (revised scheme)

The parish council raised no objection.

5. **FINANCE**

(a)	<b>Statement of Accounts (after July &amp; August expenses &amp; September wages)</b>			
	Deposit Account (PAD funds) excluding recent interest	£	1,390.36	
	Deposit Account – excluding recent interest	£	43,977.58	
	Treasurers Account	£	878.70	
(b)	<b>Un-cleared Cheques (at 29/07/2019)</b>			
	RC Watkins (handy-person 3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr. 18/19 )	£	260.00	
	A S Wood	£	20.00	
	RC Watkins (handy-person 4 <sup>th</sup> Qtr. 18/19)	£	260.00	
	RC Watkins (expenses)	£	12.97	
	A Jones (expenses – only signed by one councillor at July meeting)	£	39.66	
	RC Watkins (handy-person 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr. 19/20)	£	260.00	
	Goodrich & Welsh Bicknor PC (50% cost of MS Office 365)	£	33.33	
(c)	<b>Grant Applications - Section 137 of Local Government Act 1972 - None</b>			
(d)	<b>Adverse variance to budget (&gt;£10) New financial year - None</b>			
(e)	<b>Cheques for Payment</b>			
	Huntley Village Hall (room hire July)	£	18.00	1515
	Miss A Jones (Expenses – July & August)	£	85.28	1516
	Merlin Waste (July and August doggie bins)	£	93.75	1517
	R Bowman (Grass cutting June and July)	£	951.50	1518
	It was resolved that the above cheques be paid and they were duly signed.			
(f)	<b>Other Expenditure</b>			
	Miss A L Jones (Clerk's wages and office allowance – s/order 28/08/19 and	£	1,436.80	

	28/9/19)		
<b>(g)</b>	<b>Income Received</b>		
	Allotment rent	£	10.00

## 6. NEW ITEMS

### (a) RECREATION GROUND / PLAY AREA

- 1 Council considered urgent new matters
  - I. A resident had cut their hedge and put the cuttings / debris onto the recreation ground – **it was resolved** that Cllr. Hill would confirm the correct address and advise the Clerk so that she could write to the resident.
  - II. The Clerk advised that she had measured the post tops in order to ensure the correct ones are quoted for by HAGS. Cllr. Richards was displeased at the service received from HAGS and **it was resolved** that the Clerk would write a formal letter of complaint.
- 2 Council considered the security of the recreation ground. Although it was accepted that there was a risk of unlawful access taking place, in order to ensure free access for an ambulance, **it was resolved** that the gate from the car park to the recreation ground be left unlocked and that no further action was necessary.

### (b) VILLAGE HALL AND VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

1. Council considered a request to site the Gluten Free Fish & Chip Van within the village hall car park on Monday evenings. Council noted that the principle of the van selling food within the parish has already been approved. **It was resolved** that the council was happy for the van to be sited, subject to a three month trial to ensure that litter would not be a problem.
2. Council considered the receipt of short bowls kit. It was noted that the hall was 1inch too short to be used for league matches but that they were looking at possible ways of facilitating the required length. It was also noted that the issues with the hall floor would impact on whether it could be used for short bowls purposes. This led onto a discussion about item 6(b) 5. There was much uncertainty about exactly what had caused the issues with the floor of the hall, and how best they could be resolved. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would ask the VH committee to obtain a professional, independent survey from a suitably qualified company, to include formal recommendations and costings, prior to the council considering any funding.
3. Council considered the car park barrier, and given that the Village hall are not supportive of locking it, **it was resolved** that the barrier would not be locked and that no further action in that regard was necessary. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would review the Standing Orders and amend any that referred to the barrier being locked.
4. Council considered the possible installation of CCTV. It was noted that there was already a pole by the village hall and it was believed that it may have been put up by the Police or county highways with the power supply being taken from the highways power source. It was also noted that there had historically been a mobile CCTV provision in the FoD. Cllr. Richards suggested that a simple bracket on the village hall would suffice and that the power usage would be minimal. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would ask the Police about both the pole and mobile CCTV provision, that Cllr. Mrs Walker would ask her previous parish for information on their system and that the matter would be considered again at the October meeting, when Cllr. Barwell would be available to offer his expertise / opinion.
5. Council to consider a request from the village hall, for funding towards the cost of repairs to / replacement of the hall floor – see Item 6(b) 2.

