



These are the unadopted Crookham Village Parish Council Minutes of the 13 May 2024, held at 7.45 pm in the WI Hall, The Street, Crookham Village. Please refer to the Minutes of the June 2024 meeting for any amendments.

- Present:** Cllrs Simon Ambler (Chairman), Julia Ambler, Phillip Ashton, Peter Bradley, Andrew Friend, David Jackson, Dr Indra Sinka
- In attendance:** Angela Sayers (RFO), Carol Leversha (Clerk), Anna Wierzbinska (Assistant Clerk), Hampshire County Council (HCC) Cllrs Stephen Parker, Tony Clarke and 3 members of the public.
- MIN.067/24** **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**
Simon Ambler – Proposed by Andrew Friend seconded by Dr Indra Sinka.
RESOLVED: Simon Ambler elected Chairman for the coming year.
- MIN.068/24** **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
None.
- MIN.069/24** **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
Chairman advised that under FINANCE the "Opt to Tax" for Hareshill Community Centre (HHCC) would be dealt with due to the need to have made a decision before acquisition of HHCC. Apologies were tendered by the Clerk for this omission.
Chairman advised that one thing he wished to do for his term of office is for the council to focus on community involvement and local community groups, which will also allow CVPC to gain more exposure.
- MIN.070/24** **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 8 APRIL 2024**
The Chairman referred to these page by page.
RESOLVED: The Minutes of the meeting of 8 April 2024 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.
- MIN.071/24** **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**
Andrew Friend proposed by Cllr Julia Ambler and seconded by Cllr Dr Indra Sinka.
RESOLVED: Andrew Friend elected Vice Chairman for the coming year.
- MIN.072/24** **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.073/24** **CONSIDER CRIME AND 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.074/24** **CO-OPTION TO FILL VACANCIES (Zebon Ward, Crookham Village)**
The Chairman invited nominations for these two vacancies. David Jackson had formally requested co-option for the Zebon Ward and has been proposed by Cllr Andrew Friend and seconded by Cllr Julia Ambler. There being no other nominations, David Jackson was duly co-opted to the council and signed his declaration of office.
RESOLVED: Cllr David Jackson co-opted to the council.
- MIN.075/24** **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (maximum of 3 minutes per speaker).**
Cllr S Parker said that HCC are now looking over the consultation responses to the budget. Cllr T Clarke was asked to investigate where enforcement was in relation to the encroachment onto a green corridor on the Zebon estate. Cllr Clarke will provide further update in due course.
The Chairman then closed the meeting to the public.
- MIN.076/24** **APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE PLANNING CTTEE**
Cllrs David Jackson, Simon Ambler, Phillip Ashton and Peter Bradley confirmed they wish to serve on this Cttee.
RESOLVED: Cllrs David Jackson, Simon Ambler, Phillip Ashton, and Peter Bradley appointed to the Planning Cttee.
- MIN.077/24** **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF PLANNING CTTEE**



- Cllr David Jackson proposed by Cllr Simon Ambler and seconded by Cllr Phillip Ashton.
RESOLVED: Cllr David Jackson appointed as Chairman.
- MIN.078/24** **APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF FINANCE & HR CTTEE**
Cllrs Andrew Friend, Julia Ambler, Dr Indra Sinka and Simon Ambler confirmed they wish to serve on this cttee.
RESOLVED: Cllrs Andrew Friend, Julia Ambler, Dr Indra Sinka and Simon Ambler appointed to the F & HR Cttee.
- MIN.079/24** **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE & HR CTTEE**
Cllr Julia Ambler proposed by Cllr Dr. Indra Sinka, seconded by Cllr Andrew Friend.
RESOLVED: Cllr Julia Ambler appointed as Chairman.
- MIN.080/24** **APPOINTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT & FLOODING LEAD MEMBER**
RESOLVED: Cllr Peter Bradley appointment confirmed.
- MIN.081/24** **APPOINTMENT OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE LEAD MEMBER**
RESOLVED: Cllr Phillip Ashton appointment confirmed.
- MIN.082/24** **APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**
(i) Parishes Welfare Trust (formerly Fleet/ Crondall & Crookham)
RESOLVED: Cllr Wendy Makepeace-Brown appointment confirmed.
(ii) Cottrell Almshouses Trust
RESOLVED: Cllr Julia Ambler appointment confirmed.
(iii) Hart District Association of Parish & Town Councils
RESOLVED: Cllrs David Jackson and Simon Ambler appointments confirmed.
(iv) Hart & Rushmoor Transport Forum
RESOLVED: Cllr David Jackson appointment confirmed.
- MIN.083/24** **SUBSCRIPTIONS DURING THE COMING YEAR**
(i) Hampshire Association of Local Councils
(ii) Open Space Society
(iii) Society of Local Council Clerks
(iv) Information Commissioners Office
(v) Parish Online
RESOLVED: All the above subscriptions for coming year agreed by Members.
- MIN.084/24** **WHATSAPP GROUP FOR MEMBERS**
Cllr Ashton spoke briefly about this proposal, and it was received with enthusiasm. The WhatsApp group will be set up by the Assistant Clerk and it will only be used to alert Members to issues which require immediate attention or response.
RESOLVED: CVPC WhatsApp group agreed.
Post meeting note: A policy will be brought to the July meeting for approval.
- MIN.085/24** **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS 2.3 THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING (APM)**
The Chairman explained that an APM is not a legal obligation upon a parish council although this has always been called by CVPC. At the last meeting concern was expressed at the low turnout of residents and it was felt that using the HHCC for a residents meeting would be more productive. It could also be the opportunity to showcase the new centre.
RESOLVED: Standing order 2.3 (The APM) is suspended for this year.
- MIN.086/24** **HARESHILL COMMUNITY BUILDING (update)**
Cllr Julia Ambler explained that the LR document had a clause which included an obligation to be under a management company. The council had been unhappy with this, and it now transpires that Hart council are also unhappy with such a clause and have raised objections with the developers. As a result, the official opening ceremony on 16 May is now on hold until this is resolved. The



MIN.087/24

Chairman also advised that the final connections for broadband, CCTV, delivery of furniture etc were on hold until transfer date for the centre is known.

