

Minutes of Haresfield Parish Council Meeting

Held via Zoom (as permitted by NALC guidance) on Monday 20th April 2020

Present: Councillors Charlotte Tilsley, Sue Thorpe, Nikki Stoneman, Jenny Knight, Fiona Bevan

Clerk: Madeleine King e-mail: haresfieldpc@gmail.com

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Apologies: County councillor Stephen Davis, District councillor David Mossman

Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record.

Coronavirus & COVID 19: As in every other aspect of life currently, the coronavirus has been driving much activity. GCC has a hub on which offers of help and requests for assistance can be made: [Isolation help hub](#) The PC receives daily updates from a dozen organisations, if parishioners have any queries and are looking for the most current information, please contact the clerk: Haresfieldpc@gmail.com

We are fortunate that the pub is offering a great service, both with takeaway meal offers daily and delivery of grocery essentials. Contact Steve Luckett for takeaway orders and Fi on 07876732529 for groceries.

SDC have launched a plea for people to resist burning their own rubbish as it produces smoke which is harmful to those already suffering with respiratory problems.

Village maintenance: There have been several reports of litter arising from the use of drugs, both in Colethrop Lane and towards the top of Beacon Lane. The empty canisters of Nitrous Oxide litter the parish and advice is to be sought as to the most effective approach to discouraging this.

A few people have responded so far to the request to parishioners to use some of their extra spare time to tidy up the village by litter picking, we would like to thank them for their continued efforts. There is plenty of litter remaining so people are encouraged to help out - with household members or observing social distancing - bags, pickers and gloves will be available in the hall loos for use. Any litter picked can be placed in household litter or bags (tied) placed at the side of the hall.

The pile of rubbish at the rear of the Hall has now gone and it is noted that the garden is looking tidy. Those kind enough to be cutting grass or, on weeks when the grass does not require cutting, maintaining hedges are asked to ensure that all garden waste is to be placed in the composting bins behind the rear fence.

Village Hall committee: Work to refurbish the toilet block is in the planning stage, this will be funded though monies already raised. Efforts are being made to alter the electricity supplier, as the hall is currently on a high tariff. To enable this, Neal Thorpe (treasurer) has had to contact the charity commissioner who requires sight of previous years accounts going back to 2016. The Committee took over from a previous resident in 2016 who acted as treasurer and although many attempts have been

made to contact him, this has proved impossible. A new account was therefore opened with Barclays in 2017 and Neal is currently obtaining statements to support accounts from that date onwards.

Incinerator & Community liaison group: the three village gateways have now been delivered to the Highways depot and we await notification of an installation date. The 2020 round of grant applications will be advertised shortly.

Footpaths: Many people are taking the opportunity afforded by the lockdown to walk the numerous footpaths that we are fortunate enough to have criss-crossing the village. Walkers are to be asked that if they see any stiles in need of repair or note any routes with poor signage, to inform the clerk or register it themselves on [pathwatch](#) - a service offered by the Ramblers Association. An app is available to enable this to be done whilst on the move.

The road leading from Haresfield Court Lane running behind Court gardens has seen a huge increase in dog fouling. Posters to be put up to ask dog owners/walkers to clean up after their charges.

Merryfield: A new Trustee is required, a role John Mitchell held prior to his move. The trustee would need to be a representative of the church. Any resident interested in taking up this role is asked to approach the parish clerk.

With the huge reduction in foot traffic on the Merryfield, the opportunity has been taken to secure mesh on several areas of high traffic and to seed these areas. The grass cutting team to be notified of this work to ensure that they avoid mowing the areas. An application has been made to replace several of the trees and we await notification of the outcome of the grant later in the year.

Road closures: TEMPORARY CLOSURE AND RESTRICTIONS 41183 BEACON LANE

(HARESFIELD PARISH) STROUD DISTRICT

Gloucestershire County Council intend to make an order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) to temporarily close and restrict part of the 41183 Beacon Lane from its junction with The Terrace to outside the property known as Ringhill Farm for a distance of approximately 1.78 miles.

The reason for the closure and restrictions are for Gigaclear rural fibre installation.

The road is expected to be closed and restricted from 25th May 2020 until 3rd July 2020 or until the works have been completed. For further information, please contact Gloucestershire Highways on 08000 514 514 or visit www.gloucestershire.gov.uk.

Planning: The council has no objection to Application: S.20/0631/HHOLD Location: College Farm, Beacon Lane, Haresfield, Stonehouse. Application Type: Householder Application Description: Proposed replacement of porch. This planning application also had an associated listed building consent.

Highways, traffic and parking: Following the initial tidy up of the Mount Lane junction with the B4008, some further signage and rubbish has built up which has been reported to SDC. The

proposed meeting of the clerk with Mrs Bacon was very positive and the school are keen to support signage advising parents and visitors to park safely, and any other safety measures.

Finance & Clerks Report: The clerk thanked councillors for the offer of remuneration for extra hours worked and is happy to accept one additional hour per week, taking hours worked to seven. Renewal of the subscription to GAPTC was approved by councillors and payment agreed for 2020/2021. As a consequence of the current Coronavirus lockdown elections have been postponed until 6 May 2021. NALC has published a new legal briefing to guide councils affected, which sets out the following affecting our parish. Councillors now stay in post until May 2021, but if a casual vacancy arises then this will be advertised in the normal way and the District Council advised. If 10 electors request a poll, the earliest that this can take place is 6 May 2021.

Any other business: Ursula Jeakins has reported that following an effort to increase the circulation of the Herald via email; as currently we are unable to get them printed; she now has 119 on the distribution list, and seven to whom she is delivering to by hand. Forty households are not receiving any Herald and one household has asked not to be communicated with.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm

Date of next meeting: Monday May 18th 2020