

## 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 5 March 2024, 7.30pm

**Councillors present:** Jane Marsden (Chair); Martin Bloor; Alex Campbell; Steve Dempsey; Tim Hill; James Marsden; Rosie Olle; Heather Rodgers; Nick Williams

**In attendance:** Chris Cave, RFO; Kathryn Fraser (Assistant Clerk); Maura Sorensen (Clerk)

- 205/23 Apologies for absence **received** from HPC Cllrs B Hanley; W Hanley; Peter Rowland; James Shuttleworth; from DDDC Cllr Simon Ripton; and from the police (*a report was shared*).
- 206/23 To **decide** any variation in the order of business – none.
- 207/23 **Declaration of Members Interests** – none.
- 208/23 **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; no members of the public were in attendance.
- b) If the Police Liaison Officer, a County Council or District Council Member is in attendance they will have an opportunity to raise any relevant matter.
- DDDC:** in an email DDDC Cllr Simon Ripton had referenced possible reinstallation of the Baulk Lane dog waste bin **ACTION – to be followed up with DDDC Officers**. He had also shared an update on the DDDC air quality monitoring initiative – he will continue to provide updates.
- Police:** a report had been shared.
- 209/23 **Minutes of the 6 February 2024 meeting** were **received** and **confirmed** (proposed by Cllr Williams; seconded by Cllr Hill and unanimously confirmed).
- 210/23 **PDNPA, DCC, DDDC matters and related reports from community groups**
- .1 **PDNPA** – as Parish Member Cllr W Hanley was not in attendance there was no update at this meeting.
- .2 **PDNPA** – **received** the most recent PDNPA Parishes Bulletin.
- .3 **Environment Act and meeting biodiversity requirements:** **considered** an HPC policy and action plan (*adapted from the DALC model*). Cllrs flagged the need for inclusion of some further references e.g. to responsibilities relating to HPC land and property management - **ACTION for Chair and Assistant Clerk; Cllrs to flag any further policy/plan queries/points with the Assistant Clerk prior to formal approval of the policy and action plan by LFAC**. The Chair referenced partnership working e.g. with the Stanage Forum, PDNPA, Hope Valley Farmers and others; Cllrs indicated their support for partnership working with all appropriate groups and their representatives.
- .4 **Local rewilding group and Jagers Lane verge proposals:** a quote for digging out/clearance of an area so the local rewilding group can start planting at the site was **approved** (proposed by Cllr Bloor; seconded by Cllr Rodgers and unanimously agreed). **ACTION – Assistant Clerk to liaise with the contractor.**
- .5 **Hathersage Church Charities: oral report** from the Cllrs Jane Marsden and Heather Rodgers referencing individual beneficiaries and donations to community groups and community initiatives.
- 211/23 **Donation request:** a request had been made by Derbyshire Childrens Holiday Centre (DCHC) however they had not provided details required by HPC (accounts; where else they were seeking funding; whether any Hathersage children had benefitted). Noted previous donation requests from DCHC (no donation had been made). **ACTION – Clerk to prompt DCHC to provide the requested information for the April HPC meeting.**
- 212/23 **DALC annual subscription renewal:** **agreed** including the optional enhanced training fee of £250.00 (providing free access to some training modules from which HPC has benefitted).
- 213/23 **Village CCTV:** **noted** ongoing systems issues and **considered** quotes. Clerk expanded on system issues and communications with Mytec. Cllr Demsey raised some queries about the purpose of the

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system and whether any criminal charges had been laid in relation to village CCTV footage. The Chair responded that the purpose was both to deter criminal offences e.g. burglaries and to be able to provide evidence where there had been criminal activities. She referenced the robbery at Go Outdoors late in 2023 noting CCTV (in other locations) had linked the perpetrators with other robberies helping to secure a conviction.

Suggested (and agreed) it was appropriate to bring forward and discuss agenda item 14.4 – pool CCTV system and the Mytec quote – at this point. Reference was made to the bowling club/green CCTV cameras and the proposal that they be linked to the pool system (proposal supported by the bowling club). The Clerk highlighted references by Mytec to the need for new cabling at the pool and that this work would be disruptive and would necessitate pool closure (*suggested, if the quote/work was agreed, looking to get the work done when the pool was closed for other reasons*). Cllr Dempsey queried the need for cabling and why Mytec could not install a system that was wifi-enabled rather than cabled. He also queried separation of the village and pool CCTV systems suggesting a single system would be preferable. Cllrs noted inclusion of the ANPR cameras in the village system may be a reason that the village and pool CCTV systems have to be separate; acknowledged this needed to be checked/confirmed. **Cllrs agreed queries raised by Cllr Dempsey be put to Mytec ACTION FOR THE CLERK.**

**Cllrs unanimously approved the Mytec quotes for:**

- Replacement of the wifi link between the Outside shop and the Heart of Hathersage
- Replacement of the ANPR camera at Alpkit
- Provision of a new pool CCTV system
- Bowling club/green cameras to be linked to the pool system (*consideration to be given to any financial contributions from the club*)

Noted these quotes were predicated on the assumption that the village and pool CCTV systems are kept separate, that a new pool system could involve extensive cabling - and that the Council may need to consider further quotes dependent on the Mytec response to queries raised by Cllr Dempsey.

