

HURSTBOURNE TARRANT PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr Ian Kitson

Clerk: Mrs Miriam Edwards
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MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 20th February 2023 at 7.30pm, held at the Hurstbourne Tarrant Community Centre.

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Councillors present:

Cllr Ian Kitson (Chairman)
Cllr Neil Hedger
Cllr John Bentley

Cllr Mark Thomas
Cllr Louisa Russell
Cllr Jamie Williams
Clerk

90 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

90.1 There were no apologies for absence received from the Parish Councillors. Cllrs Kirsty and Phil North gave apologies owing to Borough meetings.

91. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

91.1 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.

92. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

92.1 Councillors agreed and approved the minutes of the last meeting (the annual parish council meeting which was held on 16th January 2023, and which were signed by the Chairman.

93. ACTIONS ARISING

93.1 The Clerk suggested creating a list of ongoing actions was drawn up, rather than rolling over outstanding actions from previous meetings onto each agenda. This list would be circulated to Councillors on a monthly basis, after each meeting, with details of actions still to be completed. Councillors were in agreement with this method.

94. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

94.1 There were 4 members of the public present.

94.2 NM raised the demoralising issue of litter being a continual problem of as soon as it's cleared up. Although reported to TVBC, the borough council is constrained by budgets and resources. Cllr Thomas thanked the resident for voluntarily litterpicking and suggested an informal rota with those who already undertake this valuable service, perhaps twice a year each, around 90 minutes a time. Cllr Williams referred to the borough's "Op Sparkle" – **Clerk to follow up with Cllr North.**

94.3 A resident raised the A343 pothole issue. HBT PC do report any within the Parish. The road outside the Parish boundary towards and through Highclere being in the worst state of repair. Cllr Hedger mentioned that when the upcoming line painting was done as part of the road safety works, some of the poor surface would probably be fixed at The Square. A resident commented that as an A road and one which

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allows HGVs through villages, then it should be better maintained by the County Council.

95. PLANNING

- 95.1 22/03307/LBWN & 3306/FULLN – Barn at Ibthorpe Manor Farm, Horseshoe Lane, Ibthorpe – Mrs & Mrs Watson – alterations to convert WC and store to plant room to facilitate installation of plant and ground source heat pump array. The works would be vertical, and Ecology could make comment about protecting habitat, but restoration of the ground to as it was would be unenforceable. No comment from PC.
- 95.2 23/00127/VARN – Hurstbourne Manor (formerly Bourne Park Airfield) - Vary condition 2 of 21/01642/VARN (Vary condition 2 of 18/00936/FULLN (Demolition of buildings associated with Bourne Park Airfield, and removal of existing airstrip and outdoor storage areas; Erection of detached dwelling and outbuildings; with associated parking, turning, landscaping, access, private amenity space and ecological enhancements) to allow for a basement comprising of wine store, plant room, toilet and cinema room) to allow for redesign and relocation of outbuildings with associated access. No comment.
- 95.3 23/00172/CLPN – Doles Farmhouse, HBT (Bourne Park) - Application for lawful development certificate for proposed replacement windows, construction of two front porches and single storey extension and laying of hardstanding. The work had already been carried out. This is not a consultable application.
- 95.4 Old Church Hall – garden office – the PC originally objected to this on the grounds of visual impact. The applicant appealed, but the appeal was dismissed, making reference in particular to the Village Design Statement.
- 95.5 Old Cob Barn, Ibthorpe – objections and comments were submitted by the public, and the applicant withdrew the application. There was a robust objection by the Conservation Officer regarding light, special views, inappropriate design, etc.
- 95.6 Cllr Thomas noted that with the sad passing of Mr Ponting, there was concern about the use of the old farmyard off Church Street. He asked whether there was anything the PC or the village could do to be proactive (other than ensuring the Village Design Statement was strongly adhered to) with possible forthcoming planning applications. Cllr Williams had written to the applicant the last time an application to develop the site was submitted. He felt it was important to engage with any potential developers, particularly as informal parking had been allowed on the farmyard to alleviate Church St parking.
- 95.7 Lime Tree Cottage, Horseshoe Lane – a high fence and gates had been erected, which was felt could have an impact on the setting of the building, and could require planning consent, especially in the conservation area. **Cllr Williams would check and contact the Conservation Officer if necessary.**

96. COUNCILLORS' UPDATES

- 96.1 Cllr Bentley updated that he had been to a Greening Longparish event which had been an interesting concept, joining up with other villages for various environmental projects starting with a pledge from residents. He felt it would be worth joining forces with St Mary Bourne and Longparish, and he would be happy to lead for the PC with support of residents. It was agreed to recontact the Sustainability Focus Group for their thoughts **(clerk to send out email)**.
- 96.2 Cllr Williams updated that the Netherton traveller encampment had become in breach of temporary consent. He was not aware of any appeal.

