

**Minutes of a meeting of Horrabridge Parish Council held in the Village Hall
On Tuesday 10th October 2023 at 7.30pm
(also available at www.horrabridge-pc.gov.uk)**

Present: Cllr M Huda (Chairman), Cllr E Hemsil, Cllr T Lear, Cllr Emptage, Cllr Mansfield, Cllr C Edmondson, Cllr D Farrar, Cllr Moorhead, Cllr Glinn

In Attendance: Cllr Viney WDBC
Cllr West WDBC
Caroline Ellis – Clerk
2 Members of the public

120:23/24 Apologies for Absence – Apologies tendered by Cllr Roche was approved by the Council.

121:23/24 Apologies without Absence – The Council noted Cllr Hussey was absent.

122:23/24 Declarations of Interest – None

123:23/24 Public Participation – A member of the public raised her concerns that the Council were using weedkiller in the village. Cllr Huda replied that the Council do not use weedkiller but if it was required a licenced contractor would be used.

124:23/24 Confirmation of the minutes of the Parish meeting held on Tuesday 10th October – On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Farrar, one abstention, the Council **RESOLVED** to agree the minutes of the Tuesday 10th October 2023 Parish Council Meeting and was a true record and was signed by the Chairman.

125:23/24 Planning –

Planning Application

0435/23 Application for creation of front porch, replace garage with single storey side extension and widen driveway, 28 Chapel Lane, Horrabridge PL20 7SP
The Council agreed to defer this application until the next Planning Committee meeting.

The Council noted the following decisions of the Planning Authority

0310/23 Retrospective alterations to access and formation of private way serving agricultural holding. Land at Jordan Lane, Horrabridge

Refusal of Planning Permission

0259/236 Raising roof and construction of garage. Tregarras, Manor Estate, Horrabridge PL20 7RS

Grant Conditionally

0367/23 New steps from footpath, front porch, rear extension including log burner and flue. 2 Town Farm Close, Horrabridge, PL20 7SJ

Grant Conditionally

Cllr Lear arrived

126:23/24 Finance – The bank reconciliation, Trial Balance, and Budget Report dated 30th September 2023. Payments, Clerk's and staff salaries, was reviewed and on the proposition of Cllr Edmondson, seconded Cllr Huda, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve.

On the proposition of Cllr Moorhead, seconded Cllr Mansfield the Council **RESOLVED** to approve expenses submitted by Cllr Glinn for the purchase of timber at a cost of £172.44

On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Edmondson, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the following virements from General Reserves to Earmarked Reserves

- Truck £2000
- Sit on Mower £500
- Play Equipment £1000
- Village Hall £1000
- Street Furniture £1000

- 127:23/24** **VAT Advisory Services** – On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Moorhead, the Council **RESOLVED** to pay for the VAT advisory services of Russell Moore on behalf of HRFT at a cost of £900.
- 128:23/24** **Village Hall Hire Charges** – On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Farrar, the Council **RESOLVED** to increase the hall hire charges for 2024/2025 by 10%
- 129:23/24** **Burial Charges** – On the proposition of Cllr Edmondson, seconded Cllr Huda, the Council **RESOLVED** to increase the Burial Charges for 2024/2025 by 5%
- 130:23/24** **Allotment Charges** - On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Edmondson, one abstention, the Council **RESOLVED** to increase the Allotment Charges for 2024/2025 by 5%
- 131:23/24** **Beating the Bounds** – Cllr Hemsil reported 2025 would be the 75th anniversary of Horrabridge becoming a parish. The Council agreed to defer the event to 2025 to coincide with the anniversary.
- 132:23/24** **80th Anniversary D-Day 6th June 2024** – Cllr Farrar suggested the event could be a large village occasion, possibly running into the evening. Cllr Farrar would be meeting with other village organisations and volunteers to start to plan the event. She asked if the Council would consider a budget for the event and asked the Clerk to apply for grants, when they were available, to help fund the event.
- 133:23/24** **Slow Ways** – The Council agreed it was a good initiative and suggested to involve the Horrabridge Walk and Talk Group. Cllr Huda would approach the Group.
- 134:23/24** **Flash Flooding** – Cllr Glinn offered to be the Flood Warden for Horrabridge. It was agreed to update the website and Facebook page with any new and relevant information. The hedges along Jordan Lane were overgrown and the road sweeper was unable to clear the road to prevent flooding. Cllr Moorhead offered to locate the landowner and asked if the hedges could be cut.
- 135:23/24** **Twinning** – Cllr Moorhead reported there was a quiz fund-raiser later this week. Next year would be the 50th anniversary of the twinning. The Council was asked to consider a budget for the event. The Council asked the WDBC Councillors present if they would consider a grant for the event.
- 136:23/24** **Police Advocate** – Cllr Huda reported he was the Councillor Advocate with Devon and Cornwall Police. He receives regular emails and would forward any relevant emails to the Council.
- 137:23/24** **Grant Application** – The Council agreed to consider their decision by 31st January 2024, with other grant applications, in accordance with the Grant Awarding Policy and Procedure.

