

HURSTBOURNE TARRANT PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr Ian Kitson

Clerk: Mrs Miriam Edwards
Tel: 07768 453772 ; email: theparishclerk@hbt.org.uk
Website: www.hbtparishcouncil.org.uk

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday 31st March 2022 at 7.30pm, held at the Hurstbourne Tarrant Community Centre.

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Councillors present:

Cllr Ian Kitson (Chairman)
Cllr Mark Thomas

Cllr Louisa Russell
Cllr John Bentley
Clerk

90. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

90.1 Cllr Jamie Williams gave his apologies for absence.

91. RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR

91.1 The Chairman updated that Cllr John Partridge had resigned as a councillor, and the notice of a casual vacancy for a councillor given under Rule 5 of the of the Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) (England and Wales) Rules 2006 had been published on 8th March. There had been no call for an election from the community, so therefore members of the parish council were free to appoint a replacement councillor by co-option. The vacancy would be advertised as soon as possible, and applicants invited to a future meeting.

92. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

92.1 There were no declarations of interest from Councillors on any items on the agenda.

93. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

93.1 Councillors agreed and approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 21st February 2022, which were signed by the Chairman.

94. ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

94.1 Stile/footpath 8 adjacent to A343 and permissive path option - a verbal agreement had been received from Facombe Estates/Hollington Estate that a permissive path could be installed on the inside of the field, removing the need for walkers to use the verge alongside the A343. They would decide between them which field on which side of the road would be used, and the PC to then apply to HCC Countryside Service for a grant for the materials required.

94.2 Waste bin, Bank Tree triangle, Ibthorpe - letter to be sent to Ibthorpe/Horseshoe Lane residents asking for their views. Cllr Russell had already spoken to a few neighbours who did feel either the need for an additional bin or that the Bank Tree was not the most appropriate place for it, as well as the additional cost involved. Update at the next meeting.

94.3 Jubilee Beacon - Parsonage Farming had agreed that a bonfire beacon could be lit on their land at the top of The Hill below Doles Wood. The PC's insurance would cover this as it was private land and not near any buildings or accessible to the public. Cllr Bentley could organise wood for burning. This would happen on 2nd June at 9.45 pm in line with the national lighting of Jubilee beacons.

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- 94.4 Jubilee Orchard Dines Close - for further consultation with the community.
- 94.5 Potholes on access road to HTCC - Cllr Kitson had received a quote of nearly £13,000 to resurface and repair the riverbank edge. This seemed excessively high, so further quotes to be sought prior to approaching other stakeholders.

95. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- 95.1 Six members of the public attended the meeting.
- 95.2 A resident queried whether the stolen drain grilles were to be replaced any time soon. The Clerk updated that Vernham Dean PC had written to County Councillor Kirsty North regarding an update. Clerk to also write and reiterate the need for them to be replaced as soon as possible in order that the safety barriers could be removed.
- 95.3 Mr Wakeford, Parsonage Farming, had been approached by long-term resident Ukrainians regarding assistance with housing family members who had escaped the war in Ukraine. Parsonage Farming had offered the use of the Dryer Bungalow at The Dene, which was awaiting refurbishment into two separate properties. This would be available for approximately 6 months. Mr Wakeford queried whether there was anyone from the Parish Council questionnaire who would be willing to help decorate the bungalow.
Cllr Bentley updated that there had been 24 responses to the survey requesting information as to whether anyone was intending to assist Ukrainian refugees in the Parish and to find wider help. Cllr Bentley would email the respondents to attempt to arrange a meeting of the majority of them to discuss how they could help the refugees expected in the community.
- 95.4 Mrs Lynn Hedger gave an update on the Community Speedwatch group. Seven sessions had been held since the previous Parish Council meeting in February with the following results:
- 55 cars reported for exceeding the 30mph speed limit on the A343
 - the fastest vehicle was recorded as travelling at 47mph (a Jaguar XKR)
 - 25% of those vehicles reported were exceeding 40mph
- The lighter evenings meant that later sessions could be held, and this was resulting in more speeding vehicles being recorded.
An early morning session had been held at 6am, which hadn't proved very successful. At busy commuter times, increased traffic meant that it was difficult for vehicles to exceed the speed limit.
Councillor Bentley confirmed that a new battery had been replaced in the northbound device.
Mrs Hedger asked for assistance with circulation of a request for more volunteers for the roster and publicising the results.

