**Draft minutes of the Full Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 4th February at 7pm at Hale Village Hall.**

**Present:** Cllrs Delves, Gemmell, Harrison, Hartas (Chair), Lavis and Mangan

**In attendance**: Mrs Amanda Johnson (Parish Clerk), and 12 members of the public.

Notifications had been received that the meeting was being video and audio recorded by a member of the public and audio recorded by a Parish Councillor.

**1. To receive any apologies for absence**: None.

**2. Declarations of interest and dispensations. To receive any Declarations of Interest from councillors in items on the agenda; to receive any written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests/other interest; to grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.** None received.

**3. To consider and approve the Minutes of the Hale Parish Council meeting held on 7th January and matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda.**

It was proposed by Cllr Hartas, seconded by Cllr Mangan and RESOLVED that the minutes be approved and signed.

**Matters arising:**

* Parish plan –HPC currently editing; have had one meeting need to arrange another.
* Benches – have been installed. Many thanks to Cllr Mangan and Brian Hartas for their work and to Frances Maynard and John Williamson for their assistance. Benches may require protecting with dragons teeth to ensure they are not damaged by cars. HPC have some available.
* Trees – Approval has been received from NFNPA and quotes will be obtained for remedial work to the oak and the felling of the ashes with dieback.
* APA – this will be held on April 21st. Cllr Gemmell to research possible speaker, Clerk to invite various village groups.
* Woodfalls Cross– Funding applications have been submitted to both HCC and The Lottery, results known in June. Cllr Harrison will investigate the usual wait time from HCC Highways for the work from order to completion.
* Broken stile – ongoing.
* Broken gate at cattle grid – has been reported and inspected. Awating works.
* Website – Many thanks to David Keniston for beginning work on the new HPC website. Cllrs to view and feedback.

4. **Members of the public are invited to address the council on agenda matters or raise any matters not otherwise on the agenda.**

**Cllr Hartas opened the meeting to members of the public.**

A Parishioner spoke in relation to the affordable housing meeting expressing how good it was and issue focussed. However due to particular remarks from a Councillor she felt picked on and harassed at being personally targeted in the meeting.

A Parishioner thanked HPC for organising the public meeting and felt it was very constructive. Membership of the CLT has since increased to 84 with others interested. He felt was it was disappointing to exclude non-parishioners and also disappointing that those opposed to affordable housing had to arrange a pre-meeting to pre-draft questions, believing it should have been a meeting to find out what people think and this was not truly reflected. The Parishioner questioned the purpose of recording meetings and felt it undermined trust and did not contribute to the healing of the village.

A Parishioner stated that to help heal the division in the village a Safari Supper has been organised on May 16th in aid of a Charity yet to be decided.

A Parishioner congratulated HPC on holding the recent public meeting which was very successful with good presentations and showed a wide variety of views. The village is polarised and this is now a good opportunity for HPC to find a solution to bridge the divide and find a suitable compromise.

**Cllr Hartas closed the meeting to members of the public.**

**5. To receive reports on matters of interest from external meeting attended.**

*WECA meeting 16th January*. Cllr Gemmell outlined the main facts reported in the meeting as minutes had been previously circulated. Ringwood Town Council have, as part of conservation scheme, purchased 20,000 trees (small saplings) which are available free to all villages for planting in open spaces and gardens. ***HPC to communicate this info to Parishioners.***

**6. To consider matter relating to the Cemetery including:**

*6.1 To consider proposal to begin improving levels in some areas of cemetery*. Cllr Mangan reported that an improvement in the levels of the cemetery (particularly in the old part) would benefit the maintenance, particularly mowing (currently mostly strimmed). Turf removed when the wildflower area is created could be redistributed to the unlevel areas. The Clerk will notify contacts of those graves affected prior to work commencing.

*6.2 To consider proposal for purchase of new notice board for cemetery.*

A new notice board would be approx £350.00. (A2 size). ***Cllr Hartas proposed, Cllr Lavis seconded and it was RESOLVED to proceed with purchase.***

**7. To consider the proposed Ward changes in the New Forest district and agree upon a response.**

Hyde PC have proposed joining with Woodgreen, Godshill, EH & I and Hale to form a new ward rather than some villages joining local Town Councils. Councillors agreed that keeping the New Forest villages together (similar to the Western Escarpment Group) seemed the best option and HPC will liaise with the other Parish councils and add views via the consultation process.

**8. To consider and determine next steps in relation to affordable housing including**. *8.1 Next steps from the public meeting held 17/01/20 – proposal for village survey.*

Discussion occurred regarding the meeting and the comments from Parishioners in Agenda item 4.

