

HATHERSAGE PARISH COUNCIL

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

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Minutes of the online meeting of Hathersage Parish Council, Tuesday 6th April 2021, 7:30pm

Councillors Present: Jane Marsden (Chair), Sara Furness, Bill Hanley, Bridget Hanley (*part*), Tim Hill, James Marsden; Rosie Olle, Heather Rodgers and James Shuttleworth

Also In attendance: Maura Sorensen (Clerk), Chris Cave (RFO), DDDC Cllr. Peter O'Brien (*part*), Cllr. Judith Twigg (*part*), Emily Abbey, Martin Bloor, Nick Williams

- 206/20 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Peter Rowland and Stuart Turner.
- 207/20 There was no variation in the order of business.
- 208/20 There were no declaration of interests from members.
- 209/20 **Public Participation:** Emily Abbey; Martin Bloor; Nick Williams; DCC Cllr Judith Twigg (*part*); DDDC Cllr Peter O'Brien (*part*)
- a) A period of not more than ten minutes will be made available for members of the public and Members of the Council to comment on any matter.
- 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. The Clerk shared a brief verbal update from the police. Noted Covid fines are being issued to rule breakers in the area; bike crime is still a concern; the police continue to deal with parking problems. Noted that DCC Cllr Judith Twigg will be leaving office on 6 May. On behalf of the Parish Council, Cllr Rodgers thanked Cllr Twigg for all her support in her years in office and wished her well for the future. DDDC Cllr Peter O'Brien also commended Cllr Twigg for her years of public service. Cllr O'Brien had nothing specific to report to the Parish Council; he noted his intention to bring a report/raise a discussion on affordable housing at a forthcoming meeting.
- c) Noted that Derbyshire Constabulary Independent Advisory Group is looking to recruit members to contribute towards improving policing and wider service delivery throughout Derbyshire; details had been circulated. Noted that anyone joining the group would be doing so as an individual and not as a representative of the Parish Council. Cllr Tim Hill expressed interest. ***Clerk to liaise with him on the application process.***
- 210/20 **Co-option of new Cllrs:** Emily Abbey, Martin Bloor, Nick Williams. As there had been no call from the electorate to hold an election it was proposed that all three be co-opted to the three casual vacancies which had arisen from resignations. Emily Abbey, Martin Bloor and Nick Williams all confirmed their wish to join the Parish Council; their appointments were duly confirmed. ***Clerk to liaise with new Cllrs on relevant paperwork and inform the Monitoring Officer of the appointments.***
- 211/20 **Confirmation of Minutes:** minutes of the HPC meeting of 2nd March 2021 were confirmed as a correct record.
- 212/20 **Donation request:** to **consider** a request from the Farming Life Centre (a farming charity supporting people living and working in the rural Peak District). Noted further information was needed in relation to the FLC existing funding/finances, and evidence of Hathersage residents benefitting from the service. ***Clerk to liaise; and to include, again, on the May agenda.***
- 213/20 **New community project:** noted Ian Weeks, who had put the proposal forward, was not in attendance to speak to this item. Cllrs noted some clarification needed on Platform Housing and ownership/rights to the land, and on access over the land, both for residents and agencies/service providers.
- 214/20 **DDDC consultations / other DDDC matters**
- .1 **Consultation on ward boundaries:** to consider a response in light of concerns raised by residents of Abney and Abney Grange Parish Council. It was **agreed** to support the objections raised by residents of Abney and Abney Grange Parish Council. ***Clerk to post HPC comments on the consultation website.*** It was suggested also highlighting objections with Derbyshire Dales MP Sarah Dines.

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- .2 **Disposable BBQs:** to **discuss** the DDDC position, any further representations by the Parish Council, and posting of appropriate signage. Cllr O'Brien noted the DDDC position was due to be discussed further at a forthcoming meeting. Cllrs noted reporting of recent moorland fires and suggested writing to both DCC and DDDC asking them to reconsider their position on disposable BBQs – citing where it has been evidenced a fire was caused by a BBQ. Noted PDNP had put out a statement asking visitors to refrain from taking BBQs into the Peak Park. It was also noted this is a national issue. Cllrs noted the need to keep up the pressure on all relevant bodies and authorities and suggested raising it with Sarah Dines MP.

215/20

Financial Matters: RFO's Report.

