

Chairman: Cllr Ian Kitson

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MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 18th December 2023 at 7.30pm, held at the Hurstbourne Tarrant Community Centre.

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Councillors present:

Cllr Ian Kitson (Chairman)

Cllr Mark Thomas (Vice Chairman)

Cllr Louisa Russell

Cllr Jamie Williams

Cllr John Bentley

Cllr Neil Hedger

County Councillor Kirsty North

Clerk

74. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

74.1 Apologies were received from Councillor Phil North.

75. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

75.1 There were no declarations of interests relating to items on the agenda, or requests for dispensations, in accordance with the Council's code of conduct.

76. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

76.1 Cllr Hedger proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and councillors unanimously agreed and approved the minutes of the last meeting which was held on 20th November 2023, and which were signed by the Chairman.

77. ACTIONS ARISING

77.1 Tree in paddock on Church St adj to Murrle Cottage – Cllr Williams had spoken to the owner who had agreed to ask for a tree surgeon to inspect the tree for safety.

77.2 Grit bins – Cllr Williams/Cllr Kitson – Upton bins had been refilled by HCC. The HBT bins did not require refilling.

78. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

78.1 There were 4 members of the public present.

78.2 The new owner of the yard formerly owned by Mr Ponting attended the meeting. He explained that they were clearing the yard, and then focusing on a planning application for Brookside House in the new year. Then there would be a development plan for the yard which was intended to be modest (2-3 mews type cottages, onsite parking, brick and flint frontages, preservation of the current street scene).

Cllr Thomas enquired regarding the timeframe for the main house. The owner had received architect plans, but no heritage plan or conservation consequences had been researched. The owner assumed 6 months to start the work, with minimum works to make the house habitable, and depending on the permissions received, whether it was developed for them to live in themselves or to be sold. He was aware of the Village Design Statement. Councillors thanked them for taking the time to attend the meeting and their transparency and advised that they keep neighbours informed.

79. PLANNING

Councillors discussed the following applications:

- 79.1 23/03101/TREEN * | **Boundary Cottage, Ibthorpe Rd, HBT** | T1 - Silver Birch - Fell, T2 - Bird Cherry - Fell, T3 - Hawthorn - Fell | Boundary Cottage, Ibthorpe Road, HBT. This did not contain any controversial works. No comment.
- 79.2 23/02135/LBWN & 2134/FULLN | **Cob Barn, Bank Tree Farm, Ibthorpe** | conversion, alterations and extension of agricultural building to residential – amended and additional information re works to the barn and the removal of 2 adjacent trees
Cllr Williams updated that he had attended a meeting with the architects and the planning officer. An original concern was the scale of the garage which had been amended to be a definite single storey and the scale/proximity to the property had been improved. He requested they consider the usage (only ancillary, and not for any commercial use).
The external lighting scheme had also been amended, and Cllr Williams had asked the applicants to amend to downlights.
The application maintained using slate (or a very good copy), and he had asked them to condition the type of slate used which would need pre-approval by the Conservation and Planning Officers. Many properties in the vicinity were slated. Rooflights were reduced as far as possible and it was felt the applicants had taken comments into account. They had also reduced the hardstanding on the plans. There has been nothing in the application regarding using the farmyard as access during construction but it needed to be a condition as an approved route.
Overall, the application gave an option to save a cob barn to be used as residential, where there was no other viable options for its continued use.
Dr Watson, Village Design Statement, queried whether the skylights could be conditioned to have blinds during the hours of darkness. Cllr Williams explained that such conditions had to be enforceable, which would be difficult, so it was hoped that as the windows would be overlooked blinds or curtains would be installed as a matter of course.
Cllr Williams felt that the Parish Council should consider supporting the application to give interaction with the applicants during the renovation especially as the PC supported Upper Ibthorpe Farm with a similar application.
- 79.3 23/02725/LBWN & 2723/FULLN | **Old Plough, Church St, HBT** | installation of electric vehicle charger. The Conservation Officer would likely be involved owing to it being an external change on a Grade I listed building. No comment.

* In the case of Conservation Area notifications, the Local Planning Authority does not have the ability to refuse these works. In the event that there are justifiable reasons to oppose the proposals then the Council will have to make a Tree Preservation Order before the expiry of 6 weeks from when the notification was received.

80. COUNCILLORS' UPDATES

- 80.1 County Councillor North updated on the flood status in HBT. The Upton concrete gully was booked in for February but she would continue to ask for it to be done earlier. Cllr Williams had removed a lot of sludge from the rainwater gully at the weekend. All the pipes were also booked for jetting. Cllr Williams also asked for the green triangle at Upton to be cleared where the river crosses it.

