

HATHERSAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk – Ms Maura Sorensen, Heart of Hathersage, Main Road, Hathersage, Derbyshire, S32 1BB

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Minutes of the meeting of Hathersage Parish Council Tuesday 6 July 2021, 7:30pm held at St Michael's School, School Lane

Councillors present: Jane Marsden (Chair), Emily Abbey, Martin Bloor, Sara Furness, Bridget Hanley, Tim Hill, James Marsden, Rosie Olle, Peter Rowland, Heather Rodgers, James Shuttleworth, Stuart Turner, Nick Williams

Also In attendance: Maura Sorensen (Clerk), Chris Cave (RFO), DDDC Cllr Peter O'Brien

- 049/21 To **receive** apologies for absence – from Cllr Bill Hanley; and DCC Cllr Alasdair Sutton.
- 050/21 To **decide** any variation in the order of business – none.
- 051/21 **Declaration of Members Interests** – in connection with any discussions arising around the Hope Valley Loop Line – Cllrs Jane and James Marsden and Cllr Nick Williams declared an interest.
- 052/21 **Public Participation.**
- a) A period of not more than ten minutes was be made available for members of the public and Members of the Council to comment on any matter; there were no members of the public in attendance.
- b) If the Police Liaison Officer, a County Council or District Council Member was in attendance they would be given the opportunity to raise any relevant matter. Noted the police had provided a brief update via email.
- DDDC Cllr Peter O'Brien referenced ongoing disruption to DDDC refuse collections. Noted this mainly impacted recycling rather than black bin collections. Cllrs highlighted the numbers of missed collections, and the impact, and asked Cllr O'Brien to reiterate the Parish Council's concerns and dissatisfaction with DDDC. Noted DDDC does not currently support or provide reimbursement on missed collections. ***Agreed the Clerk also write to the DDDC Head of Community Services (Ashley Watts) expressing dissatisfaction.***
- In relation to BBQs and wild fires, Cllr O'Brien noted consideration of introducing any ban (under a PSPO) had been deferred – a further meeting date (late summer/early autumn) to be confirmed.
- 053/21 **Confirmation of Minutes**
- .1 Minutes of the HPC meeting of 1 June 2021 were **confirmed**. There were no matters arising not dealt with in the agenda.
- 054/21 **PDNP, DCC and DDDC matters**
- .1 **Affordable Housing in Hathersage:** the Parish Council agreed to host a meeting with stakeholders, to be chaired jointly by Cllr Jane Marsden and Cllr Peter O'Brien. ***Cllr O'Brien to liaise with the Clerk regarding stakeholder invitees and possible meeting dates/times.*** Cllr O'Brien referenced the 2016 housing need survey identifying a need for around 60 new homes in the Dales; suggested numbers/need will have increased, since then. Noted the low turnover of affordable homes. Cllr O'Brien noted no new sites had been identified or were currently being proposed but it was important to look for a way forward. He noted that, although no new funding was being offered housing associations and housing developers were potentially interested.
- .2 **Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs):** noted Cllr O'Brien had addressed this under 052/21.
- .3 **Bus Services Improvement Plan:** the Clerk noted discussion with a DCC Officer. Noted the consultation was being outsourced. If there is no contact re the consultation in the next few weeks, the Clerk will liaise further with DCC.
- .4 **DDDC Welcome Back Fund:**
- a) Cllrs **approved** an initial deposit payment of £1,000 to CinemaHire in respect of the 11 September open air screening. ***Clerk to ask CinemaHire to invoice the RFO.*** Some details of planning for the event were shared.
- b) A music event funded from the Welcome Back Fund – Cllrs noted plans for a local band to play on the pool bandstand on Friday 24 September. Noted the band had indicated that

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they would look to donate their fee (details of exact amount TBC) to funding new playground equipment. Cllrs discussed the logistics of providing food/drink at the event – **for further discussion at the 13 July Swimming Pool Committee meeting.**

- c) Cllr Rodgers referenced purchasing bunting with WBF funding **for further discussion at the 20 July Recreation and Amenities Committees meeting.**

055/21

Hathersage Playing Field:

- .1 To **consider** funding for new play equipment. Cllr Rodgers referenced meetings with suppliers, and quotes – varying from £60-95K. Noted £12K funding set aside for adult exercise equipment. The RFO noted £70K set aside to aid purchasing of children’s play equipment. It was suggested Cllrs could see examples of good adult equipment provision at Youlgreave and Bradwell. Also suggested getting input on equipment preferences from adult MUGA user groups e.g. the kettlebell group. Cllr Rodgers noted the need to start fundraising in earnest. She referenced priority areas for equipment replacement e.g. the toddler area to be addressed, first. Cllrs queried provision of a bouldering or climbing wall; Cllr Turner suggested good quality gym equipment was a better option.

