

## Minutes of Haresfield Parish Council Meeting

Held via Zoom on Monday 21st September 2020

**Present:** Councillors Charlotte Tilsley, Sue Thorpe, Nikki Stoneman, Jenny Knight.

Clerk M J King email: [haresfieldpc@gmail.com](mailto:haresfieldpc@gmail.com)

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**Public Participation:** Ursula Jeakins, Nicky Ford

**Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record, with one amendment.

**Flooding:** Sue and Neal Thorpe are making progress with the grant application to Severn Trent with the intention of strategically placing leaky dams to slow the flow of water through Langet Covert. Their application for a biodiversity grant was unfortunately not successful.

**Highways:** Dan Tiffney, Highways Manager has made several offers regarding the village gateway sign which is located in the wrong place. Councillors discussed options and decided to opt for the sign to be moved with the addition of a logo to cover up the 30mph roundel.

An additional sign is being considered, following a suggestion from Yakub Mulla, Gloucestershire Highways, which would gain the attention of traffic before they reach the turnoff to Haresfield Court. A sign saying 'Please slow down and/or private entrance' was felt to be appropriate, and would be located adjacent to the entrance to the Court. Discussions are to take place regarding this.

Concern has been raised regarding the number of 30 ton trucks using Haresfield Lane, which has a 7.5 ton limit. Contact is being pursued with Gloucestershire Highways and Network Rail regarding possible safety concerns with the railway bridge.

**St. Modwen:** We have previously reported that many of the newly planted trees adjacent to the new warehouses on Mount Lane (planted for screening) have died. Cllr Tilsley has reported the facts to Cllr Stephen Davies and the matter is to be investigated.. Repairs to Mount Lane have been made, but concerns raised that there is already signs that the heavy trucks are causing more subsidence of the road surface.

**Langet Covert:** No information has been forthcoming regarding the removal of the red Fire bucket. PC requests that if anyone has any information regarding this or any other damage caused in the village to contact the clerk or one of the councillors.

**Hunts Grove/allotments:** A number of written objections from residents have been received by the PC concerning the proposed relocation of the HG allotments to the Haresfield side of the motorway bridge. However, there is a lack of clarity about what is actually being proposed and further information is being sought. PC will ensure that a document clarifying the position and

noting advantages and disadvantages is circulated once more information has been obtained. PC notes that contact could be made with local MPs to gain support in this matter.

**Village Hall:** Work on the hall is continuing, with emphasis on ensuring that the loo is complete. The Village Hall committee will meet later in the month and report back to the PC. A separate meeting regarding events is held bi-monthly organised by Nikki Stoneman at which village events and similar matters are discussed. Next meeting: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October.

**Village Maintenance:** Cllr Tilsley has put in requests to the Community payback scheme for further maintenance jobs in the village. The response was positive, with extra time allowed for considerations regarding the current pandemic.

Bus stop adjacent to school is causing concern with reports that tiles are dropping from this on the school side – builder to be approached to carry out repair.

Green matting has been vandalised by the tree on the Merryfield. Reports have been made to the police about incidents of vandalism in the village this year.

Contact to be made with school about putting new turf down by the tree. Wood chippings under consideration for placement in the boggy patch by the stile.

**Gigaclear:** The two separate complaints to Gigaclear regarding the promised placement of the green box underground have been acknowledged and are proceeding to the next stage of the company's complaints procedure.

**Flag-flying:** Philip Tudor kindly raises the flag on official occasions and it was previously reported that suggestions were being received for other occasions on which the flag might be flown. On initial investigation, there are regulations governing this activity, and which flags are allowed to be flown, both of which are to be further investigated. Suggestions for alternatives to the Union Flag include the Armed Forces Flag, Gloucestershire flag and England/St. Georges Cross Flag.

**Website:** We are working towards developing a new website for the Parish Council, which will meet the requirements of the National Transparency Regulations which fully come into place in mid-September. The website will have to include minutes of PC meetings as well as regulatory information reported to SDC and other bodies by the clerk. Such information is currently displayed in the noticeboard as and for the periods of time required.

**UBB/Incinerator:** Clerk reported that applications for the 2020 UBB grant scheme were required to be presented by 30 October. An application is being prepared for replacement hall windows and suggestions were put forward for the 2021 round of applications. Note: any group can apply – see [ubbglooucestershire.co.uk](http://ubbglooucestershire.co.uk) and click on community funding for details.

**Footpaths:** Several footpaths have been reported as blocked or impassable and these will be reported to the relevant authorities. If you come across a footpath which is impassable for any reason, this can be reported to either on their website:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/highways/roads/your-highways-report-it/>

OR the ramblers association via their website: <https://www.ramblers.org.uk/advice/pathwatch-report-path-features-and-problems.aspx>

**Road Closures:** The sealed official notification of the expected closure of Haresfield Lane from 19 Oct to 19 July 2021 has not yet been received, leading the clerk to the conclusion that the closure is likely to be delayed. Further information will be disseminated as soon as it is available. A concern has been raised by a resident of Pool Farm Lane regarding the possible flow of diverted traffic along the lane. A letter has been written to request clarification about this.

**Finance & Clerks Report:** The Great British September Clean was a huge success and thanks are extended to all the regulars who took part. It was noted that more could be done if more residents were aware of the community nature of this activity. A considerable pile of Highways detritus was found at the Mount Lane Junction, clerk to report this to Glos Highways.

Budget for 2021/2022 is to be prepared and send to councillors via email to allow time for consideration and comment in readiness for the November meeting.

***Any other business:***

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm

**Date of next meeting: Monday November 30th**