

DRAFT MINUTES

HUNTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT HUNTLEY VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2021 at 1930 hrs

Attendees: Councillors: Mrs J. Green (Chairman), I. Richards, R. Barwell, R. Watkins & Mrs I. Walker

Present: Mr L Williams (Clerk), County Cllr. Phil Robinson (PR), District Cllr. Brian Jones (BJ), six members of the public (MoP). The meeting started at 7.30pm.

- 1. MEMBERS' INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA –** Cllr. Walker declared an interest in item 6B(i) due to proximity to the premises. Cllr. Green and Cllr. Watkins are to be recipients of BACS payments, item 7B.
- 2. APOLOGIES –** Apology received and accepted from Cllr. Hill.
- 3. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC –** There were no questions from the public but Mark Evans, Chairman of Huntley Village Hall (HVH) management committee offered an update regarding his dealings with FoDDC over the enhanced access to HVH. In brief, the planning officer, Chris Giglio, has spoken with Phil Warren who drew up the plans. Mr Giglio suggests he will conditionally approve the plans but would like a site meeting to establish if a more gradual slope than 1:12 can be achieved. **ACTION:** Clerk to arrange a site visit involving all available interested parties.

COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR – Cllr. Brian Jones who had no news from the district council but was pleased to see progress being made on the NDP.

Cllr. Philip Robinson brought the following news: **(i)** GCC will receive 360,000 trees worth £300,000 from Woodland Trust to confront climate change and are seeking land-owners to house them. Contact the GCC Climate Change Team if you can help; **(ii)** Berkeley/Oldbury (Severn Edge) has made it to the last five on the short list of sites for the nuclear fusion power station. If successful this will bring thousands of jobs plus up to 1,000 apprenticeships per year; **(iii)** PR still has £32,000 available from his £40k Build Back Better fund to help communities in the post Covid recovery phase. Applications are welcome; **(iv)** PR still holds £21,000 from his £30k local highways pot, applications welcome; **(v)** The Police Crime Commissioner is planning to hold an event for the Mitcheldean ward parishes at Hartpury VH on a Tuesday evening in January.

There was some discussion regarding speed activated signs and the difficulties in gaining support from National Highways. The clerk pointed out that two members of the public and two councillors present in HVH had devoted many hours to Community Speedwatch activities and the signs had first been requested six years ago. PR promised to continue to support the parish in any way possible.

- 4. MINUTES –** Members who had been present **agreed** that the minutes of the meetings on 5th October 2021 were an accurate record of the events.

5. **CLERK'S REPORT** – Members **resolved** to accept the report.
6. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS** –
- A. **DEALT WITH BETWEEN MEETINGS** – None
- B. **RECEIVED** – (i) P1538/21/FUL Huntley Cricket Pavilion and Ground, Grange Court Lane, Huntley. Erection of a single storey rear extension including bar, bar store, garage and associated work. A member identified that some aspects of the application appeared confusing. **No Objections** were offered.
- (ii) P1685/21/FUL 1 Oak Way, Huntley, Gloucester, Gloucestershire. Proposed side extension and first floor extension above playroom. There were **No Objections**.
- C. **APPEALS** – None
- D. **DECISIONS** – P1454/21/FUL Poplars Cottage, Tibberton Lane, Huntley. Erection of a single storey side and rear extension, first floor rear extension, façade alterations and all associated works. **It was noted that permission was granted on 21st October 2021.**
- E. **ENFORCEMENT ISSUES** – No updates available.
- F. **Cross Parish Group** – The clerk advised the meeting about recent activities and highlighted the following points: (i) FoDDC have started a programme of engagement, both with councils and more official bodies and also with the public; (ii) The leader has indicated a will to move from 'new settlement' to a dispersal model; (iii) FoDDC will seek to engage directly with town and parish councils to try to work out how and where housing needs might be satisfied; (iv) Parishes need to give serious thought to their future settlement boundaries; (v) From the series of questions submitted by the organisation it is evident that Robert Hitchens Ltd have no intention of abandoning their plans to build a new town; (vi) Members need to keep in mind that Highnam and Minsterworth parishes are both in Tewkesbury Borough, which creates vulnerability.
7. **FINANCE** – A. After a brief discussion Cllr. Walker offered to assist with future internet banking matters.
- B. Cllr. Green advised the meeting that in future she would only take 50% of the previous sum allotted as Chairman's Allowance as she felt that sum to be adequate. She then handed the chair to Cllr. Richards for the remainder of this item. Members **resolved** to accept the statement of accounts and agreed to payments as detailed. Members accepted an update following the receipt of the invoice from Merlin Waste after the publication of the agenda. Their price increase was noted and Cllr. Richards submitted that they still represented good value for money.

| (a) | Statement of Accounts as at 28 th October 2021 | | |
|-----|---|---|-----------|
| | Deposit Account | £ | 62,886.13 |
| | Treasurers Account | £ | 750.00 |
| | Defibrillator (Formerly S.106) Account | £ | 1,104.90 |
| | Covid-19 (Formerly YC) Account | £ | 1,171.00 |

| | | | |
|-----|--|---|---------------------|
| (b) | Grant Applications - Section 137 of Local Government Act 1972 | | None |
| (c) | Adverse variance to budget (>£10) | | None |
| (d) | Payments Between Meetings | | None |
| (e) | BACS Payments For Approval | | |
| | Clerk's Expenses (As detailed in Clerk's Report) | £ | 46.39 |
| | Clerk's Wages (Net) | £ | 400.20 |
| | HMRC Re Above | £ | 100.00 |
| | R. Bowman (Inv. 0701, Grass & Hedge Cutting Oct 2021) | £ | 1,132.40 |
| | Merlin Waste (Dog bins to w/c 29/11/2021) | £ | 82.50 |
| | Huntley Village Hall (Room Hire) | £ | No Invoice Received |
| | Stocksigns (No Dogs & No Obstruction Signs) | £ | 44.40 |
| | Mrs J Green (Chairman's Allowance Sept, Oct, Nov) | £ | 40.00 |
| | RC Watkins (Wheelbarrow Repair) | £ | 27.00 |
| (f) | Income Received – Since 1st September 2021 | | |
| | Bank Interest | £ | 0.49 |

8. NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN –

A. Members **resolved** to accept the report from the NDP Steering Group, Appendix B.

9. MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD – Nil.

10. VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK – As covered previously.

11. **WAR MEMORIAL** – The clerk advised that he has not yet been passed the stonemason's contact details and had heard nothing from him.

12. **MEMORIAL BENCH** – The clerk advised that the family and friends of the late Jack Bliss would like to position the bench next to the allotment site hedgerow about 10 yards left (North) of the goalposts. Members **granted permission** for the bench to be sited as described.

13. **WINTER ACTION PLAN** – Members had received relevant guidance but in the absence of Cllr. Hill this matter was deferred.

14. **ALLOTMENTS** – Members **resolved** that rents will remain unchanged next year.

15. **GRASS CUTTING/WEED GROWTH IN GUTTERS/PAVEMENTS** – The clerk advised that when he discussed these matters with the contractor it was pointed out that the contract had recently expired. He pointed out that,

“After 30th September 2021 the contract may be extended by a further two years, on the same terms, by mutual agreement of both The Council and The Contractor. Such agreement must be evidenced in writing by both parties and agreed and minuted at an open meeting of The Council.”

However, this will not be practicable as the contractor will be legally prevented from running his plant on red diesel after April 2022, with resultant increases in his fuel costs from about 60p per litre to well over £1.45 per litre at current prices. Members **agreed** that the contractor had provided an outstanding service and requested the

ACTION: That the clerk should check out legal impediments that would prevent a variation on the terms to a two-year extension given the change in statute impacting upon Mr Bowman.

Cllr. Richards pointed out that the path by The Recreation Ground leading to Sunset Place was becoming overgrown and will need attention.

- 16. **ITEMS FOR NEXT OR FUTURE MEETINGS – 1.** Draft budget/Precept setting; **2.** Official email accounts; **3.** Proposed CCTV Policy; **4.** The Stocks – The clerk advised that the artisan had contacted his earlier in the day telling him that the oak needed to create a replica would cost about £1,060 inc. VAT at current prices, although prices remain volatile. His labour would be in the order of £400, metalwork would be extra. **ACTION:** Clerk to liaise with FoDDC Planning Officers to check what must be done to act lawfully.
- 17. **MEETINGS / TRAINING / SEMINARS –** All physical GAPTC training events remain online only. Members were asked to check with the clerk for details.
The Forest Voluntary Action Forum (FVAF) will host a community celebration event and AGM on 12th November 2021 from 11.00am using Zoom.
- 18. **CORRESPONDENCE – General – Council to consider and agree responses /actions where appropriate – Nil.**
- 19. **CORRESPONDENCE – Consultations / Reports – Council to consider and agree responses if appropriate - Nil**
- 20. **NEXT MEETING –** Confirmed as Tuesday 7th December 2021 at 7.30pm, Huntley Village Hall.

The meeting ended at 8.24pm.

Signed..... Date.....

Name.....