Reference was also made to a very recent letter from the Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner about a re-deployable ANPR camera pilot scheme in Derbyshire Dales (and some other areas of North Derbyshire) – Councils to confirm interest in taking part in the pilot scheme by 15 March. **Agreed that HPC confirm interest ACTION FOR THE CLERK.**

214/23

**Risk Assessments review - to consider.** Some queries had been flagged in relation to risk assessments for the MUGA, the playing field, and the defibrillator (AED) on which the Assistant Clerk expanded; **suggested these Risk Assessments be amended accordingly to accurately reflect actual practice.** The RFO referenced playing field monitoring by the Caretaker and pool staff recorded on a log at the pool **ACTION - keeping of daily log to be checked.**

Cllr Hill queried risk assessment at the HPC-owned (but not run) pool café; the RFO noted the café tenants had previously shared their risk assessment/s **ACTION – RFO to request an up-to-date copy of the café risk assessment from the café tenant.**

The Chair queried some wording in the lifeguard risk assessment on an additional control ‘positioning to altered to prevent glare’ – **suggested the wording was clunky and should be amended appropriately.**

The Clerk flagged that the emergency management and emergency procedures risk assessments shared ahead of the meeting were not the most recently agreed versions (updated following the December 2023 pool gas leak); **Clerk confirmed she had shared the updated emergency management and emergency procedures earlier that day.**

- .1 All risks are covered – **agreed.**
- .2 Are the risk control procedures adequate – the RFO flagged some concerns and appropriate control measures needed. He highlighted that improved RFO cover in the event of an emergency or the RFO’s resignation needed to be considered. He referenced discussions with the internal auditor, Brian Wood, at East Midlands Audit Services (EMAS) and confirmed EMAS ‘could step in at

short notice if needed'. There would be no ongoing EMAS charge – EMAS would charge only for work undertaken. Noted this would not impact Brian Wood undertaking the HPC audit; and that other EMAS colleagues could undertake RFO-related work if an emergency arose. Noted DALC do provide an RFO service but, with ongoing charges, it would be more expensive than EMAS. **Agreed to make formal arrangements with EMAS for emergency RFO cover if needed.** RFO succession planning to be further considered by the Council. The RFO flagged that appropriate reference needs to be made, in risk assessments, to HR support from Bhayani.

.3 Are the risk control procedures being followed – agreed that they are being followed.

215/231

**Insurance Cover review – to consider:**

.1 Are all necessary risks covered? RFO confirmed risks listed are as per last year.

.2 Are the sums insured adequate? Queried whether pool cover (at £1.3M) is sufficient; RFO reported that material sums insured are increased automatically by the insurers at renewal; **agreed to leave the cover at the current rate.**

216/23

**Financial Matters:**

.1 **Received** the RFO's Report.

.2 **Received** a statement of accounts.

.3 Accounts for payment totalling £38,179.03 including £1,638.48 VAT were **approved** for payment.

.4 **Noted** account scrutiny arrangements and **approved** signatories (Cllrs Hill and Rowland – substitute Cllr to be agreed if Cllr Rowland away – RFO to check with him) from the agreed schedule for the coming month, to approve and pay wages and any urgent items between this meeting and the April 2024 meeting. Cllr Jane Marsden to take Cllr Rowland's place if necessary.

.5 **Confirmed** and **approved** the addition of new Councillor Steve Dempsey to the Unity Trust Bank mandate.

**Committees and Working Groups:** to **receive** minutes *where meetings have been held since the previous month's full Council meeting*; **consider** committee recommendations; **note** actions.

217/23

**Leisure Facilities and Amenities Committee:** **received** minutes of the meeting of 13 February 2024. No queries flagged.

219/23

**Swimming Pool Committee:** **received** minutes of the meeting of 20 February 2024.

.1 **Pool budget 2024-25:** **approved.**

.2 **Option for season ticket holders to pay monthly by Direct Debit:** initiative already approved by the Council; Cllrs **noted** terms and conditions ; RFO had flagged an amendment to wording in relation to the pool closure clause 'that the Council will make an appropriate refund' – **agreed. ACTION – Clerk and RFO to liaise with pool management on the HPC-agreed terms and conditions.**

.3 **Pool heating project:** Cllrs **considered** the SPC recommendation to commission two companies – Sheco; Matrix – to move forward to the next stage of investigating alternative pool energy options. Cllr Hill expanded referencing the amount of work undertaken by both companies to date. Noted Sheco had not raised any charges, to date. Noted Matrix were seeking a payment of £5K upfront to move to the next stage of the project. Cllr Hill referenced positive communications with both companies and expressed confidence in their understanding, and experience, of pool heating systems. Confirmed both companies also instal heating systems. Cllr Hill noted a third project quote had been sought but the company approached had not engaged meaningfully with HPC discussions. Reference made to a previous unsatisfactory engagement with Leisure Energy. Reference made to investigating the heat pump at Ashbourne leisure centre particularly in relation to noise generated. **The Council unanimously agreed the SPC recommendation to further engage with Sheco and Matrix; and agreed a £5K payment to Matrix** (proposed by Cllr Dempsey; seconded by Cllr Rodgers and unanimously agreed).