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Cllr Williams reported that the stile on the footpath at the top of Dolomans Lane (see map) was in poor condition and queried whether this could be replaced with a kissing gate as per other projects around the Parish. **Clerk to contact the Countryside Service.**

A 'restricted byways' fingerpost sign on the Upton Road at the junction with Locks Drove had been hit by a lorry and was now missing. **Clerk to report online to HCC.**

- 96.3 Cllr Hedger updated that the 'dragons teeth' had been painted at the start of the 30mphs at each end of HBT on the A343. The new village 'gates' had been due to start on the day of the meeting, but had not happened. Cllr Hedger to chase HCC. Cllr Hedger also updated that the Community Speedwatch sessions would be starting from the following week after a winter break.
- 96.4 Cllr Kitson wish to thank Cllr Thomas for organising the inaugural duck race in Church Street which had been a great success with 98 out of the available 100 (rubber) ducks entering the water. Children and adults alike had agreed it was a great community event. Thanks also to the ladies who provided refreshments to raise money for the school.

97. CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

- 97.1 The Clerk asked Councillors to agree the signing of the agreement with St Mary Bourne Parish Council to enter into the HCC Lengthsman scheme for 2023. The amount was still set at £1,000 and unfortunately the Lengthsman had increased the hourly rate meaning that only around 33 hours were available. However, as this was a free service, councillors agreed to continue.
- 97.2 The Clerk wished to thank Mr & Mrs Melhuish for allowing access to their field for the start of the inaugural duck race on 18th February.
- 97.3 King's Coronation party on 7th May – the clerk updated that a grant of £500 had been applied for via TVBC to pay for decorations, HTCC and prizes for the Coronation party on KGV.
The Trustees confirmed that the HTCC would also be open on Saturday 6th May, the day of the Coronation itself, and the big screen would be live-streaming the day's events. All welcome, although no confirmation as to whether any refreshments would be available or whether it would be a 'bring your own' on that day (the school Friends' Committee were confirmed to provide all refreshments on the day of the party).
- 97.4 Dene Green tree/hedge planting – the clerk confirmed that the free tree whips from the Woodland Trust were due between 6th and 17th March. A date for planting would be announced when a more specific date was known.
- 97.5 Cllr Thomas suggested a 'Coronation Tree' planting somewhere in the parish. Mr Melhuish updated that he would be planting willows in his paddock on Church Street. Parsonage Farm had also begun planting trees in the paddock on the Test Way behind the farm in HBT. **For further consideration, to planting a more mature tree.**
- 97.6 The new roundabout for KGV play area was due for installation week commencing 27th February. **The clerk would ask the school to put a note in the parents' newsletter to advise them of vehicle movements in the HTCC car park.**
- 97.7 Mr Edwards of the Floodwatch group asked the Council to contact the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust on his behalf regarding assistance with willow reinforcements on the riverbank by the school, similar to those which the Trust had installed on Gangbridge Lane in St Mary Bourne. He was happy to be the liaison

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with them, once the HIWWT had confirmed they would be willing to support. **Cllr Thomas to contact Maggie Shelton HIWWT.**

- 97.8 On the subject of the river, Mr Edwards also mentioned that stones and tarmac chippings had gathered in the riverbed by Rookery Cottages where rainwater flushes detritus down the pipe from road cuttings on The Hill (A343) and out into the river. If not cleared annually, there was a danger of it gradually adding up to cause another blockage. In 2021, when the riverbed was cleared by the Parish Council, some 30 tons were removed from this section. The request was for the Parish Council to ask Hampshire Highways to add this to their responsibilities for an annual/bi-annual check. If done regularly, the amount would be removable using a wheelbarrow, but it was felt inappropriate to ask the Riparian owner as the issue was not caused by the river being adjacent to their land (for example, overgrowth, etc). **Clerk to write to HCC to ask that this task be completed each year when the riverbed is dry.**