96. PLANNING

- 96.1 22/000703/FULLN - **Claremont House, The Dene, HBT** - Remodel outbuilding and surrounding terrace. No impact and no comments from neighbours. No comment.
- 96.2 22/00634/FULLN - **The Old Village Hall, Ibthorpe Rd, HBT** - Ms Adel Du Toit - Erection of detached garden building. Cllr Williams had circulated his thoughts to Councillors prior to the meeting, He suggested that the Parish Council should comment that the proposal would have a harmful impact on the heritage asset which was the old village hall and on the overall street scene within the Conservation Area. The design of the proposal would protrude above the recently erected

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contemporary fence and further detract from the views of the building. The design was not aligned with the Village Design Statement which highlighted the need for any development to be designed to complement the existing aspect and development that is readily visible to the public to contribute to the Conservation Area and wider village aspect. The proposal would detract from the historic street scene which was expressly preserved by a long and detailed planning process when the Hall was converted to a dwelling. There was also concern that consenting to this proposal would lead to overdevelopment of the plot and set a dangerous precedent for future poorly designed development in the village.

96.3 22/00535/FULLN - **Wagtail Cottage, The Square, HBT** - Mr David Cardno - single storey rear extension. This would have a low impact on views from other properties but would be seen from the road, however no comment.

96.4 22/00765/LBWN & 00761/FULLN - **Parsonage Farm, Upton** - Mrs Bethany Coin - change of use from barn (at rear) to dwelling and rebuilding of single storey building to create extension to barn. The rear elevation had changed from the previous application with fewer windows and a reduced residential feel. Cllr Williams recommended commenting on the level of planting which should be enhanced on the public footpath side of the property.

97. COUNCILLORS' UPDATES

97.1 Cllr Thomas updated that the fallen trees in the February storms at Doles Wood had been reported to HCC Countryside Service who had asked the landowner to clear them. He had been asked by HCC to check the trees for progress.

Mr Wakeford, Parsonage Farming, reported that a check of the health of trees near public footpaths crossing their land had been completed, and was pleased to report that none appeared to have been causing any possible danger.

97.2 Cllr Kitson reported that he had concreted in the speed limit reminder post at Upton which appeared to have been struck by a vehicle.

97.3 Cllr Bentley updated on the play equipment public survey:

- 72 responses received - 75% of those respondents lived in the villages, and 95% of those wished the play area on KGV to remain unfenced.

- 75% of respondents felt that the teen shelter was in the right place. The overriding preference was for a wooden replacement, and the overwhelming majority stated the replacement should be funded from the precept.

- 55% of respondents felt that a replacement roundabout should be installed with only a very few who had said the old one should remain or have money spent on it.

Cllr Bentley stated that the annual inspection was only 6 weeks away, and that at the very least, before then, some action should have been taken. Councillors agreed to remove the roundabout before the next inspection and obtain quotes to move forward with a replacement.

98. CLERK'S UPDATE & CORRESPONDENCE

98.1 **Resolved:** Councillors agreed to donate £30 to the Hurstbourne Tarrant and District Horticultural Society for HBeeT prizes for the Flower, Vegetable & Produce Competition in July. There were reserves from private donations, earmarked for HBeeT or wildlife projects, and the allotments.

98.2 The Annual Parish Meeting of the Electorate was confirmed for 23rd May 2022. The clerk had confirmation from the HCC Countryside Service ranger to give an update on rights of way projects, and the Tree Planning Officer from TVBC had agreed to provide a Powerpoint presentation if attendance in person was not possible. County

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and Borough Councillors North had been invited to attend and give updates on their work during the previous twelve months.

- 98.3 A local company within the Parish had kindly paid the annual hire charge for the Swifts meetings at the Community Centre.

99. FINANCE

- 99.1 On the day of the meeting, the bank balance stood at £31,360.11 including earmarked reserves of £17,578, leaving a £13,782 EOY balance.
- 99.2 The clerk presented the payments made since the last meeting. Cllr Russell had agreed them as an accurate record.

