

These are the unadopted Crookham Village Parish Council Minutes of the 8 January 2024, held at 7.45 pm in the WI Hall, The Street, Crookham Village. Please refer to the Minutes of the February 2024 meeting for any amendments.

Present: Cllr. Simon Ambler (Chairman)
Cllr. Julia Ambler
Cllr. Philip Ashton
Cllr. Andrew Friend
Cllr. David Jackson
Cllr. Dr. Indra Sinka
Mrs. Angela Sayers (RFO)
Mrs. Carol Leversha (Clerk)

In attendance HCC Cllr. Stephen Parker and HDC Cllr. Makepeace-Browne and three residents of the parish.

MIN.001/24 APOLOGIES

Cllr. Bradley sent apologies due to an injury. Apologies accepted.

MIN.002/24 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

MIN.003/24 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 4 DECEMBER 2023

The Chairman referred to these page by page. Corrections were as follows - page 2 Min. 190/23 (ii) delete "September" insert "October", page 4 Min.191/23(i) "Lavendar" should be spelt "Lavender". Min. 179/23 to Min.194/23 were then agreed as a true record.

RESOLVED: The Minutes of the meeting of 4 December 2023 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

MIN.004/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ANY MATTER ON THE AGENDA & DELEGATION OF DISPENSATION TO THE PROPER OFFICER (CLERK)

The Chairman advised Members to consider whether they had any disclosable interest in matters on the agenda and if so to declare them now or at the appropriate point on the agenda.

MIN.005/24 CONSIDER CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

The Chairman reminded Members of their obligation to consider crime and disorder implications on any decision they might make at this meeting.

MIN.006/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (maximum of 3 minutes per speaker).

The Chairman asked permission to adjourn the meeting for public participation. One resident mentioned he was unable to source a map for Cllr. Julia Ambler in relation to the Conservation Area refresh. He asked Cllr. Parker about the 3 days closure of Crookham Road following which a huge pot hole had appeared and he felt the work had been shoddy. Cllr. Parker asked him to report the pothole via the HCC site and when he receives a reference number to pass it onto Cllr. Parker who will follow up on it. The resident also asked about Nyasaland and the possibility of an eviction notice which apparently HDC say it cannot issue. Further debate elicited that this should be an enforcement action as the caravan is parked there without planning permission. Cllr. Parker said SSEN are doing some works to renew the main conductor cable and part of that will require digging a trench towards Odiham, from the end of Crondall Road junction with the A287, starts mid Feb until the end of March. Malthouse Close is to be closed for one day for resurfacing but this may be delayed due to the current adverse weather conditions. Cllr. Makepeace-Browne said with reference to the dog waste bin issue at Hareshill – she has referred the resident back to Berkeley's and its Management Company. Regarding the Silvester Way land issue she believes she may have resolved the problem as it appears the land is owned by Hart Council. There are still quite a few parcels of land owned by developers which the Hart officer is endeavouring to collate into one parcel to then transfer over the whole in one action. She will liaise with Cllrs. Jackson and Julia Ambler. In her capacity as a resident one Member raised the problem of flood water entering her house from The Street and stated that contact was made to the helpline at HDC and the person on the end of the phone was very unhelpful and said residents should make their own arrangements. Referral to another telephone number went straight to voicemail. Cllr. Makepeace-Browne asked for further information outside of this meeting. Referral was made to the balancing pond overflowing on Brandon Road but this was down to the deluge and the levels had cleared by the following day – request water company to check the overflow in case the outlet was obstructed. The Chairman then re-convened the meeting.

MIN.007/24 NEWSLETTER

Cllr. Jackson said the Newsletter was complete and the target date for collection is 19 January and he would appreciate help with volunteers delivering as soon as possible after that date. Cllr. Julia Ambler offered to deal with the distributions to volunteers. The Clerk asked if Members had considered the use of a commercial delivery company, details had been supplied, but Members preferred to continue with the usual method on this occasion.

MIN.008/24 HARESHILL COMMUNITY BUILDING (update)

Cllr. Julia Ambler advised there is a further meeting on 18 January 2024 and it is hoped that the majority of scaffolding etc will have been removed soon thus allowing site visits by Members and staff. The Chairman said we would also chase up HDC to see where the legal department have reached in relation to transfer of the Centre.

MIN.009/24 CONSERVATION AREA (update)

Cllr. Julia Ambler advised that further comments have been received and she is endeavouring to reshape in accordance with suggestions. It now appears that it will be March before the final document can go to Cabinet. The Chairman said that in all the comments received there are no "show stoppers".

MIN.010/24 SOLAR PV & HEAT PUMP PROJECT (update)

The Chairman advised we are still awaiting the scoping project brief which has been delayed. Cllr. Friend said we need an expert like this consultant to get the package together to submit a bid. The Clerk confirmed that the level of expertise in this field is still sparse and in the scheme of things our project is tiny. After further debate Members confirmed they were content to remain with this expert. Still awaiting action from Npower in relation to an Export Meter and we await the issue of a DNO (which can take some months) for the Zebon Community Centre.

MIN.011/24 FINANCE**(i) Report of the RFO**

The RFO provided the following reports to the Council.