- 138:23/24 Christmas Trees** – Cllr Farrar presented a report to the Council. The event would be on Sunday 3rd December 2023 at 5pm in Weir Park. Ten village organisations had been approached to decorate the trees. The school would provide carol singers.
Trees – 5.5ft/6ft tall 10no, £20 each
Lights – 10no at £15 each
Spikes – 10no at £10.75
Batteries – 30no at £13
Cllr Glinn suggested re-using the old fence posts as spikes. This was agreed saving £107.50
On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Mansfield, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve a budget of up to £400 for the event.
- 139:23/24 Overgrown Hedges at Highlands** – Cllr Edmondson reported a parishioner had complained about the ‘SLOW’ sign by Highview as is no longer visible due to the overgrowth. The bank/overgrowth appears to be slipping onto the road, making it narrow. Cllr Lear offered to report this.
- 140:23/24 Insurance Declaration** – Requested by the Insurance Company –
The current Councillors confirmed they have not been:
- Convicted of a criminal offence (any convictions spent under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 can be ignored), other than motoring offences.
 - The subject of any unsatisfied County Court Judgement, Sheriff Court Decree, bankruptcy, insolvency or voluntary agreement, or been disqualified from holding a company directorship.
 - The subject of a prosecution, or notice of intended prosecution, under health and safety at work, consumer protection or environmental legislation or investigation in the last three years by the Charity Commission, Revenue & Customs or any other regulatory body.
 - Have not had any insurance contract cancelled or declared void, or renewal refused, or any special conditions imposed, due to: breach of policy, non-disclosure or misrepresentation of a material fact, claims for losses or non-compliances with risk improvements requirements. Not aware of any circumstances that may give rise to a claim. Not aware of any incidents that may give rise to threatened actions or lawsuits in respect of any publications, statements or broadcasts.
Have not had any claim(s) or loss(es) or incurred any liability, or any of the risks to be insured, within the last five years other than those stated under ‘claims details’.
- 141:23/24 Progress Reports** – Cllr Edmondson reported the footpath by the pedestrian path of Horrabridge Recreation Field and Walkhampton Road was severely overgrown. The street light no 8, between Penreber and Copperfields, was not turning off. Cllr Edmondson had reported both to Devon Highways. Cllr Edmondson reported the newly installed grit-bin on Manor Estate which had been positioned back away from the dropped kerb had been moved and now blocks the dropped kerb. She would speak to the Handyman to get it repositioned. Cllr Emptage reported there were overhanging trees by the football pitch by the railings and the footpath cannot be used. Cllr Moorhead reported PAT Testing had been completed with no issues. Hedges were in the process of being cut.
- 142:23/24 Open Spaces Report** – Cllr Glinn reported he had placed the order for the replacement fence and the mini digger. The work in the cemetery would

commence on 18th-19th October 2023. Cllr Glinn had requested the Clerk write to a resident regarding vegetation overhanging onto a pavement. The Clerk reported this had been done. Cllr Glinn requested the Clerk write to DCC regarding the exit of Fillace Lane onto Walkhampton Road. Additional signage was needed and possibly to extend the fence. Three pallets of salt had been delivered to the salt store. The broken roof slate had been replaced on the youth shelter by RB Roofing at no cost to HPC. Land and Forest had been asked to report on the condition of the lime tree in Weir Park, following the last storm.

143:23/24 Borough and County Councillor report - Cllr West reported WDBC formally reaffirms its commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant and support to the Armed Forces Community. From 1st October 2023 a Council Tax Discount Scheme for Care Leavers was formally adopted. There had been initial submissions for Community Governance Reviews for Okehampton Town Council and Sydenham Damerel. There was a second public consultation exercise to be undertaken and presented back to the Full Council on 20th February 2024. There had been additional funding made available to develop a business plan for a railway line between Tavistock and Plymouth. Funding had been secured for the new Okehampton Parkway Station.

144:23/24 Councillors reports and items for future agenda – Cllr Edmondson reported the decision of the new planning application made by Barton, to double the original licence agreement, had been denied by DNPA and is now with the Planning Inspectorate. They are claiming permission was granted for a dog exercise area, but residential units had been installed on this site. Cllr Edmondson would inform the Council when there was an update.

Cllr Farrar informed the Council that Pencreber Road was now on the school bus route. Residents had complained of vehicle wing-mirrors being hit and broken by the bus. Cllr Emptage explained a new bus company had taken over the contract. There were also problems when the bus stops outside the cemetery and blocks the road. The route had changed, and it was suggested it may be the old bus route they were using. Cllr Emptage would contact both the bus company and the school of behalf of the Council. Cllr West suggested informing the Parking Enforcement officers to patrol the area. Cllr West was asked if he could inform the Council when the double yellow lines on the junction of Graybridge Road and Pencreber Road would be installed, as this was promised several years ago. Cllr Lear informed the Council there had been a police presence around the school recently and they spoke to the parents regarding parking issues. She also confirmed she had seen children on the roof of the shelter, this could have been when the roof tile was broken. Cllr Mansfield requested the Council to consider the Youth Group using the Village Hall one evening a week free of charge over the winter months. Cllr Hemsil requested the future of the large fir tree in Weir Park to be added to next months agenda.

145:23/24 Public Participation - None

The meeting was closed at 9.15pm

Date of next meeting 14th November 2023

Councillor M Huda
Chairman

DATED: