

Chairman: Cllr Ian Kitson

Clerk: Mrs Miriam Edwards

Tel: 07768 453772

email: [clerk@hurstbournetarrant-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@hurstbournetarrant-pc.gov.uk)

Website: [www.hurstbournetarrant-pc.gov.uk](http://www.hurstbournetarrant-pc.gov.uk)

## MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7.30pm, held at the Hurstbourne Tarrant Community Centre.

~~

### Councillors present:

Cllr Ian Kitson (Chairman)

Cllr Mark Thomas

Cllr Louisa Russell

Cllr John Bentley

Cllr Neil Hedger

Borough Councillor Phil North

Clerk

### **94. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- 94.1 Apologies were received from Councillor Jamie Williams and County Councillor Kirsty North.

### **95. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

- 95.1 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.

### **96. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

- 96.1 Cllr Hedger proposed, Cllr Thomas seconded and councillors unanimously agreed and approved the minutes of the last meeting which was held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024, and which were signed by the Chairman.

### **97. ACTIONS ARISING**

- 97.1 Repairs to climbing frame balustrades – *Councillor Bentley to repair as soon as possible.*

### **98. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- 98.1 There were 6 members of the public present.
- 98.2 A resident raised concern over the channels carved into the riverbank opposite the end of Horseshoe Lane alongside the Ibthorpe Road, to allow floodwater on the road to go back into the river, but concern that it could also work the other way. The river at that point was a Hampshire County Council Highways responsibility. *Clerk to contact HCC to ask to fill the channels in to preserve the integrity of the bank.*
- 98.3 A resident who was also an allotment tenant expressed concern on behalf of five allotment tenants that the tenancy agreement was not being adhered to by some tenants and asked if a meeting could be called to discuss the issue. The Chairman (also with responsibility for the allotments) explained that there were varying opinions as to what constituted a 'well tended' or tidy allotment. All tenants had been offered the opportunity to halve their plot if it was more convenient but none had requested this. Cllr Bentley, also an allotment tenant, commented that every tenant cultivated their plot differently and that raised beds would be useful for anyone with disabilities or to get children involved. The Clerk would be making an additional mid-season check as well as the annual visit in the autumn for the risk

assessment. The clerk noted that water rates were increasing by 18% for 2024/25 and in turn that would likely mean an increase in rental.

**99. PLANNING**

- 99.1 **24/00116/HRWN** | Application for Hedgerow Removal Notice - Removal of 30 metres of hedgerow along road edge | A343 HBT (north of Provost Hill) to allow for scaffolding for pylon repairs. Councillors questioned whether it was necessary. The application was vague in detail of the installations and whether removal of the hedge was essential or the easiest/cheapest option. *Cllr Kitson will provide details of land agents for the clerk to raise a query.*
- 99.2 **24/00137/FULLN** | Demolish porch, rear extensions, and outbuildings, erect single storey rear extension, garden room and garden wall, remove pebbledash from exterior and associated boundary treatments and landscaping | Hutchins Cottage Church Street HBT. Conservation Officer had objected despite the premises not being listed. The intrusion of plain brick walls as seen from Church St would be detrimental to the street scene and surrounding properties, including the views across to the recreation ground, and was not complementing the conservation area outlook. There was no reference to the Village Design Statement. Cllrs discussed whether the pebble dash removal would make the house look more in keeping with the rest of the properties in the area. Unanimously agreed no comment at this stage.
- 99.3 **24/00152/LBWN** | Block up doorway on north east elevation, replace windows and rainwater goods, and internal alterations | Brookside The Hill HBT. The application was for internal works, the Conservation Officer should give any views on concerns. No comment.
- 99.4 **24/00183/FULLN** | Erection of 2 dwellings, with associated parking and landscaping | Dene Green The Dene HBT. The applicant attended the meeting. He explained that the application covered keeping the features of adjacent properties in The Rank (slate roofs and rendered exterior) and were situated 'side on' to the main road so had minimal visual impact from the road. A concern in the pre-application submission of the properties overlooking the bungalows had been dealt with by the change in orientation. The trees and hedgerows in situ would remain. Councillors had no concerns and felt it was a good use of the plot and smaller houses would be a welcome addition in the village. The adjacent bungalow was also due for renovation into two further single storey homes. Dr Watson, of the Village Design Statement working party agreed that the proposal was in keeping with VDS and unobtrusive. Cllr Hedger proposed, and Cllr Bentley seconded, with a unanimous agreement to support the application, as there had been no local objections.
- 99.5 **24/00295/FULLN & 24/00296/LBWN** | Installation of internal partition on the first floor and replacement of two windows | Kilderkin Cottage Horseshoe Lane Ibthorpe. Dr Watson noted that the Conservation Officer would deal appropriately with the application, and that the internal works and windows were to be in keeping with the building's heritage. No comment.

### **100. COUNCILLORS' UPDATES**

- 100.1 Cllr Hedger reported that although five Speedwatch sessions had been arranged since the team had returned after the winter break, inclement weather had cancelled the majority. The results were posted on the Parish Council website. 51 cars had been reported for travelling over 35 mph in one session.
- 100.2 Cllr Hedger stated he had received information about a road closure on the A343. (The clerk subsequently checked the HCC Highways website, and no complete closures were listed).
- 100.3 Cllr Hedger reported that the BT manhole cover on the Ibthorpe Road between Horseshoe Lane had been repaired again. The sinkage was more than 15cm, exacerbated by groundwater which seeps up through it
- 100.3 Cllr Kitson thanked Mr Edwards for his continued vigilance and work on Dene Green to ensure the ditches continued to flow. The ditches had now dried up as the groundwater levels had receded.
- 100.4 *Cllr Bentley to speak to the resident responsible for sourcing trees for KGV, to enquire about more for planting along the Dene Green bank.*

### **101. CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE**

- 101.1 Hampshire County Council Future Services Consultation – the County Council had provided details of a consultation to aid its proposals to save £132m by April 2025. The consultation had been circulated by the clerk on social media. Cllr North confirmed that the consultation would not be sent to all residents via the postal system owing to the cost involved.  
The proposals to save money would impact on all residents in some form, particularly in light of the rural, isolated nature of the villages, including the reduction in passenger transport ; reducing planned highways maintenance activities incorporating larger-scale structural repairs & surface treatment, and drainage. Cllr North explained how statutory services were not funded by central government and there was no ability to raise the Council Tax higher than 5% unless it went to referendum. Hampshire County Council was in a better position than many other authorities.
- 101.2 Forward planning – the proposed date for the Annual Parish Council meeting and Annual Parish Meeting of the Electorate was Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024. It was agreed to follow the same format as 2023, with information stands by relevant groups and agencies to promote their work. *Clerk to contact relevant representatives to invite them to attend.*
- 101.3 The clerk updated that a free portrait of HM the King had been ordered on behalf of the Parish Council

### **102. FINANCE**

- 102.1 On the day of the meeting, the bank balance stood at £7,951.07 in the Treasurer's Account and £18,794.25 in the savings account, including earmarked reserves of £20,274.
- 102.2 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	16/1/2024	HMRC	195.00	PAYE January
BACS	16/1/2024	Mrs Miriam Edwards	780.00	Salary January + backpay
DD	19/1/2024	SSE	7.26	Upton phone box elec supply
DD	1/2/2024	TVBC	111.54	Grass cutting
BACS	5/2/2024	Business Stream	11.97	Allotment water rates
BACS	5/2/2024	Red76	9.60	Payroll January
BACS	12/2/2024	Mr G Edwards	200.00	Metal bridge for Dene Green
BACS	12/2/2024	HMRC	164.60	PAYE February
BACS	12/2/2024	Mrs Miriam Edwards	659.20	Salary February

102.3 Reserves – Cllr Hedger asked if more money could be reserved for the community centre access road which was constantly requiring repairs to potholes. Clerk to consider this at the end of the financial year, and write to the other three landowners with pro rata responsibility for the other 50% of the maintenance.

**103. NEXT MEETING**

103.1 The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council was due to be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

The meeting concluded at 20:15 hrs.

Signed ..... Chairman