- .1 The statement of accounts was **received**.
- .2 Accounts for payment were **approved**
- .3 Cllrs **noted** account scrutiny arrangements and approved signatories – Cllr Rosie Olle and James Shuttleworth – for the 4th May meeting, to approve and pay wages, and any urgent items, between this meeting and the 4th May meeting.
- .4 Cllrs **considered** balance sheet reserves. The RFO referenced the external audit noting HPC needs to justify reserves held and highlighting there is currently £48K unallocated funding. Noted monies could be transferred to other areas where there is need e.g. the budget for the playground – the need for wide-scale replacement of ageing playground equipment was noted. Noted funding could also be allocated to the budget for the MUGA. The RFO noted final accounts need to be approved at the May meeting; Cllrs should further consider allocating funding to specific budgets ahead of that meeting. Further suggestions included using reserves to pay back any outstanding loans. The RFO also referenced surplus monies in the pool budget. There was a suggestion the pool could be established as a separate charity. Noted specialist advice would need to be sought before taking the proposal further – RFO to pursue. Cllr Hill highlighted the initiative to investigate heating options for the pool, and the need for allocation of funding for the initial stages.
- .5 The RFO noted an additional item related to pool utilities highlighting queries on terms of the gas contract. Noted he would explore further and update Cllrs at the May meeting.
- .6 Heart of Hathersage – business rates: the RFO noted the rates bill was split between the HoH toilets and the HoH building but there were queries about the apportioning of the amounts. Noted HoH may be eligible, as a small business, for a rates reduction. Suggested previous advice was that rates were no longer payable on public toilets. RFO to investigate further/seek advice.
- .7 Broadband provision at HoH, and switching; noted some further clarification needed on details of deals offered. **Clerk to pursue**.
- .8 Review and re-approval of the Scheme of Delegation – this was **reapproved**.

Break for King George's Field business.

216/20

Meeting with Derbyshire Dales MP Sarah Dines: outcomes of a recent meeting between Cllrs and Sara Dines MP were **noted**. Noted issues raised/discussed including management and maintenance of cycle lanes and support for cycling; and approaches to visitor management.

Committees and Working Groups

217/20

Swimming Pool Committee: minutes of the meeting of 9th March 2021 were **received**.

- .1 An update from pool management on completion of snagging works was **noted**.
- .2 An update on the reopening of the pool was **noted**. Cllrs commended pool management. Noted there could be improvements in communication of changes to pool admissions and bookings with some suggestions about communicating with those residents who do not use email or social media – including publishing an item in the village newsletter, and posting an update on the HPC noticeboards.
- .3 To **consider** arrangements for May pool memberships: Cllrs noted some clarity was needed on proposals to cap the number of sessions. Concerns were expressed about access for those – particularly for Hathersage residents – who do not take up monthly membership. It was acknowledged that, between Covid restrictions on user numbers, and outdoor pools being among the first facilities to reopen, there was huge demand and, inevitably, disappointment for those not able to book a session. The challenges of managing admissions and bookings at this time was acknowledged. It was further acknowledged pool management should be 'allowed to get on with it'.

