

Minutes of Haresfield Parish Council Meeting

Held in the Village Hall on Monday 26th January 2020

Present: Councillors Charlotte Tilsley (chair), Fiona Bevan, Jenny Knight, Nikki Stoneman, County Councillor Stephen Davies

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

.....

Apologies: Cllr Thorpe, District Cllr Dave Mossman

Public Participation: Philip Tudor, Alan White

Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

Cllr Maxine Bailey has offered her resignation. The PC would like to thank Maxine very much for her kind and considerable contribution and wishes her well as she moves on from Haresfield.

Flooding: Councillors discussed the recent flooding arising from increased water flow through damaged edges of the lane. This led to water entering various properties causing considerable damage and mud on the road. A road sweeper was immediately organised to tidy up the pub end of the village. Significant steps have been taken by the home owner and councillors discussed flood prevention measures. Highways to be contacted about repair to Beacon Lane.

County Councillors and District Councillor's Report: Cllr Davis reported that spending on schools, adult social care and children's services is to rise. The fire service has had a poor report following inspection and although some improvements have been made, more are required. The first round of consultation on the Local Plan has been completed and a revised version will be published in October. (The Local Plan is a document produced periodically to set out the proposed development through the district, in terms of housing, roads and other infrastructure and services.) The PC will review and comment on the sections relating to our area.

Highways, traffic and parking: Ongoing issues with traffic and parking, particularly at school times are causing much concern. This is a national issue, relating to social change, and the school are doing what they can to remind parents to park appropriately. Philip Tudor attended the meeting to share his concerns about potential danger on the corner. The PC are going to ask Matt Jones, the Neighbourhood Warden to assist and the school are to be approached to engage children in writing reminder signs for parents. There was a discussion about possible safety banners being used and this is being investigated.

PC has received correspondence relating to the detritus of bollards, plastic barriers, confusing and inaccurate signs along the B4008 leading into Haresfield. Concern was raised that the signs are not only confusing but dangerous and the utilities cordoned area was inadequate. PC is to

contact the contractors to request an explanation and request the tidying up and making safe of the area.

Standish proposal for pathway: Standish PC had a feasibility study, called Safe and sustainable Travel in Standish, done in 2017. The most significant element of this was an aspiration to create a multi-user pathway along the B4008 from Standish to Stonehouse. They were advised that a pathway joining up other cycle paths would be more likely to attract funding. As a result Standish has approached Haresfield PC along with other Parish Councils, to support the proposal and for us to gain the support of Stephen Davis, our County Councillor. Stephen, being present at the meeting was able to confirm his support for the plan and we are very pleased to be on board with this proposal.

Footpaths, grit bins: A grit bin has been ordered to be placed at the bottom of Beacon Lane. When this is in place, the grit bin may be used by any local householder to sprinkle on icy roads when needed. A shovel has been ordered to be placed in the bin!

Incinerator: Several enquiries have been received requesting details of the plume that can often be seen coming from the chimney of the incinerator. A request has been made to UBB to offer an explanation of the plume and the response will be published in the Herald.

Mr White attended the meeting to report a low level persistent noise which he thinks may be from the incinerator. Clerk advised to note the dates and times of the noise, which can then be used to investigate the situation, as is the case for all concerns.

The most recent community liaison group meeting was held in the newly opened visitor centre. This was preceded by a tour of the facility. If you wish to book a tour, please contact Di Green on 01452 379886.

The visitor centre is now open for booking for community use, free of charge. It is a large room with sink facilities, projector and screen, tables and chairs, and will accommodate up to 40 people.

The Community Liaison Group grants have now been allocated and applicants formally notified of the procedure. Councillors noted that they are pleased that two of the PC grants applications were successful: firstly, a contribution to the village gateways, which will be ordered and are to be installed by the Highways Dept. Secondly; the funds to purchase the much-needed lagging to insulate the village hall roof. A request will go out for help with installation, which will be led by Borange and Jonathan Tilsley.

Village hall and activities: The next village event is a VE Day Celebration on 3 May - details to be published in the Herald. A safari supper is planned for late April/May, a request for help to organise this is to be made.

Village maintenance: A proposal to install CCTV was put forward following the recently reported burglaries. Options for the purchase and installation of this are to be investigated.

The PC has signed up to the Keep Britain Tidy campaign which is being run by a national newspaper and local takeaway businesses will be approached to assist.

Councillors discussed a proposal to brighten up the bus shelters and it was decided to approaching local groups to create murals in them. Anybody who is interested in helping is to be invited to approach one of the parish councillors.

Trees: It was previously reported that the PC had applied for an allocation of trees to replace some of those lost from Ash die-back. We have been notified that trees are now available and PC will advise on suitable locations and varieties as requested.

Planning: No objection was raised to planning application S.19/2691/HHOLD at 12 Merryfields for the erection of a porch.

We have been notified of changes to communication with Parish and Town Councils regarding planning matters in Development Management as a result of a commitment for 2020 within the Planning Service.

Councillors discussed a complaint received from a parishioner regarding a planning matter and this will be fully investigated. In the meanwhile, an acknowledgement of the letter is to be made.

Finance & Clerks Report: Councillors approved a request for a rise of 20% in the precept from Stroud District Council. This is the first requested rise in at least 5 years, meaning that Band D properties will pay £49 per annum for 2020/21. Councillor Bevan expressed the Council's will that the Clerk should now be properly remunerated for hours worked on behalf of the village.

Any other business: The road outside St Modwen has developed a worrying crack and Highways engineers have agreed to inspect soon and determine a timescale for urgent repair.

The meeting closed at 9.42pm

Date of next meeting: Monday February 24th 2020