Cllr Hartas questioned Cllrs in regard to the pre-meeting held in Redlynch Social Club, some Cllrs were aware of the meeting but did not attend. ***It was felt that Parishioners believe HPC should take a lead in going forward and it was RESOLVED to do this by 1) preparing a well- designed and delivered survey and 2) holding further discussions with the CLT.***

A formal complaint against Cllr Gemmell was received from a Parishioner regarding his comments at the public meeting, this will be referred to the Personnel and Standards Committee and Cllr Harrison was co-opted as the third member of the committee

*8.2 To receive a report from HVCLT.*

The CLT are still awaiting a decision from NFDC regarding the funding for the planning application.

Jack Ansell (a non-Parishioner who attended Hale Primary School) has been appointed as the 7th Director.

**9. To consider the following tree works applications:**

CONS/20/0035 Briar Patch Hale Purlieu Fell 1 x Oak

TPO/20/0037 Cuckoos Wicket Hatchet Green Fell 2 x Ash Tree

***It was RESOLVED to accept the decision of the Tree Officer.***

**10. To consider the following planning applications:**

19/00955/FULL Gatehouse, Hale Road, Hale

Proposed Works : I no. Outbuilding; creation of dormer window, alterations to doors and windows; rooflights; replacement balcony; porch; cladding; roof lantern.

***After much discussion it was RESOLVED by 5 votes to 1 to support the approval of the planning request believing it to be a well designed development which could be screened by vegetation if required.***

**11. To consider correspondence (1) received before 29th January 2020 and (2) any urgent correspondence received after the agenda was finalised not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda**

*Correspondence list – received prior to Jan 30th 2020.*

Jan 8th NFNPA Habitat Mitigation Scheme Proposals - Noted

Jan 8th HCC – Library Service Consultation - Noted

Jan 18th Parishioner Letter- referred to Personnel and Standards Committee.

Jan 19th Parishioner Letter - noted

Jan 24th NALC Chief Executives Bulletin- circulated

Jan 21s New Forest Disability Info Service – Letter of thanks for grant

Jan 23rd Hampshire 2050 Parish Council Event 09/01/20

Jan 23rd Victim Support – Letter of thanks for grant

Jan 22nd Parishioner Letter - noted

Jan 20th WECA Steering Group Meeting 16/01/20 – Minutes circulated

Received after agenda published :-

Feb 4th Parishioner email - noted

**12 To receive the Clerks report**

***Training –*** The clerk has enrolled for the online ILCA course and is attending a HALC Introduction to VAT course on Feb 13th. (Cost £60)

***Banking –*** The Clerk registered for banking online for delegated access only.

***Hall Fees -*** Village Hall fees have increased from Jan 2020 to £20.00 per HPC meeting, £30.00 for the AGM and £7/hour for additional hires.

***NFDC - waste and recycling review*** -NFDC is looking at how it collects waste and recycling and is seeking the views of residents by carrying out a house to house survey in Jan/Feb. Cllr Hartas suggested investigating further into recycling plans as the amount of different items able to be recycled is fewer than other areas

***Cemetery -*** Cllr Mangan and Clerk met with Cutting Edge to discuss the maintenance contract; no changes will be made to the contract this year. The volunteer group will continue to carry out work to enhance the cemetery and also take on some routine tidying tasks e.g. moving flower holders which are often disturbed by deer. This, along with the levelling of some areas, aims to make the maintenance tasks easier. The policy requires updating to include the maintenance of the plots and to ensure all plot holders are aware of any changes e.g. the removal of tributes/memorials left on graves after a certain period of time.

**13. To review the accounts for the month of January 2020 and record the balances.**

The accounts were approved and the bank balance was recorded as £6319.00 in the Business account as of 9th Jan and £10,471.84 in the Treasurers Accounts as of the 28th Jan.

**14. To consider the following payment requests.**

12.01.20 Hale village Hall – hire costs for 2019 £313.00

03.12.19 Amanda Johnson – Office expenses £48.65

24.01.20 Bournemouth Water - Cemetery £14.86

24.02.20 Amanda Johnson - Clerks Salary (February) £431.74

***Cllr Hartas proposed, Cllr Mangan seconded and it was RESOLVED to approve all payments*.**

**15. Any other business.**

Cllr Mangan reported that although infrastructure has been improved the level of Broadband in the village received seems to be varied. Suggested seeking feedback from Parishioners regarding the service they receive.

The next North West quadrant meeting is on 9th March in Fordingbridge Town Hall.

**16. To note the date of the next meeting at Hale Village Hall on Tuesday 3rd March at 7.30pm.**

**The meeting closed at 9pm.**