056/21

National Rail – Hope Valley Capacity Scheme: Cllr Jane Marsden provided a verbal report on the 29 June briefing. **Clerk to ask the Stakeholder Manager to share the presentations.** Cllr Marsden noted delivery of volunteer hours to impacted communities. Noted a strong focus on working with schools. Noted a cautious response to HPC enquiries about volunteer support on the River Derwent stepping stones. Noted the projected project completion date is May 2023. Cllr Shuttleworth referenced a likely reduction in road speed limits when some of the work is being undertaken. He also referenced the footbridge proposals, noting he did not consider the proposals to be the best option.

057/21

Financial Matters: RFO’s Report. The RFO referenced further investigation on the pros and cons of setting up the pool as a separate charity. Noted some of the reasons behind the proposal including the need to justify the amount of funding held by HPC to the external auditor, and the risk of a loss or significant reduction in precept if amounts held are too high. The RFO referenced some assumptions around governance e.g. that KGF is a custodian trustee and HPC a management trustee. Noted these assumptions need to be clarified/confirmed – with some external legal advice needed on interpreting the original deeds. The RFO outlined regulations around VAT registration noting that, whereas The King George’s Field’s income is not currently subject to VAT, all income of an all-encompassing charity would be, resulting in a reduction of net income estimated at £200/£250 per month. The RFO also referenced additional costs e.g. the need for an annual external charity accounts audit although this would be offset by a reduction in the Council’s audit fee. Cllrs **agreed** to seek legal advice concerning the current situation and the possible advantages and disadvantages of charitable status from two firms, Norrie Waite Slater; and Wrigleys. **Agreed** the RFO seek quotes and that the Finance Committee agrees which quote to accept.

Separately, Cllr Turner suggested the need to look at funding for pool capital projects **item for discussion at the 13 July meeting of the Swimming Pool Committee.**

- .1 To **receive** a statement of accounts – **noted**.
- .2 To **approve** accounts for payment - **approved**. The RFO noted T C Williams had not yet responded re queries raised on their invoice. He also referenced transferring some monies from the HPC Unity Trust Bank Account to other accounts noting the amounts held in Unity are in excess of the FSCS compensation limit. Cllrs supported this action – for the Finance Committee to approve. Cllrs noted accounts should be accessible with a reasonable withdrawal notice period.
- .3 **Noted** account scrutiny arrangements and **approved** signatories for the 3 August meeting from the agreed schedule (Cllrs Tim Hill and Peter Rowland) to approve and pay wages, and any urgent items, between this meeting and the 3 August meeting.
- .4 **Noted** provision of HPC insurance cover for the new bus shelter. No additional cover was required in connection with the HPC maintenance agreement with DCC.
- Break for King George’s Field business.

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Committees and Working Groups

058/21

Swimming Pool Committee: minutes of the meeting of 8 June 2021 were **received**.

- .1 **Noted** the pool continues to operate under current Covid measures until the government announcement re lifting all measures. Noted there will be a transitional period leading to a return to full reopening. Cllr Turner referenced a planned user consultation event in the autumn. Cllr Turner also referenced the working group looking at medium to longer term pool projects and the need to start considering indicative costs.
- .2 **Hilly Triathlon:** arrangements for the forthcoming event, including parking arrangements, were confirmed.
- .3 **Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust Awards 2021:** Cllrs **approved** the proposal by Tom Crooks to enter the pool for this award.

059/21

Recreation Committee: minutes of the meeting of 15 June 2021 were **received**.