- Cllr North was also awaiting an update from Cllr Nick Adams King about the x2 300mm pipes under The Crescent.
- A meeting was to be arranged with the head of Emergency Planning at HCC and the clerk to discuss flood signage, and other flooding support.
- Lastly, she updated that the recent road closure in Ibthorpe which had prompted complaints from residents was still being addressed, as well as the procedure for informing communities of such closures, and she was awaiting an update.
- 80.2 Cllr Russell updated that the Swifts Christmas lunch had been very successful with about 60 attendees. The donation from the Parish Council ensured there were no debts going into the new year.
- 80.3 Cllr Hedger updated on Speedwatch – there had been five sessions since the last meeting. Weather conditions and lack of daylight meant no sessions had been carried out in December. He had written to 2 more lorry companies about using alternate routes, and was happy to report there had not been any repeat offenders. With regard to the road surface on The Hill and potholes in general, this was highlighted again to County Councillor North who had been told the resurfacing was on the work list but with no time frame.
- 80.4 Cllr Williams reported on Common Road and overgrown hedges. He has cut them himself for the last 2 years but could not continue to do this at his own expense. Cllr North explained that Highways see this as a landowners' responsibility and HCC writes to the landowner 3 times, and after no replies they do the work then seek recompense.
- 80.5 Cllr Bentley asked Cllr North whether HCC was likely to issue a Section 114 notice (when it cannot finance its budget). Cllr North said that this was not going to happen as HCC was undertaking a savings programme and consultations would be circulated in the new year in different service areas. HCC projects 2-3 years in advance but did not anticipate any issues as long as the savings plan was in place. The focus of the County Council's budget was social care – it could not legally turn away service users. HCC was in a stable position at the time.
- 80.6 Cllr Kitson updated that he had cut back the allotment hedges.
- Cllr Kitson updated on a near miss accident outside a property on Church Street a few days prior to the meeting, involving parked cars, a sewage pumping tanker from St Mary Bourne and the problem of an overgrown hedge. The occupier had agreed to cut the hedge back to reduce future issues.

81. CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

- 81.1 The Clerk updated that she had received quotes for the replacement zipwire and teen shelter, including a local company which had provided a very competitive quote including removal of the old equipment. As they were based in Winchester, with the owner living within a few miles of the parish, the carbon footprint would also be much lower than using a more national company. She would apply for the TVBC community asset fund grant and update on how much Section 106 developer contributions would need to be drawn down on to fund the remainder of the project.
- 81.2 Thanks were given to a resident who continued to be the 'eyes and ears' on KGV and reported any issues with damage to equipment, dog waste bins, etc.
- The following issues had been reported to the clerk:
- damage to the floor of the teen shelter yet again with several planks being torn up.
 - storm damage to the cricket net

- damage to a small child's coat and chin on the standalone slide – Cllr Kitson had checked the equipment the day after the report and found nothing amiss which could have caused the injury or tear to the coat

- balustrades on the wooden climbing frame had been damaged, and tried to be used to light a bonfire.

Cllr Kitson suggested a small working party over the Christmas holidays to repair any damage caused.

- 81.3 Wild animal damage had been caused to the young fruit trees planted near the cricket net. Some would possibly not survive nibbling by deer or rabbits. Clerk to speak to the resident overseeing the orchard project with a view to installing a protective fence around the area when replacement trees were planted.

82. FINANCE

- 82.1 On the day of the meeting, the bank balance stood at £10,199.89 in the Treasurer's Account and £18,754.15 in the savings account, including earmarked reserves of £23,791.

- 82.2 The clerk had circulated the payments made since the last meeting. Cllr Russell agreed them as an accurate record.

TYPE	DATE	PAYEE	AMOUNT	REMARKS
BACS	27/11/2023	Business Stream	44.10	Allotment water rates
BACS	27/11/2023	Comm Heartbeat Trust	17.94	Replacement defib kit
DD	30/11/2023	SSE	7.46	Upton phone box elec supply
DD	1/12/2023	TVBC	111.54	Grass cutting
BACS	5/12/2023	HMRC	161.40	PAYE Dec
BACS	5/12/2023	Mrs Miriam Edwards	645.60	Salary Dec
BACS	5/12/2023	Mrs Miriam Edwards	74.84	Consumables (UK2, etc)
BACS	5/12/2023	Swifts	100.00	Swifts Christmas lunch
BACS	5/12/2023	Red76	9.60	Payroll November
BACS	8/12/2023	Mr M Thomas	42.75	Dog signage
BACS	18/12/2023	Mrs M Edwards	373.03	Sand and sandbags

The Chairman wished to thank all the members of the Parish Council, those who attended the meetings throughout the year including the public and the Borough and County Councillors, and all the additional supporters of the Parish Council's work. He wished everyone a very Merry Christmas.

83. NEXT MEETING

83.1 The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council was due to be held on Monday 15th January 2024.

The meeting concluded at 20.30 hrs.

Signed Chairman