TYPE	DATE	PAYEE	AMOUNT	REMARKS
BACS	16/3/2022	Mrs M Edwards	515.34	Salary March
BACS	16/3/2022	HMRC	129.00	PAYE March
DD	21/3/2022	Southern Electric	12.33	Upton phone box elec supply
BACS	21/3/2022	TVBC	564.48	Grounds Maintenance Oct-Mar
BACS	21/3/2022	TVBC	986.06	Dog bin emptying 2021/22
BACS	21/3/2022	HTCC	130.00	HTCC hire 2022/23 (PC mtgs)
BACS	21/3/2022	Mrs M Edwards	29.99	Laminator
		TOTAL	£2,367.20	

- 99.3 The Clerk updated on the end of year situation. The internal audit was due at the end of May and the auditor’s advice would be sought regarding a second year of claiming exemption from an external audit, as both the income and expenditure for 2021/22 had been under £25,000. The variances against the previous financial year were small. The internal auditor would sign off the end of year accounts during the inspection, and these and the Annual Governance and Accountability Return would be agreed by councillors at the meeting in June.
- 99.4 **Resolved:** Councillors agreed to renew the Parish Online subscription which provided a GIS mapping facility, and on which the parish assets and various other elements could be recorded. The annual fee was £56.
- 99.5 **Resolved:** Councillors agreed to invoice Vernham Dean Parish Council for 50% share of the electricity costs for the Upton phone box defibrillator, which was a shared asset. The annual total was £99.84 but was set to rise slightly the following year as the standing charges had increased part way through 2021/22, and notwithstanding any general energy price increases, the approximate charge was likely to be approximately £140 for 2022/23.

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31 March 2022 (2021-2022)

Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council Summary of Receipts and Payments Summary - Cost Centres Only (Between 01/04/2021 and 31/03/2022)

Cost Centre	Receipts			Payments			Net Position +/- Under/over spend
	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	
Administration			0.00 (N/A)	11,211.00	10,871.77	339.23 (3%)	339.23
Earmarked Reserves			0.00 (N/A)	10,641.00	3,340.00	7,301.00 (68%)	7,301.00
Facilities & Services			0.00 (N/A)	3,160.00	2,310.00	850.00 (26%)	850.00
General Repairs & Maintenance			0.00 (N/A)	385.00	119.86	265.14 (68%)	265.14
Grants Awarded			0.00 (N/A)	500.00	600.00	-100.00	-100.00
Income	15,300.00	22,168.04	6,868.04 (44%)			0.00 (N/A)	6,868.04
Projects			0.00 (N/A)	1,550.00	3,017.08	-1,467.08	-1,467.08
VAT			0.00 (N/A)			0.00 (N/A)	0.00
NET TOTAL	15,300.00	22,168.04	6,868.04 (44%)	27,447.00	20,258.71	7,188.29 (26%)	8
Total for ALL Cost Centres		22,168.04			20,258.71		
V.A.T.		1,677.99			1,831.60		
GROSS TOTAL		23,846.03			22,090.31		

99.6 Annual Maintenance Contracts:

Resolved: Councillors agreed to accept the dog waste bin emptying quote from Test Valley Borough Council - there was no other local contractor to facilitate the service. The quote for 2022/23 was for £212.62 per bin (x4).

Resolved: Councillors agreed to accept the grounds maintenance quote from Test Valley Borough Council for grass cutting and weed sprayed on KGV field and Dean Rise playing field. The quote was for £973.75 for 15 cuts across the year (the bulk during the growing season including one spray around the play equipment at £60.70. With regards to the inflation rate, the figure had been set at 3.5%. The January CPI was over 5% and they had acknowledged a matched increase could make it difficult for some Parish Councils to manage. Going forward, they would be quoting in November for 2023/24, which would give the PC the opportunity for alternative quotes if preferred. Councillors agreed their service was very high and they were willing to adjust the schedule for special events such as the summer fair, weddings, etc.

100. PROJECT REGISTER

100.1 Councillors considered the updated project register. A suggestion was made regarding the purchase of a speed limit reminder sign or speed indicator device which would remove the need for sharing an SLR with Tanglely and Vernham Dean.

101. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

101.1 The next meeting was scheduled to be held on **Tuesday 19th April 2022** at the Hurstbourne Tarrant Community Centre.

The meeting concluded at 20:40 hrs.

Signed Chairman

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