**DRAFT – PENDING APPROVAL**

**HUNTLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT HUNTLEY VILLAGE HALL - TUESDAY 4th February 2020 at 1930 hrs

Attendees: Councillors Cllrs. A. Wood (Chairman), Mrs J. Green, I. Richards, R. Watkins, Mrs I. Walker, T. Hill.

Present: Three members of the public, Cllr. Brian Jones (District Cllr.), Cllr. Brian Robinson (County & District Councillor) who arrived at 1952Hrs and Mr L Williams (Clerk)

**1. MEMBERS’ INTERESTS RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA** – Cllr. J. Green, Item 5 (i), subject of discussion and decision regarding possible remuneration.

**2. APOLOGIES -** Cllr. R. Barwell

Members of the public and Cllr. Jones (FoDDC) were invited to address the Council at this time. The Chairman invited Cllr. Jones to comment on the recent news regarding Ridge Partners having published proposals for a 5,000 home eco-village in the local area. He pointed out that he heard about it second hand. In summary, Cllr. Jones said he had not heard about the Ridge proposals but any such scheme would have to go to full Council for consideration and landowners could not be forced to sell. He added that he would not be supporting the proposals. The Chairman added that he and the Clerk had been invited to attend a meeting planned for 17th February at Westbury on Severn and suggested all parties remain vigilant.

A member of the public expressed concern that the matter of re-writing Standing Orders regarding the Village Hall car park barrier appeared to have fallen off the minutes.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING ON 4th JANUARY 2020**

It was resolved that the minutes were an accurate record of the meeting on 4th January 2020 and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

**4. (a) PLANNING APPLICATIONS (received) – Council to consider and agree position/response** - None

 **(b) PLANNING APPLICATIONS DEALT WITH BETWEEN MEETINGS -** None

**5. FINANCE**

Cllr. Green told the meeting that she finally had access to online banking and had provided the clerk with balances on all accounts. The Clerk added that since the publication of the minutes deposits had been made and the balances could be updated as below. It was agreed that Cllr. Green and the Clerk would attempt to pay invoices online on 9th February 2020.

1. Statement of Accounts – Deposit Account (PAD Funds) excluding recent interest £ 1,390.96 Deposit Account excluding recent interest £ 47,958.53 Treasurer’s Account £ 3,750.00

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1. Un-cleared Cheques – Believed None

(c) Grant Applications - Section 137 of Local Government Act 1972 - None

(d) Adverse variance to budget (>£10) – None

(e) Invoices for Payment

Huntley Village Hall (room hire January) £ 18.00 GAPTC (Preparing For Audit Training) £ 55.00 GAPTC (Clerks – The Knowledge Training) £ 40.00

(f) Other Expenditure

 Mr R.E.L. Williams (Office Weeks 1-4, Phone, Mileage) £ 46.60 Mr R.E.L. Williams (Clerk’s Wages, Net £329.76, HMRC £82.44) £ 412.20

(g) Income Received – Nil (Other than interest)

Cllr. Richards proposed that items 5 (a) to 5(g) be accepted, Cllr. Green seconded. All agreed.

(h) The Clerk invited members to appoint Iain Selkirk FCA to act as independent internal auditor for the financial year 2019/20. Proposed by Cllr. Richards, Cllr. Green seconded. All agreed.

(i) The Chairman highlighted the amount of work undertaken by Cllr. Green during the extended transition period between Clerks, made worse by the performance of Lloyds Bank. He proposed she be remunerated in the sum of £650 based on at least 60 hours work. This was seconded by Cllr. Richards and all were in favour. Cllr. Green did not vote.

**6. NEW ITEMS** (a) Village Hall & Village Hall Car Park

1. The Clerk confirmed that The Village Hall committee had approved the proposed CCTV installation. Cllr. Watkins proposed that the project be started, seconded by Cllr. Hill and all members were in favour.

2. Cllr. Walker advised that a Village Hall sub-committee had now been formed regarding the floor, it was accepted that the report was three years out of date, other options than those previously discussed were now being explored. The members agreed that no financial support would be provided at this time. There was some discussion regarding calls to build a ramp to ease access for people with disabilities. Cllr. Wood provided detailed guidance regarding the Disability Discrimination Act given that the hall was built prior to 1992.

(c) Highways/Footpath Issues

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(a) The Clerk advised that the street lamp in Frog Lane had been repaired.

(b) Cllr. Robinson explained that he still awaited a full response from the relevant Highways England project manager regarding the A40 street lighting upgrade.

Cllr. Wood made representations about the performance of H.E. in respect of the recent emergency repairs to the A40 and their failure to communicate diversions, locations etc. Given that more repairs are programmed he asked how residents are supposed to make plans when Highways England had no record of works taking place. After some discussion Cllr. Robinson agreed to pass on the views of the parish to Highways England.

7. **INFORMATION SHARE – NOT REQUIRING DECISION OR SPEND** Nothing to report.

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

**Neighbourhood Development Plan** – Cllr. Walker advised members of the progress she had made so far in looking into producing an NDP for the parish. Cllr. Wood asked if an advert for the Parish magazine had been developed. Cllr. Walker said it had not and that she was considering an introductory letter to explain what a Plan would mean and ask what to include. She added that several people had expressed interest in becoming involved and agreed to carry on with the project.

**9.** **NEXT MEETING** - Tuesday 3rd March 2020, 7.30pm

**10.** **TRAINING, MEETINGS AND SEMINARS**

1. All members agreed that the Clerk should attend upcoming training events on 26th February and 18th March at a cost of £40 each event.

 2. No responses to report.

**11.** **CORRESPONDENCE – GENERAL** Nothing to report.

**12.** **CORRESPONDENCE – CONSULTATION/REPORTS –**

(a) Gloucestershire County Council - Nothing to report.

(b) FODDC – 1. After discussion about potential locations members asked the Clerk to investigate what types of trees might be available.

2. Members were invited to advise the Clerk if they wished to attend the Parish & Town Councils meeting at Coleford on 11th March 2020 at 6pm.

{c} GAPTC – Nothing to report.

**13. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

 1. It was agreed to discuss outdoor gym equipment at the next meeting.

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The Chairman took the opportunity to ask Cllr. Robinson about the status of the Ridge Partners eco village proposal. In summary he replied: In September 2019 discussions began regarding the Local Plan

to cover 2026 to 2041. In an exercise the possibility of a new garden village was identified. The status of this is a suggestion. It has been in the public domain since December 2019 and know to him since January 2020. He has no idea of it is viable in full or part but a garden village somewhere may be a good idea given the need to build 8,000 new homes in the district. Clearly areas close to the A40 and A48 would be vulnerable. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Robinson and added it had been disappointing to learn of the proposal second hand.

Meeting ended at 2055hrs.

Certified as an accurate record of the proceedings of the open meeting of Huntley Parish Council on 4th February 2020.

Signed: Date:

Chairman.