.4 **Pool CCTV system:** to **consider** an SPC recommendation to **approve** the quote from Mytec *addressed under minute 213/23.*

.5 **Opus Energy dispute:** the RFO shared an **update** confirming that, on the advice of the HPC energy broker, the matter had been raised with the Ombudsman – RFO highlighted the Ombudsman decision would be final and that there was no further avenue of appeal. **Agreed that the Council**

would abide by the decision (and direction) of the Ombudsman and any sum due paid without undue delay.

220/23

**HR Committee (CONFIDENTIAL):** minutes of the meeting of 28 February 2024 had not yet been produced/circulated however Cllrs considered recommendations, below, from the meeting.

- .1 **Duty Supervisor proposals** – to **consider** and **agree** HRC recommendations.  
Cllr Williams referenced his and Cllr Bloor’s investigations of staff concerns raised in January. He further noted an email earlier in the day (to himself and Cllr Bloor) from the pool staff representatives expressing concerns around this agenda item and a lack of consultation with Supervisors (one of the staff concerns flagged in January). Noted, to preserve their impartiality in continuing to investigate staff concerns, Cllrs Williams and Bloor would not vote on this proposal. The rest of the Council discussed the proposals including communications with pool management and staff. **The proposals were agreed;** the following was agreed in relation to communications:
  - Inform pool management of the Duty Supervisor proposals sharing the job description and person specification.
  - Inform Supervisors (by email) sharing the job description and person specification.
  - Convene a meeting with Supervisors as soon as possible to address any questions about the role, job description and person specification; HRC and HPC Chairs, Clerk, and pool management to attend the meeting.
  - Duty Supervisor role to come into effect from 1 April 2024
- .2 **Independent Pool Consultant: noted** the HRC update. Cllr Dempsey flagged some queries to which Cllrs and the Clerk responded. Noted there is further work to be done – at the HR Committee initially - to clarify details of what this role is for, entails etc.
- .3 **Assistant Clerk recruitment: an update.** The Clerk noted only one application had been received and had been shared with the HPC and HRC Chairs – they had agreed the application did not meet the role criteria. The Assistant Clerk referenced recent changes in the weekly workload suggesting the weekly hours could be dropped e.g. from 12 to 10. Cllrs noted factors that might deter applications e.g. that the role currently demands the postholder works the hours across approximately three days a week. The Clerk suggested any further recruitment be (also) done via an online agency e.g. Indeed. **Agreed further reflection is needed on the role, hours, demands and where it should be publicised.**
- .4 **Pool staff member 2023 hand injury, insurance claim and further query/request to HPC:** noted this will be considered at March SPC **ACTION – Clerk to inform the pool staff member.**
- .5 **Pool staff concerns:** Cllrs Williams and Bloor noted their intention to attend the March SPC meeting as observers and to present a report to full Council at the April meeting.

221/23

**Transport matters:** noted the next meeting will be held on 20 March 2024.

- .1 **Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP): noted** the BSIP survey link had been shared on community social media. Cllr Hill encouraged all Cllrs to complete the survey.
- .2 Cllr Hill shared an update on his communications with the Traffic Commissioner re Hulleys bus services.

222/23

**IT - including the HPC website; social media.**

Date to be agreed for a further meeting of the IT working group.

223/23

**Clerk’s Report/Correspondence: noted** updates/items shared since the February 2024 meeting including:

- Various PDNPA updates including temporary closure of Castleton Visitor Centre for building repairs following flood damage.
- Stanage Forum meeting minutes.
- DDDC updates.
- 2024 Hathersage Hurtle

224/23

**Village Matters**

- .1 **Hathersage News:** HPC news/items for inclusion in the next issue to be agreed with Cllr B Hanley.
- .2 **ANPR cameras outside the village centre:** the Chair asked Cllrs if, in principle, they would support siting of ANPR cameras on Back Lane and The Dale. Cllr Dempsey reiterated the need for a holistic

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approach and suggested asking Mytec whether they could include cameras on Back Lane, and The Dale, in a Hathersage system.

The Chair also referenced a request from Bradwell Parish Council (to their neighbouring parish councils) to consider supporting a wider ANPR network across the Hope Valley. Noted, also, previous HPC discussions with Gigapeak on this matter. Cllrs expressed support in principle for this initiative noting the Council would need to consider any firm proposals – and related costs - in depth.

225/23 **Memorial Hall:** Memorial Hall Management Committee updates – Cllr Rodgers referenced the Memorial Hall AGM on 20 March.

226/23 **Noted DALC newsletters** (*and other circulars*) shared since the February 2024 meeting; the March DALC newsletter had been shared on 5 March.

227/23 **Date and time of next meeting – 2 April 2024, St Michael’s School.**

*Meeting closed at 9.45pm; a meeting of the King George’s Field Charity was held directly after the closure of the Parish Council meeting.*