SOLAR PV & HEAT PUMP PROJECT (update)

The Clerk advised that the gentleman who had been engaged originally to carry this project forward and had then had to withdraw had generously advised that the council could use the work he had begun to assist with engaging another consultant. Also, one of the energy groups had discovered a local resident who might be able to assist, and the Clerk will follow this up in the coming weeks. In reply to the smart meters issue, the Chairman was advised that one named member of EON is chasing this up, but it is still unclear whether the current meter can do input and output or whether a new meter is required.

MIN.088/24

FINANCE

(i) Petty Cash – Float Increase

RFO advised that the current cash flow limit is £150.00 and proposed an increase to £300.00.

RESOLVED: Members approved an increase of petty cash to £300.00

(ii) Acceptance of Cash and Cheques

RESOLVED: Members agreed to stop accepting cheques and cash for the settlement of invoices from 1st September 2024 and only accept payments by BACS.

(iii) Appointment of Auditor

The RFO requested that Wettone Matthews be retained. The RFO advised members that the current internal auditor, Phil Du Gay, would be retiring at the end of June 2024 and another member of staff would be appointed internal auditor for 24/25.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to retain Wettone Matthews.

(iv) Insurance Renewal

The Clerk, Assistant Clerk and RFO had read the documents and the Clerk and Assistant Clerk met with the insurers to raise all queries which were satisfied. The premium for the year is £8763.66 (before the addition of Hareshill) and the RFO advised she had budgeted £15k in total for 24/25 (which includes Hareshill). The RFO advised Members that the insurers had applied index linking of 9% for the building and 6% for everything else. The Clerk, Assistant Clerk and RFO had reviewed the documents and reported to Members on the risk management and insurance cover required. All the insurance documentation and email trail were sent to Members, via drop box, prior to this meeting so that Members could review.

RESOLVED: Insurance renewal approved for 2024/2025.

(v) DWCV Horticultural Society Grant Application

RESOLVED: Members agreed to grant of £200.00 for DWCV Horticultural Society

(vi) Annual Review of Direct Debits

Hart District Council
GoCardless/ Orange Pixel
Vodafone
Npower
Total Energies
Natwest Bankline
Castlewater
Intuit (Quickbooks)
NEST Pension Scheme

RESOLVED: The above payment by Direct Debit were agreed.

(vii) Opt to Tax Hareshill Centre

Cllr Julia Ambler introduced an item. It's been confirmed that all Members had read the supporting papers for this somewhat



complex matter. A great deal of time had been spent by officers and her on going over the options.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to Opt to tax Hareshill Community Centre from the date of acquisition.

MIN.089/24

PLANNING

(i)

Report of the Planning Committee

Cllr Ashton introduced the report. He drew Members attention to planning application ref 23/00823/FUL, and the fact that HDC ignored the offer by the applicant to have banksman present for the vehicle movements thus resulting in the widening of the entrance. In addition, Crondall had raised concerns about the fire risks associated with the site.

RESOLVED: The report of the Planning Cttee was accepted and signed by the Chairman.

(ii)

Planning Application 24/00869/HOU

Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of an orangery style rear extension.

At 31 Swan Way Church Crookham Fleet Hampshire GU51 5TU

Cllr Ashton introduced this application and invited debate. Members had no objections.

RESOLVED: No objection.

MIN.090/24

HIGHWAY & FOOTPATH MATTERS

(i)

Lea Green Footpath (update)

Cllr Parker confirmed this is still with officers and we are still awaiting the report from the officers. He will provide further update once he receives it.

(ii)

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

Cllr Parker raised this with the officers following the Lea Green meeting and is still waiting for further update.

(iii)

F/P 5 – Drainage Issues (update)

Item is still pending. The Clerk confirmed that Cllr Jackson was still dealing with this and had sent photo evidence of the work done by HCC to the RoW officer. No reply yet.

MIN.091/24

MANAGEMENT OF COUNCIL FACILITIES & LAND AMENITIES

(i)

Report from Centre Managers

RESOLVED: Members reviewed the ZCC CM report, and it was accepted.

MIN.092/24

INFORMATION SHARING & AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

(i)

Update ref HDAPTC meeting 16 April 2024

The Chairman advised that meeting was poorly attended. There was an update about the change of structure of the Basingstoke Canal management, disbanding the JMC to streamline it and make it more cost effective. Cllr Parker advised that there were to be two organisations going forward with the county council being the decision makers and an advisory body – likely to include representatives of the riparian councils who also funded the Canal. The Chairman advised that the speedwatch for the village and Church Crookham is looking for volunteers.

(ii)

Set date for “Direction of Travel” meeting.

8 July 2024 at ZCC meeting room 7.45pm.

Meeting closed at 9 PM.