November 2023 Accounts - Notes**Income**

- 1) Bank Interest – Interest of £622.43 received on our Business Reserve Account

Expenditure

- 1) Professional Fee includes a payment to Menzies for £450 for VAT advice on the July – August - Sept 23 return.
- 2) Electricity – no charge this month as credit note received of net £67.66. This is due to the flexible purchasing reconciliation done by Hampshire County Council for our laser energy contract.
- 3) The first payment has been made to Tectonic for £44.28 for our new ZCC bookings system - Lemon Bookings
- 4) A payment of £250 has been made to Streetwise Cleaning and support for graffiti in our play areas
- 5) *S137 - total of £510 made up as follows: -
Chairman Allowance - donation of £60 to Hart Foodbank – BACS 28th November 23
Grants £250 – Hart Citizens Advice Bureau – BACS 28th November 2023
Grants £200 – Zebon Copse Residents Association – BACS 28th November 2023

Reports Provided to members

The RFO provided the following reports to the Council: -

November 2023

Balance sheet at Year End 30/11/23

Income & Expenditure Account for the month of November 2023 as detailed below.

Summary of Actual expenditure against budget for 01/04/23 to 30/11/23 with detailed notes against each cost.

Payments made in the month reconciliation – November 2023

(ii) Payments made in November 2023

Date	No	Name	net	Category
30/11/2023	DD	Orange Pixel	45.00	Website / Hosting
01/11/2023	DD	Hart District Council	524.00	Rates
15/11/2023	DD	Bank line	9.20	Bank charges
16/11/2023	DD	Intuit	42.00	Account Software
16/11/2023	DD	Castle Water	209.87	Water Rates
15/11/2023	DD	vodafone	74.05	Telephone/ Broadband
28/11/2023	DD	Total Energies	174.77	Gas
22/11/2023	DD	Payroll	5643.32	Payroll
28/11/2023	BACS	Comfort building Services Ltd	169.00	Electrics & Plumbing
28/11/2023	BACS	Streetwise Cleaning & Support	225.00	Play Area Maintenance
28/11/2023	BACS	Sunshine Commercial Services Ltd	1090.29	Ground maintenance
28/11/2023	BACS	K M Electrics	35.00	Electrics & Plumbing

28/11/2023	BACS	Tectonic	44.28	Software
28/11/2023	BACS	Hart FC	20.00	customer refund
28/11/2023	BACS	Source Supplies	33.84	Cleaning Materials
28/11/2023	BACS	Menzies	450.00	Professional advice
28/11/2023	BACS	Larkstel Ltd	449.00	Refuse
28/11/2023	BACS	Citizens Advice Hart	250.00	S137 Grants
28/11/2023	BACS	Town & Country Cleaning Limited	1058.27	Cleaning Materials
28/11/2023	BACS	20i	5.99	Computer/web/hosting
28/11/2023	BACS	Zebon Copse Residents Association	200.00	S137 Grants
28/11/2023	BACS	Hampshire County Council	896.69	Street maintenance
28/11/2023	BACS	Hart Foodbank	60.00	Chairman's allowance
28/11/2023	BACS	SLCC	183.00	Subscription
28/11/2023	BACS	Phil's Pest Control	60.00	communal maintenance
28/11/2023	BACS	Source Supplies	49.80	Cleaning Materials
		Total	12002.37	

**Crookham Village Parish Council
Income & Expenditure Account
November 2023**

	Total
Income	
Bank Interest Earned	622.43
Hire of Facilities	5,234.93
Hire of Pitches	636.72
Total Income	£ 6,494.08

Expenses	
Asset Maintenance and Repairs	2,271.98
Miscellaneous	5.00
Office Expenses	95.27
Professional Fees	501.20
Property Maintenance	1,830.13
Property Services	982.69
Salaries	5,643.32
*Sections 137	510.00
Subscriptions	183.00
Total Expenditure	£12,022.59

Notes

- Petty Cash Expenditure in the month £40.22
- Customer Refund £20.00
- Direct Debit authorisation – minute reference (Min. 027/23)
- *S137 the Council in accordance with its powers under Section 137 & 139 of the LGA 1972 should incur the above expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area of its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with said expenditure.

RESOLVED: The report of the RFO was agreed.

(iii) Pathway lining quotes and update ref double yellow lines

Cllr Jackson advised that he had been approached by a member of ZCRA who wanted the double yellow lines on Danvers Drive to be refreshed and he now had confirmation that ZCRA are prepared to fund this work. This would be a joint project billed separately, but managed by CVPC. The yellow lining would require a section of the road be closed for a short time and both renewal sections would need to be swept by our Lenthsmen. It is expected this will be done after March.

A quote of £800 plus VAT had been received for the pathway white lining requested by this Council.

RESOLVED: AC Lining quotation was accepted.

(iv) ZCC Entrance signage quote

Awaiting a quote from Kraken Print. The Clerk has sent a chasing email.

(v) Newsletter quote – printing and delivery

Printing costs of £432. Any surplus copies will be left with the Hareshill and Albany Park sales offices.

RESOLVED: Imprint quotation of £432 approved.