- .1 **Confidential item:** Bowling Green access – Cllr Jane Marsden shared an update.
- .2 **MUGA resurfacing:** Cllrs Jane Marsden and Heather Rodgers shared an update from a recent meeting with a contractor. Noted no work needs to be undertaken immediately. Noted small areas of wear and tear can be treated as necessary. Noted a quote of £25K for a full resurfacing and remarking of lines – but it is not anticipated this will be necessary for a few years. Cllr Jane Marsden referenced previous discussions on provision of a ramp from the back of the pool to the bowling green suggesting this be added to a Swimming Pool Committee agenda.
- .3 **Noted** safety work urgently undertaken to cut down an overhanging tree branch and that the resident has been asked to meet the costs.

060/21

Planning Committee: minutes of the meeting of 8 June 2021 were **received**. Noted the resignation of Cllr Bill Hanley from the committee. Noted he had cited the time and effort PC members take in considering and responding to applications and the lack of response from planning bodies. Formal thanks to Cllr Hanley for his contributions to the Planning Committee were noted.

061/21

Amenities Committee: minutes of the meeting of 15 June 2021 were **received**. Cllr Hill flagged up some potential issues with rising damp at the Heart of Hathersage (HoH). Cllr Bloor offered to undertake an initial investigation. Cllr Hill also referenced the HoH toilets and cistern maintenance arrangements noting liaison with a local plumber who may be able to provide support on an individual callout basis.

Cllrs agreed to return to consideration of a previous item – provision of a drinking tap at HoH **item for discussion at the 20 July meeting of the Amenities Committee**. The RFO noted this has not been included in this year's budget.

Cllr James Marsden referenced ongoing discussions on river stepping stones maintenance and suggested that the Footpaths Officer could advise on whether the area around the stones could be 'removed' from the SSSI rating to enable the necessary stabilising work to be undertaken.

Clerk to liaise with the DCC Footpaths Officer.

- .1 **Lease renewals:** updates on progress with leases, *noted*.
- .2 **DDDC HoH planter:**
 - **noted** issues raised by members of the Heart of Hathersage group about the siting of the planters; **agreed the Chair and Clerk to liaise about a formal response**.
 - **noted** rota arrangements for watering the plants; **agreed** that Cllr Rodgers get some more keys (to the cleaner's storeroom) cut for those on the rota.
- .3 **Queen's Jubilee 2022 – beacon lighting** - arrangements for the beacon lighting event in the first week of June 2022 **agreed the detail be discussed at the 20 July meeting of the Amenities Committee**
- .4 **Queen's Jubilee 2022 – tree planting** - **noted** some initial consideration of appropriate sites, and planting. Cllr Shuttleworth referenced the Queen's Green Canopy initiative, supported/ administered by the Derbyshire Lord Lieutenant's office. Cllr Shuttleworth expanded on plans noting he will be the initial contact for HPC and neighbouring tiers of local government. Noted this initiative is focused on plantations rather than the planting of single trees. Noted further formal communication on this initiative in due course.

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- 062/21 **Transport Committee:** noted the next meeting is scheduled for 27 July 2021. Noted a meeting scheduled with DCC Cllr Alasdair Sutton on 7 July to look at aspects of parking provision in and around Hathersage.
- 063/21 **HR Committee:** minutes of the meeting of 8 June 2021 were **received**.
- 064/21 **Website Update:** there were no updates or reports from the Website Working Group.
- 065/21 **Burial Ground Committee:** noted letters sent out to those responsible for the upkeep of graves; Cllr Marsden asked that any issues raised be directed to her.
- 067/21 **Clerk's Report/Correspondence:** noted items circulated since the June meeting.
- 068/21 **Village Matters**
- 069/21 **Memorial Hall:** Cllr Rodgers noted new members for the Memorial Hall Committee were being sought. Noted the issue raised by HPC – about acoustic problems in Stanage Hall – had been discussed. The Memorial Hall Committee will hold their next meeting there to 'test' the acoustics. Agreed HPC committees will continue to meet in the Stanage Hall for the time being.
- 070/21 To **note** DALC circulars and other items circulated.
- 072/21 **Date and time of next meeting – 3 August 2021 at St Michael's School**
- 073/21 Items for the August agenda – no specific items were highlighted.

Meeting ended 9.35pm

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