98. FINANCE

- 98.1 On the day of the meeting, the bank balance stood at £48,290.44 including earmarked reserves of £22,987 (£14,263.90 to be paid out for KGV roundabout when complete).
A forecast to the 31st March predicted approximately £7000 left in general reserves.
- 98.2 Cllr Williams requested the purchase of steel cricket stumps for the cricket net. This was unanimously agreed.
- 98.3 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	16/1/2023	Mr I Kitson	185.70	Chairman's Allowance 2022/23
DD	23/1/2023	SSE	12.52	Upton phone box elec supply
DD	1/2/2023	TVBC	97.38	Grounds maintenance
BACS	13/2/2023	HMRC	161.40	PAYE - February
BACS	13/2/2023	Mrs M Edwards	645.60	Salary - February
BACS	13/2/2023	Business Stream	1.27	Allotment water rates
BACS	13/2/2023	Mrs M Edwards	58.85	Coronation party consumables
DD	20/2/2023	SSE	12.33	Upton phone box elec supply

99. HURSTBOURNE TARRANT COMMUNITY CENTRE

- 99.1 Cllr Thomas (in his role as Chair of Trustees of the HTCC rather than a Parish Councillor, gave an update on the noise mitigation steps taken at the Community Centre in response to concerns raised by two nearby residents of the impact of private events during the summer of 2022. A formal document which had been sent

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to all residents who had been part of the original consultation, is appended to these minutes.

Firstly, thanks were given to everyone who had helped navigate through the matter, including the trustees and residents. It was explained that some measures had already been adopted, and others would be implemented, but there was a legacy of bookings which needed to be worked through before the point was reached where all measures could be adhered to, so understanding was asked on this matter.

A resident thanked the trustees for their hard work and was delighted with the update. Whilst felt the measures were not perfect in response to the original problem raised, they did want to thank the Trustees and the Parish Council for listening and adopting the measures which they had suggested. The resident understood that the summer of 2023 was likely to be busy but hoped that the trustees would be willing to listen to suggestions of other mitigating factors if needed, but that those offered should go a long way to sorting out the disturbance issue, and perhaps the matter could be revisited after the summer season.

Another resident stated that they felt it was impossible to get the solution perfect, but the measures to be implemented were based on a good start.

Another trustee mentioned that the changes would be reflected on the HTCC website as soon as possible, even though they were already being implemented, such as door alarms after 10.30pm.

The Chairman of the Parish Council thanked the Trustees for all the work they had put in over the previous few months, highlighting that they were volunteers and therefore appreciating that their own time had been used to find a solution.

100. NEXT MEETING

100.1 The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council was due to be held on Monday 20th March 2023.

The meeting concluded at 20:35 hrs. SignedChairman

continued/.....

APPENDIX A – to Item 99 – Hurstbourne Tarrant Community Centre



**HURSTBOURNE TARRANT
COMMUNITY CENTRE**

February 2023

Dear Community Centre Neighbour,

We recently invited you to participate in a questionnaire regarding the Hurstbourne Tarrant Community Centre (HTCC). Thank you to those who responded and shared their views.

The survey was carried out because HTCC Trustees received a noise complaint from a household in Church Street. Following the matter being raised at a Parish Council meeting, four other households informed us that they had also been affected by noise. The Trustees were keen to understand the nature and extent of these concerns.

The survey was delivered to around thirty households in Church Street and The Hill and eighteen were returned (60%).

This note summarises the survey responses and lists the measures that the HTCC Trustees have put in place to minimise any disturbance to our neighbours.