(vi) Grant Application – Fleet & District Carnival Association

After a short debate Members agreed to support.

RESOLVED: A grant of £250 be paid in April 2024 (24/25 budget).

MIN.012/24 PLANNING

(i) Report of the Planning Committee

Cllr. Jackson presented his report. The Hart Parking Standard document has now been published and it was notable that our inputs had been rejected. It was stated that their parking policy aimed to discourage use of the car, this despite the lack of public transport in much of the area. The standard of quality control/proofreading of Hart Planning's reports and decision notices also continues to disappoint in some cases.

RESOLVED: The Report of the Planning Committee was agreed.

(ii) HDC 23/00823/FUL – Installation of a battery energy storage system with associate infrastructure and works including access to the public highway.

Land at Ormersfield Farm, Crondall Road, Crookham Village.

Cllr. Jackson introduced the application and invited debate. After a very in-depth discussion Members supported Cllr. Jackson's response to the Consultation. He believes it has not adequately addressed the fire risk and this should be done by a professional. It is not clear that access would be available to both water towers (Large bottles) in the event of a battery fire. There was also mention of a bridge over the Canal which didn't seem to tie in with the Hart response. Our earlier suggestion about a banksman to control traffic rather than a large visibility splay should be reiterated.

RESOLVED: Objection

Revised 8.12.23 Proposed Site Plan

Battery units only 2m apart with operational area in close proximity to adjacent vegetation leaving large area of the site empty.

Site Specific Risk Engagement Document

Input from the Fire Service is limited to statements of policy rather than assessment of proposal. Detailed assessment of proposal against policy, plus formal approval by Fire Service, should be required before approval could be considered. In particular, spacing of the battery units is much less than the 6m mentioned. Access to the western water tower from site entrance likely to be obstructed by site of a battery fire, especially if it spreads to adjacent battery units. It also suggests that fire service response will be limited to water on adjacent areas leaving batteries to burn out. Access to adjacent woodland at risk of spreading fire not addressed.

Street Scene

Effect on the street scene in the Canal Conservation Area remains to be addressed. Highways may be happy with proposal from their perspective, but removal of roadside vegetation to satisfy their requirements would have a serious detrimental effect on the street scene. Full consideration should be given to the option of requiring a banksman as proposed by the applicant to remove the need for wide visibility splays.

(iii) HDC 23/002578/HOU – installation of a dropped kerb

21 Hitches Lane, Crookham Village, Fleet GU51 5SW

Cllr. Jackson introduced the application and invited debate. After a short discussion Members supported Cllr. Jackson's response. There was concern about concreting over an area and Members wished the applicant to be reminded it must be impermeable.

RESOLVED: No objections and raise concern about impermeable surface.

MIN.013/24 HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATH MATTERS

(i) Lea Green Paths (update)

Members were supportive of upgrading this route. Ask Berkeley's for the name of their officer dealing with the upgrade under the S106 document. Then approach Fleet Town Council and gauge interest from them for approaching Berkeley's with a view to getting the FTC and CVPC section resurfaced by the contractor who will carry out the upgrade.

(ii) Dropped Kerb – north side of The Street & Hitches Lane (update)

Cllr. Parker confirmed this is ongoing but will be long term to implement.

(iii) F/P 5 – Drainage Issues

It is not possible to check whether this issue was resolved due to the recent inclement weather.

MIN.014/24 MANAGEMENT OF COUNCIL FACILITIES & LAND

(i) Report from Centre Managers

Report noted. Still awaiting the tile and bird items to be remedied by solar panel company.

Cllr. Jackson reminded Members that part of the Watery Lane development gain would give the Centre another 14 spaces. The Chairman said the planning permission is still current and it would double the size of the overspill car park.

MIN.015/24 INFORMATION SHARING & AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Cllr. Ashton will be attending a Resilience workshop tomorrow as Lead Member for the Emergency Response actions. He will compile a report for the next meeting.

It was noted that the turning area for The Bawn was now being used for regular parking of a vehicle against the planning permission grant.

Cllr. Ashton advised he had kept the drains near his property clear of leaves and runoff of water had not been impeded. However, he would like “Flooding” as an Agenda item for the February meeting. Cllrs. Jackson and Simon Ambler will be attending the next HDAPTC meeting on 23 January and will be speaking to the two issues raised by this Council. The Chairman asked did anyone wish to raise any other matters.

There had been concerns raised in relation to a company appearing to be a legitimate address for a parish council and the Chairman raised the question of getting .GOV.UK addresses for the Council. He will ask those Councils with gov.uk addresses what is involved as it is understood that some of our content might require changing to comply with the regulations associated with such sites.

The meeting closed a 8.50 pm.

Meetings for 2024 will be as follows:

WI HALL 5 February - 4 March - 8 April - 13 May – **Annual General Meeting**

HARESHILL	3 June	WI	1 July
HARESHILL	2 Sept	WI	7 Oct
HARESHILL	4 Nov	WI	2 Dec

Notice of Election for 2 May 2024 will be posted on 22 March and that is when Purdah kicks in.

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Monday the 20 May 2024 venue etc to be decided.