

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 held on Tuesday 3 January 2022

Councillors present: Jane Marsden (Chair); Martin Bloor; B Hanley; W Hanley; Tim Hill; James Marsden; Heather Rodgers; Pete Rowland; Stuart Turner; James Shuttleworth; Nick Williams

In attendance: Chris Cave (RFO); Maura Sorensen (Clerk); Kathryne Fraser (Assistant Clerk); DDDC Cllr Peter O'Brien (*part*); Vicar Paul Moore (*part*)

- 186/22 Apologies for absence **received** from Cllrs Sara Furness and Rosie Olle; from DCC Cllr Alasdair Sutton; and from Police Officers (a report provided by the police was shared).
- 187/22 To **decide** any variation in the order of business – none.
- 188/22 **Declaration of Members Interests** – Cllrs Jane Marsden and Heather Rodger in relation to agenda item 7 (minute item 192/22).
- 189/22 **Public Participation.**
- a) A period of not more than ten minutes for members of the public and Members of the Council to comment on any matter.
St Michael's and All Angels Vicar Paul Moore attended to speak to agenda item 7 (minute item 192/22). The prayer event had been suggested by a member of the congregation. Reverend Moore expanded on proposals noting there would be three to four Church representatives at the event at any one time; representatives would not approach members of the public; individuals could approach a representative asking them to pray for/with them. He referenced similar events in other communities. Confirmed only St Michael's and All Angels were currently proposing the event but approaches will be made to other village churches asking if they want to participate. Confirmed the request was for the weekend of Saturday 27/Sunday 28 May (Pentecost). *Cllrs thanked the Vicar for his attendance and he left the meeting.*
- b) If the Police Liaison Officer, a County Council or District Council Member is in attendance they will be given the opportunity to raise any relevant matter.
Police: a report on crimes recorded between 6 December 2022 and 2 January 2023 had been provided: three burglaries (one residential; one business); one public order offence. Cllrs flagged issues with numbers of visitors, and parking, on 2 January noting inconsiderate, problem parking at a number of locations including Stanage Edge. **Agreed** to report this to the police (*Clerk to report*). Acknowledged the ongoing lack/absence of parking enforcement. Noted others – groups and individuals regularly flag Peak Park parking concerns including via social media. Suggested, when Cllrs come across instances of illegal parking, they take photographs to be shared with the police, DCC and PDNPA.
- 190/22 **Confirmation of Minutes**
Minutes of the HPC meeting of 6 December 2022 were **confirmed** and actions arising **noted**. Cllrs referenced minute item 171/22.1 – DDDC grants towards energy costs of the four DDDC leisure centres with pools; **agreed** that the Council write to DDDC to express concern that no consideration had been given to financial support for the Hathersage pool (*Clerk to write to DDDC*).
- 191/22 **PDNP, DCC, DDDC matters; and related reports from community groups**
- .1 **Warm Spaces:** any **updates** on local provision. Noted a trial provision of a weekly session for the month of January in the Bell Room with the potential to continue into February if attendance/need is sufficient. Suggested posting details on community Facebook pages.
- .2 **DCC Cllr Alasdair Sutton – received** a report of matters discussed with Cllr Sutton at a meeting with HPC Cllrs on 16 December.

Cllr Turner flagged concerns about the state of some cycleways e.g. overgrowing vegetation hasn't been cleared. *Cllr Turner to provide photographs – to flag with Cllr Sutton asking him to take this forward with DCC.*

Cllrs also flagged issues on Hurstclough Lane – accumulated leaf litter making the surface slippery and unsafe *Cllr to log this with DCC.* Suggested also adding this to the January Transport Committee agenda.

- .3 **DCC Cllr Alasdair Sutton's discretionary fund 2022-23:** Cllrs had been asked to consider/flag appropriate local projects or initiatives seeking small amounts of funding. The Chair reported she had shared details with the group which looks after Little John's grave noting they are looking to post additional signage/a storyboard.

DDDC Cllr Peter O'Brien: affordable housing in Hathersage – Cllr O'Brien provided an update. Referencing the 2022 meeting with stakeholders, Cllr O'Brien noted the DDDC focus on one site with potential for provision of 18-20 homes. Also noted PDNPA opposition to the development leading to the withdrawal of the partner housing association; DDDC are looking for an alternative partner. Cllr O'Brien referenced DDDC plans to convene a meeting with the new PDNPA Chief Executive, Phil Mulligan, to review the PDNPA position. He suggested it would be helpful if the Parish Council could also look at arranging a meeting with Mr Mulligan to query, and push, progress. Cllr O'Brien referenced comments from the new government Housing Minister that national parks need to be more supportive of local housing needs. Cllrs noted other, successful housing developments in the Peak Park including in Eyam, and an award-winning development in Bakewell.

Cllrs discussed the merits of the Parish Council submitting an outline planning application to PDNPA. Suggested, if refused, an appeal could be lodged; noted this would bring the matter into the public eye. Cllrs queried whether DDDC could proceed without a (housing association) partner and whether DDDC could submit an outline planning application - Cllr O'Brien noted his support. Referenced the ongoing PDNPA Local Plan Review but noted housing is not referenced in the plan; Cllrs suggested reference to housing needs across the Peak Park should be included.