### (c) HIGHWAYS / FOOTPATH ISSUES –

1. Council considered new / urgent matters as follows:
  - a. Overgrown hedge on North Road – this had been trimmed but not cut back sufficiently
  - b. Overgrown brambles around the village – this was to be passed to the lengthsman by Cllr. Robinson
  - c. Ash seedlings and brambles within the conifer hedge which should have been killed or removed the previous year were still alive. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would contact the contractor to ask why the pellet treatment had not worked and to ask that it be done again at no charge.
2. Council considered the issue of the debris that had been left by contractors earlier in the year. The Clerk advised that she had finally managed to track down the company who carried out the works and that they had promised to investigate straight away subject to being given exact details of the locations of the piles of debris. These were clarified so that the Clerk could advise the contractor accordingly. The issue of the camber on the pavement leading from the A40 into Grange Court Lane had been inspected by county highways and they had determined that no action was necessary. Cllr. Robinson agreed to discuss this with them further and report back at the next meeting.

3. Council considered whether any new procedures are necessary to deal with weeds obstructing pavements where the legal responsibility lies with the county highways department. It was agreed that existing procedures were sufficient but that the parish council needed to action remedial action more quickly.

**(d) ALLOTMENTS –**

1. Cllr. Hill advising that an tidying / disposal of waste from the allotments would need to take place later in the year, when the weed growth had died back and the situation was more clear.
2. Cllr. Hill advised that he had purchase and installed the new combination padlock on the gate to the A40, and the Clerk advised that she had amended the Allotment Rules and provided the new document to all tenants.
3. Council considered whether there were any other issues – there were none at this time. Cllr. Hill advised that he had put a new lock on the PC shed

**(e) BT Kiosk – It was resolved** that the parish council would adopt the kiosk at Tibberton Lane as part of BT's proposals to remove unused payphones.

**(f) One-off Projects** - Councillors were to put forward suggestions for future projects, however, it was agreed that this would be carried forward until the issue of the village hall floor had been resolved.

**(g) Community Speed-watch** – Clerk advised that the training had been booked for later in September and that the equipment would then be with the speedwatch team for two weeks.

**7. INFORMATION SHARE – NOT REQUIRING DECISION OR SPEND**

**8. ITEMS FOR NEXT OR FUTURE MEETINGS**

- War Memorial deterioration / repair – Council to receive update from Clerk and agree any necessary actions.
- Byfords Road double parking
- Standing Orders relating to the car park barrier – amendment thereof
- Online banking / BACS payments
- Inclusion of the additional cheque raised for Cllr. Mrs Green (49p)
- One-off Projects – to be considered after the village hall floor issue has been resolved.
- Revised Financial Regulations – have been supplied by NALC, Clerk to review and report back to October meeting

**9. NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October**

**10. MEETINGS / TRAINING / SEMINARS – all noted by council**

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – FoD Health Forum – at West Dean Centre, Bream from 7.00 – 9.00pm

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September – Gloucestershire County Council Chartered Parishes Group Meeting at GL3 Community Hub, Churchdown, from 7.00 – 9.00pm

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September – CPRE – Forest of Dean AGM at Church of St Mary, St Peter and St Paul, Westbury-on-Severn, from 6.30pm

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October – GRCC – Countywide Climate Change event at Stroud College from 1.30pm – 4.45pm

**11. CORRESPONDENCE – General – all noted by council**

(a) Gloucestershire County Council – Winter Update (request for salt requirements) – the Clerk advised that she had not received any reply to her request for information from Mr Rebbeck, and therefore no salt had been ordered. The council noted this.

(b) FoD District Council

1. Information about the Bright Ideas Fund – applications must be received by 30<sup>th</sup> September.
2. Information about Community Led Housing and the enabler role

(c) GAPTC – training schedule

(d) Highways England – notification of replacement of lighting columns along the A40 between Churcham and Huntley from 19<sup>th</sup> August 2019 – December 2019

- (e) Able Community Care – offer of free door stickers “Do Not Knock”
- (f) SWARD turf – email offering qualified weed killing services (based in Gloucester)
- (g) Greenwood Surveys – email offering tree surveys (including risk)
- (h) Seafarers UK – request for communities to fly the red ensign flag for Merchant Navy day on 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

**12. CORRESPONDENCE – Consultations / Reports – all noted by council**

- (a) Gloucestershire County Council – Gloucestershire Minerals Local Plan – Main Modifications consultation – available until 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019
- (b) FoD District Council
  - 1. Affordable Housing SPD consultation – ends 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019
  - 2. Local Plan Issues and Options consultation – available from 27<sup>th</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019.

Meeting ended at 21.25 hrs

Miscellaneous correspondence not specifically relevant to Huntley parish council, but that may have been of interest to the public, was available to view at the meeting but is not detailed on this agenda

**Certified as an accurate record of the proceedings of the open meeting of Huntley Parish Council on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019.**

**Signed:  
Chairman.**

**Date:**