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- .4 To **consider** taking up membership of the Historic Pools of Britain: noted the RFO would liaise with pool staff.
- 218/20 **Recreation Committee:** minutes of the meeting of 16th March 2021 were **received**. Noted new members of the Friends of Hathersage Playing Field (FoHPF) who will contribute to planning new equipment for the playground. Alliance Environmental were commended for their recent work on repairs/maintenance. Noted Cllrs Bridget Hanley and Heather Rodgers continue to liaise on a funding application for adult exercise equipment.
- .1 To **approve** purchase and fitting by Alliance Environmental of a replacement part for the space net in the playground – cost of item £817.50 (excl VAT); purchase was **approved**.
- .2 **Confidential item:** Bowling Green access. The Chair provided a verbal update; noted further advice to be sought from the solicitor.
- 219/20 **Planning Committee:** noted no further meeting had been held since minutes of the meeting of 5th February were received at March HPC. Noted there are four current planning applications for consideration.
- 220/20 **Amenities Committee:** minutes of the meeting of 16th March 2021 were **received**. Noted a significant problem with litter particularly around HoH. Noted the Clerk was liaising with DDDC about an extra (weekend) collection. Cllrs highlighted that responsibility lay with local businesses to take care of their commercial waste including adequate measures to collect, store and dispose of waste. Suggested HPC writes to businesses – particularly those where a significant amount of rubbish is generated, to remind them of their responsibilities.
- .1 **Lease renewal:** Hathersage Booths – noted there was no further update – Clerk to prompt solicitor.
- .2 **Lease renewal:** Butcher’s car park – noted there was no further update – Clerk to prompt solicitor.
- .3 **Heart of Hathersage:** installation of the guard rail – noted a quote from T&C Williams was awaited.
- .4 **Footpaths report:** the quarterly report from the Footpaths Officers was **received**.
- .5 **Stepping stones:** ongoing issues with access and maintenance, and possible solutions, were **discussed**. Noted suggestions from the Amenities Committee including a proposal for a footbridge. Cllrs noted issues with the stones – being of irregular shape and size and also being ‘set in the wrong way’. Noted complications with the riverbed designated an SSSI. Cllrs highlighted potential dangers – particularly to children - in using the stones – and whether appropriate signage should be posted. Noted also the stones were not ‘user friendly’ for many walkers. Noted a PDNP Officer had been liaising with a village community group about the stepping stones; suggested HPC make contact. A number of Cllrs expressed support for a footbridge. Noted further discussion is needed.
- 221/20 **Transport Committee:** minutes of the meeting of 23rd March 2021 were **received**. Noted a presentation had been received from a representative of the 20sPlenty campaign. Cllrs referenced problems with cars racing on the Bamford straight – **agreed to include this on the agenda for the next meeting of the Transport Committee**. Cllrs referenced the community mobile speedwatch initiatives suggesting a need for it on the Castleton Road. **Clerk to draft a letter asking for a speed watch to be undertaken on the Castleton Road**. Cllrs noted the forthcoming election of the Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner in May and suggested candidates’ views on speeding, and measures to address speeding, be sought.
- .1 **Traffic survey/questionnaire:** Cllr Hill provided an update. Noted more work to do on collating and interpreting results/outcomes – full outcome to be shared widely. The Chair thanked Cllrs W Hanley and T Hill for their work and Cllr Furness for her support.
- .2 **TRO:** an update from DCC Highways was **noted**; agreed the update be shared more widely with residents.
- .3 **Covid highways measures:** an update from DCC Highways was noted; agreed the update be shared more widely with residents. Cllrs highlighted a potential issue with yellow lining by the new bus shelter. **Clerk to raise with DCC Highways**.
- 222/20 **HR Committee:** minutes of the meetings of 9th March 2021 were **received**.
- .1 **Noted** that all swimming pool staff have now been unfurloughed.
- 223/20 **Website Update:** there were no updates or reports from the Website Working Group.
- 224/20 **Burial Ground Committee:** there had been no recent meetings.

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- 225/20 **Clerk's Report/Correspondence**
.1 **Noted** a PDNP proposal to convene a working party to address visitor management in the Hope Valley area – to include representatives of HPC; Hope with Aston Parish Council; and Edale Parish Council.
- 226/20 **Village Matters**
.1 Noted issues relating to litter, and to BBQs, had already been discussed. Referencing last year's fire at the Dale Quarry, noted the CPS decision not to proceed with a prosecution for arson. **Agreed HPC ask the CPS to review the decision.**
.2 Noted the proposed road closure on Coggers Lane on 6 May 9.30-3.30 – the date for local elections – and the potential impact of those travelling to the polling station – noted the Chair had highlighted this with Cllr Twigg.
- 227/20 **Memorial Hall:** there had been no recent meetings of the Memorial Hall Management Committee. Noted the hall is currently in use as a vaccination centre, up to the end of August; there is a possibility they may be able to take bookings after 21 June.
- 228/20 DALC circulars and other items circulated were **noted**.
- 229/20 **Next meeting, and future meetings**
.1 **Noted** the next HPC online meeting will be on Tuesday 4th May 2021. Noted the Annual Meeting will also be held on this date – Annual Meeting to be held at 7.15pm followed by the Parish Council meeting at 7.30m.
.2 **Noted** legislation to conduct virtual meetings will expire on 7th May. Further noted St Michael's Primary School have agreed to host the monthly full HPC meetings from June.
- 230/20 To **note** items for the 4th May 2021 agenda – no additional, specific items were noted.

Meeting ended 9.45pm

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