Agreed that the Parish Council will look at convening a meeting with stakeholders (as per the 2021 meeting) about progressing the provision of affordable housing in Hathersage.

Other DDDC matters: Cllrs commended the resolution of issues around erratic refuse collections. Cllr O'Brien noted ongoing issues with the Oddfellows Road car park which has been out of order for some time.

Cllrs thanked Cllr O'Brien for his attendance and input and Cllr O'Brien left the meeting.

192/22

Request by St Michael's and All Angels Church for use of the Heart of Hathersage for a prayer event in 2023: St Michael's and All Angels Vicar Paul Moore had expanded on proposals and addressed Cllrs' queries. Cllrs noted the recommendation from the Amenities Committee. **Agreed** to the request for a one-day event on either Saturday 27 or Sunday 28 May (Pentecost). Suggested, in liaising with Reverend Moore, reference be made to the event details shared including liaison with other village churches. Noted there may be a request for use of a gazebo; due consideration to be given to ensuring no damage to flagstones. An event risk assessment will need to be completed.

193/22

King's Coronation: suggested any events be organised and led by local residents/groups rather than by the Parish Council. Next steps i.e. liaison with residents/groups to be agreed.

194/22

Financial Matters:

- .1 **Received** the RFO's Report. Flagged the appointment of the External Auditor (for the next five years).
- .2 **Received** a statement of accounts.
- .3 Accounts for payment totalling £65,165.21 including £6,963.29 VAT were **approved** for payment.
- .4 **Noted** account scrutiny arrangements and approved signatories (Cllrs Rosie Olle and Peter Rowland) from the agreed schedule for the February 2023 meeting, to approve and pay wages and any urgent items between this meeting and the February 2023 meeting.

- .5 To **consider** the budget and precept for 2023-24. The Council considered the draft revenue and loans budget incorporating the decisions made at the December meeting. This was approved with the addition of £500 for VAT advice.
- The Council then considered the amounts held in reserves. The sums in the playing field reserve and the MUGA reserve were considered inadequate for the replacement of playing field equipment and resurfacing the MUGA. It was also agreed that a reserve be created for assistance with electrical vehicle (EV) charging points in the village. It was agreed to allocate £20,000 to each of the playing field and MUGA reserves, and £5,000 to the EV reserve. The swimming pool reserve and capital account currently stood at £325,000. Bearing in mind the ongoing ground/air source heat project, the likely increase in gas costs from August 2024, and future plans to rebuild the pool entrance it was agreed that, although figures were not available for these projects, £325,000 was insufficient to cover them and that grants would have to be sought.
- The Treasurer reminder the Council that, in setting the precept, the Council must have regard to Council cash resources and not precept in excess of actual needs.
- The agreed budget net expenditure totalling £59,917, the Council **agreed** a precept of £60,000.
- .6 To **consider** whether to continue to keep the Shuttleworth Lamp lit. **Agreed** to keep it lit.
- .7 **Cyber insurance** – implementation of safety measures agreed at the December 2022 meeting. *Clerk, Assistant Clerk to produce a checklist.*
- .8 **Payment authorisation:** the RFO referenced good practice in limiting Cllr authorisation of payments without sight of bank details of payees. **Agreed** to set a £5K limit.

Committees and Working Groups

195/22

Swimming Pool Committee: received minutes of the meeting of 13 December 2022. Cllr Turner referenced the final draft of the Business Plan, to be published, imminently. Cllr W Hanley referenced progress with setting up the pool user group.

- .1 **Pool admission charges 2023/24:** to **consider** and **approve** recommendations. Confirmed recommendations were based on daily admission prices; admissions for previous years had been circulated for comparison (acknowledged the impact of Covid – admissions may have increased when lockdown ended but travel further afield/abroad was still impacted). Acknowledged there was some guesswork in estimating 2023 admissions. Cllr Hill referenced changes in provision at other pools - Freedom Leisure having reduced pool opening hours; staffing; and water temperature – noted admission prices were not posted on the Freedom Leisure website. Reiterated that DDDC are providing funding towards Freedom Leisure energy costs. Cllr Hill also referenced Eckington pool and an overall 6% price increase in admission costs. Cllr Hill flagged the need for more consideration of a wider pool offer including measures to attract new users. Cllr Turner referenced significant discussion and consideration of pricing by the Swimming Pool Committee prior to presenting proposals to the Council; acknowledged the benefits of taking a more analytical approach when next considering admission costs. Regarding local authority funding, while unconfirmed, noted it was anticipated DDDC funding will continue for 2023-24. A response is awaited from HPBC *Cllr W Hanley liaising – he will notify HPBC of a response deadline.* Agreed that, without HPBC funding, HPBC residents will not receive a related admissions discount. The Council **approved** pool admissions charges for 2023/24 (1/4/23 to 31/3/24) as follows:

Daily admissions		£ 4.00
Junior		£ 7.50
Adult		£ 6.50
Concession		£ 21.00
Family		£ 3.00
Spectator'		£ 4.00
Season tickets*		
Hathersage residents	Junior	£ 100.00
	Adult	£ 195.00
	Concession	£ 170.00

Derbyshire Dales residents	Junior	£ 100.00
	Adult	£ 240.00
	Concession	£ 208.00
High Peak residents**	Junior	£ 100.00
	Adult	£ 228.00
	Concession	£ 198.00
Out of area residents	Junior	£ 100.00
	Adult	£ 270.00
	Concession	£ 234.00
*price for six months		
**subject to receipt of HPBC subsidy otherwise HP residents pay out of area prices		
Private Hire	Per hour	£ 300.00

- .2 **Summer Timetable 2023:** noted this will be considered at the next meeting of the Swimming Pool Committee.
- 196/22 **Recreation Committee: received** minutes of the meeting of 20 December 2022. Noted graffiti had been removed from the playing field bins; plans are in hand to remove graffiti from the skatepark. Confirmed payment of a deposit to Playday for new play equipment.
- 197/22 **Amenities Committee: received** minutes of the meeting of 20 December 2022. Confirmation of a date, from Abbeycliffe, for path and fencing work (behind the café, leading to the bowling green) is awaited. Cllr B Hanley has been checking grit bins needing repairs or refilling. Platinum Jubilee Commemorative Tree – noted delivery has been made – arrangements to be made for planting *Amenities Committee agenda item*.
- .1 **Heart of Hathersage Flagpole:** to **consider** whether a flagpole should be permanently sited at the Heart of Hathersage. The Chair referenced previous discussions. She also referenced a Chesterfield-based company who provide/erect flagpoles and asked Cllrs if they would be happy for her to approach them for advice, and a quote. Noted this could be funded from monies budgeted for village projects. Noted the flagpole would be sited by the HoH wall. **Agreed** that the Chair investigate the option for a permanent flagpole, further.
- 198/22 **Burial Ground Committee: received** minutes of the meeting of 20 December 2022.
- .1 To **approve** authorisation of repairs to headstones as per the quote from Daynes Memorials - **approved**.
Noted letters had been circulated before Christmas regarding adherence to burial ground regulations; any responses to be considered at the next meeting of the Burial Ground Committee.
- 199/22 **Planning Committee:** there had been no further meeting of this committee since the December Parish Council meeting. The Chair referenced a planning application for affordable housing on the site of the Marquis of Granby (Bamford PC). Noted HPC had commented on a previous application. Agreed to convene a meeting of the Planning Committee on 17 January (to precede the meeting of the Recreation, Amenities and Burial Ground Joint Committee meeting); *Cllrs to consider the application and share comments*.
Cllr Nick Williams referenced a planning application for works relating to the Hope Valley Rail Capacity Scheme, impacting his land; noted no application had been shared by PDNPA, to date.
- 200/22 **Transport Committee:** there had been no further meeting of this committee since the December Parish Council meeting; next meeting scheduled for 24 January 2023.
Cllr Hill referenced the HVCA Travelling Light initiative noting he intended to attend an open online meeting on Thursday 5 January.
- .1 **Meeting with DCC Cllr Alasdair Sutton:** **noted** discussions on transport-related items from the 16 December meeting with Cllr Sutton.
- 201/22 **HR Committee: received** minutes of the meeting of 13 December 2022. Cllr W Hanley expanded on discussions on maximum working hours for pool staff – recommended a maximum of 40 hours

- additional hours worked by exception e.g. in providing cover for illness. Cllr W Hanley also referenced meetings with pool management about improving some management practices.

- 202/22 **Website/IT:** *Clerk liaising with Fasthosts regarding provision of dedicated Cllr email addresses and a shared drive system.*
- 203/22 **Footpaths: received** a report from the Footpaths Officers. Referencing the VolkerRailStory volunteer offer, suggested approaching them about improvement work on footpaths *Cllrs W Hanley and James Marsden to provide details of paths and work needed.*
- 204/22 **Clerk's Report/Correspondence: noted** updates/items shared since the December 2022 meeting.
- 205/22 **Village Matters**
- .1 **Noted** thanks to all those who contributed to local Christmas events and giving the village a festive feel. *Clerk to thank individuals/businesses; and to post a note of thanks on community Facebook pages.*
- Queried whether a more secure location for the crib could be found, to ensure those who gather to sing carols do not have to stand in the road.
- 206/22 **Memorial Hall:** no minutes or updates from recent meetings of the Management Committee had been provided. Noted that a number of committee members, including the Chair and the Secretary, intend to step down at the next AGM.
- 207/22 **Noted** DALC circulars and other items circulated since the December meeting (*noted under Clerk's Correspondence*).
- 208/22 **Date and time of next meeting – 7 February 2023, 7.30pm, at St Michael's School**
- 209/22 To **note** items for the February agenda – **affordable housing** – to consider whether the Parish Council should submit an outline planning application.

Meeting ended at 21.45pm; a meeting of the King George's Field Charity was held directly after the closure of the Parish Council meeting.