

Minutes of the Hale Parish Council Annual Meeting held on Tuesday 1st July 2025 at 7pm in Hale Village Hall (Downstairs)

Councillors Present: Councillors Kyle, Lavis (Chair) and Vickery.

In attendance: The clerk and 2 members of the public.

25.62 TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: - Councillors Donnell, Gemmell, Gillmon and NFDC Cllr Janet Richards.

25.63 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - To receive declarations of interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda (in accordance with the Localism Act 2011). None declared.

25.64 MINUTES

25.64.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6th May 2025.

25.64.2 Note matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda.

Harry's Meadow – The operators are advising that dog poo should not be picked up in the New Forest; the Harry's Meadow website states - *it is best to let nature take its course*. This is not the correct advice and HPC has contacted NFDC but this area is not within their remit. The clerk will continue to make enquiries.

25.65 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Two parishioners were included in discussions relating to item 25.66.

25.66 HARRY'S MEADOW - The campsite called Harry's Meadow that is set within the grounds of Hale Park will operate from 4th July until 31st August. HPC and local residents are concerned that the operators are advertising that fire pits are available, which may be in breach of conditions, and would not be advisable during such dry conditions. HPC will contact the NPA to clarify this and other conditions of the planning decision notice. HPC will invite David Illsley (NPA) to the next meeting in September to review the campsite operations over the summer.

25.67 EXTERNAL MEETINGS - To receive reports from external meetings attended.

School Visit – Cllrs Lavis and Vickery visited Hale school on 30th June to see the amenities and how the school functions day to day. The school will be invited to the next meeting in September.

Breamore Railway Line Improvements Open evening May 20th – Cllr Vickery attended. The National Park Authority and HCC are working together to improve the trail, for people, wildlife and heritage. Cllr Vickery will be volunteering on this project.

Neighbourhood Tasking Group 20th May - Cllr Vickery attended. A round up of crimes and incidents in the local area was reported. Operation Snap and Disc are online tools which are very effective for individuals and groups to report incidents, however it is imperative that footage e.g. dash cam is not shared on social media as this makes it invalid.

25.68 TREES AT HATCHET GREEN Remedial works (to ensure the safety of the trees) are required on some trees around Hatchet Green. A quote has been received for £700 from ADS Treecare, this was approved and the works will be carried out. Two further trees require works and a further quote will be sought. It was agreed that in the future all the trees which are the responsibility of HPC will be included in the Service Level Agreement with NFDC and be surveyed by the NFDC Tree Officer. Fairy doors – Hale School would like to place fairy doors on some trees around Hatchet Green to connect with the local area and community. This was agreed.

25.69 RISK ASSESSMENTS: Risk assessments were carried out for all of HPC assets, land managed by HPC and financial processes. No immediate risks were identified. Ongoing maintenance works will be carried out by the Lengthsman and a quote will be obtained for the cleaning of the bus shelter.

25.70 SPEED LIMIT REMINDERS: Solar panels purchased for the SLR's were supplied which did not fit correctly. Cllr Gemmell is currently liaising with the company to resolve the matter. Further sleeves/posts to be placed along Tethering Drove and Hale Purlieu to hold the SLRs have been ordered and will be installed by HCC.

25.71 INSURANCE POLICY It was **RESOLVED** to renew the insurance policy with Hiscox Insurance through A.J. Gallagher Insurance Brokers at a cost of £495.36.

25.72 FINANCE

25.72.1

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the accounts for the first quarter of 25/26 and note the following balances - Community account £1,114.33, the Commercial Instant Access account £3,514.89 and the 32 Day Notice Account 20,326.72.

25.72.2 MONTHLY PAYMENTS - It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments.

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VAT	PAYMENT METHOD
Woodgreen Community Shop	APA Costs	£53.84		Bank Transfer
Jeff Butt & Co	Internal audit and payroll	£380.00		Bank Transfer
Pennon Water Services	Cemetery water	£34.59		Direct Debit
Amanda Johnson	Salary – June and July	N/A		Standing Order
HMRC	PAYE – April- June	£54.95.		Bank Transfer
Cutting Edge	Cemetery Maintenance – May and June	£190.00 each month		Bank Transfer
Cllr Vickery	Travel expenses	£30.60		Bank Transfer
A.J. Gallagher	Annual Insurance	£495.36		Bank Transfer
Lloyds Bank	Monthly bank fees	£4.25 each month		Bank transfer

25.73 CORRESPONDENCE - The following correspondence was noted. Any actions in *italics*.

13/05/2025 NFDC – Cllr Sleep elected as NFDC chairman.

14/05/2025 NFDC/NFALC – Local Government Reorganisation – slides from meeting.

16/05/2025 HALC Newsletter

19/05/2025 Forestry England Press Release – Upgraded and accessible trail opens in the New Forest.

20/05/2025 New Forest Association – May Newsletter

20/05/2025 NFDC supports MP's call to safeguard Forest identity in Local Government Reorganisation.

22/05/2025 NPA – Share your views on the Forest.

29/05/2025 NPA- New forest insects given new lease of life thanks to novel approach.

02/06/2025 Report from HCC Leader Nick Adams-King

03/06/2025 Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner – May Newsletter

07/06/2025 Waymark – June edition

12/06/2025 NPA – Longer days in the New Forest.

25/06/2025 HALC- June/July Newsletter.

30/06/2025 NFDC Leader Jill Cleary- keep the Forest whole – Have your say on Local Government Reorganisation.

HPC will respond to the consultation, Cllrs unanimously agreed to propose Option 1. The clerk will submit the consultation. All parishioners are encouraged to respond to the consultation which will be placed on the website.

Parishioner emails

17/06/2025 – Parishioner email regarding speeding along Forest Road. *The clerk will respond.*

21/06/2025 – 2 Parishioner emails regarding overgrown footpath/bridleway (Saughtrees to Hale farm). *The Lengthsman will carry out clearance work on 4th July.*

25.74 ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Lengthsman – The Lengthsman will be working in the village on 4th July and jobs will include clearing the footpath 102/14.

Horses on Forest Road - In May 6 horses escaped though the fence of a property along Forest Road and ended up on the Highway. HPC has taken advice from the Verderers regarding this matter.

National Grid Pylon Refurbishment - HPC has been notified that the second side of the pylons will be replaced in Spring 2026.

25.75 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 2nd September 2025 in Hale Village Hall (Downstairs)

The meeting ended at 8.25pm.

Signed by

Date