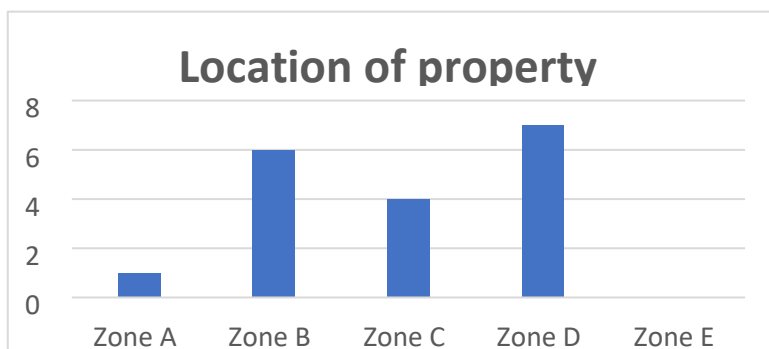
These measures will be incorporated into the HTCC hire terms and conditions and published on the HTCC web site.

There will be an agenda item on the 20th February Parish Council meeting for the HTCC Trustees to report back on the survey and the resulting actions.

Alison Willis, Andy Watson, Louise Pittuck-Schols, Lynn Hedger, Mark Thomas HTCC Trustees

What did the survey tell us?

1. Location of respondents responding



The majority of respondents lived in zones B and D

2. How frequently is noise heard from HTCC?

10 respondents (56%) reported noise is heard **never or rarely**

6 respondents (33%) reported noise is heard **occasionally**

2 respondents (11%) reported noise is heard **frequently**

3. How does noise from HTCC impact you?

12 respondents (66%) reported **no or very low impact**

3 respondents (17%) reported **low or moderate impact**

3 respondents (17%) reported **high impact**

0 respondents reported an **unacceptable impact**

A range of comments, both in support of HTCC and with additional observations and suggestions were also received.

Conclusions and Actions

The Trustees have carefully considered all aspects of the feedback and whilst the consensus appears to be that noise impact from HTCC is regarded as low, we wish to take all reasonable measures to ensure that inconvenience to our near-neighbours is kept to a minimum.

This of course must be balanced with the needs of our wider community that HTCC is here to serve and the requirement to maintain sufficient income to ensure this valued resource remains sustainable from a financial perspective.

Since the initial complaint, we have already implemented a number of measures to minimise noise. These include:

- Introducing a two weekend gap between party bookings that finish later than 9pm (excluding community events and bookings made prior to November 2022).
- Applying the hire condition that music must be turned down at 10:30pm so as to be inaudible outside the Community Centre. Doors and windows must be closed at 10:30pm to stop noise disturbing residents (an alarm has been installed on external doors to the playing field that sounds if open after 10.30pm).
- Applying the hire condition that amplified music is not permitted outside the centre (excluding community events).
- Specifying that normal booking hours are 8:00 am to 11:30 pm, extendable at the discretion of the Management. All hires with a finish time after 9:00pm will be subject to review and are at the discretion of the Management. The sale of alcohol, subject to licence, to end by 11:30 pm in all cases.

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- Greater diligence on briefing users, and highlighting on our website and within terms and conditions, about respecting our neighbours and keeping noise to a minimum. **In addition to these measures, we will also introduce the following:**
- A policy regarding the use of the KGV playing field has been agreed with the Parish Council covering private bookings. It should be noted that the playing field is a public space and thus these measures are not enforceable.
 - A general requirement that the outside space is used with due consideration to neighbours and noise should be controlled
 - No amplified music/dancing is permitted outside the Community Centre
 - One catering vehicle/structure can be located on the playing field for Friday and Saturday bookings. This should be positioned between the building and nearest zip wire frame and as near to the neighbouring field as possible. Any openings must face the Community Centre
 - One catering vehicle can be positioned in the car park for Friday and Saturday bookings. This must be positioned behind the Community Centre next to the loading bay doors. Any openings must face the Community Centre
- New signage in the car park reminding users to minimise noise and to be respectful of neighbours when arriving at events and leaving the Community Centre.
- An increase in hire charges this Spring, effective from 1st July 2023, for all new bookings. These charges maintain a discounted rate for local residents and all regular users whilst increasing the differential between charges for resident and non-resident users.

Summary

We believe that these measures are proportionate to the concerns raised and will help to minimise future disturbance to our near-neighbours, whilst maintaining a high quality and viable facility.

Thank you once again to everyone who completed the survey and for helping us to keep HTCC a positive and sustainable resource for our local community.

Alison Willis, Andy Watson, Louise Pittuck-Schols, Lynn Hedger, Mark Thomas HTCC Trustees