

**Minutes of a meeting of Horrabridge Parish Council held in the Village Hall
On Tuesday 14th November 2023 at 7.30pm**
(also available at www.horrabridge-pc.gov.uk)

Present: Cllr M Huda (Chairman), Cllr S Roche (Vice Chairman), Cllr E Hemsil, Cllr M Glinn, Cllr T Lear, Cllr C Edmondson, Cllr D Farrar, Cllr A Mansfield, Cllr E Emptage, Cllr J Blackmore

In Attendance:

Cllr Chrisopher West (WDBC)
Cllr Phillip Sanders (DCC & DNPA)
Caroline Ellis – Clerk
2 Members of the public

146:23/24 Apologies for Absence – Apologies tendered by Cllr Hussey and Cllr Moorhead, due to work commitments, was approved by the Council. Apologies from Cllr Nick Viney (WDBC) was noted.

147:23/24 Apologies without Absence - None

148:23/24 Consider the Appointment of a Parish Councillor by Co-option – On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Farrar, the Council **RESOLVED** to appoint Julie Blackmore as a member of the Parish Council by Co-option. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed.

149:23/24 Declarations of Interest – Cllr Mansfield declared an interest in minute ref 157:23/24 as she was involved in running the Youth Group.

150:23/24 Public Participation – None

151:23/24 Confirmation of the minutes of the Parish meeting held on Tuesday 10th October – 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.

152:23/24 Planning – The following decisions of the Planning Committee held on 24th October 2024 were noted.

0435/56 Creation of front porch, replace garage with single storey side extension and widen driveway at 28 Chapel Lane, Horrabridge
The Planning Committee **RESOLVED** to support the application.

To note the following decision of the Planning Authority

0125/23 Construction of local needs custom build dwelling, garage and associated landscape works. Rose Villa, Bedford Road, Horrabridge, PL20 7QW
Refusal of Full Planning Commission

Planning Application -

488/23 Construction of two dwellings at Land at Highlands, Horrabridge, PL20 7TZ
The Council **RESOLVED** to support the application, 7 support and 2 objections.

153:23/24 Finance – The bank reconciliation, Trial Balance, and Budget Report dated 31st October 2023. Payments, Clerk's and staff salaries, was reviewed and on the proposition of Cllr Edmondson, seconded Cllr Huda, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve.

Clerks Report - The Clerk informed the Council a VAT return had been submitted for the period April 2023 – September 2023 and £1120.74 had been received by HMRC. Hall Hire and Cemetery were busy and had received the following receipts for the period April – September. Hall Hire £3,250.65 and Cemetery £2,772.00

Russell Moore - On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Farrar, the Council **RESOLVED** approve the payment of £300 to Russell Moore for VAT consultancy fee for HRFT

154:23/24 **Ride-on Mower** – On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Emptage, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the service at a cost of £344.54. Cllr Glinn would deliver and collect the mower which would save approximately £80

155:23/24 **Budgets** – The Council agreed with the draft budget and but would review again next month.

156:23/24 **Polices and Risk Assessments** -

Asset Register Policy

Members Code of Conduct

Press & Media Policy

Safeguarding Policy – Children and Vulnerable Adults

Co-option Policy

Cemetery Risk Assessment

Open Spaces Risk Assessment

On the proposition of Cllr Farrar, seconded Cllr Huda the Council **RESOLVED** to approve and adopt the above policies and Risk Assessments.

157:23/24 **Youth Group** – On the proposition of Cllr Roche, seconded Cllr Huda, one abstention, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Youth Group to use the village hall free of charge for the winter months.

Cllr Lear arrived.

158:23/24 **Bridge Magazine** – Cllr Edmondson offered to attend the meeting on 21st November 2023 and would report to the Council at the next meeting.

159:23/24 **Fir Tree** – Cllr Hemsil reported to the Council that he felt the fir tree in Weir Park was not 'fit for purpose'. Cllr Glinn informed the Council a Section 211 notice would need to be applied for, if the Council wanted to remove the tree, as the tree was mature and substantial. Cllr Hemsil, seconded Cllr Roche, proposed to remove the tree. 3 supported the proposal 6 objected. The tree was regularly inspected in accordance with the HPC Tree Policy and if work was needed the Council would be informed.

160:23/24 **Christmas Trees** – Cllr Farrar and Cllr Emptage had been busy with the planning. 8 organisations out of 10 have responded and agreed to decorate the trees and were busy making tree decorations. Posters would be placed around the village to advertise the event. Mulled wine would be served in The London Inn carpark. They are looking for volunteers to help with turning the individual lights on. The event was planned for 3rd December at 5pm.

161:23/24 **Councillor Training** - Cllrs Edmondson and Lear both would like to attend the DALC course 'Response to Planning Applications'. They would confirm with the Clerk if they were available on 27th November 2023.

162:23/24 **NALC Salary Increases** – On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Farrar, the Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the recently approved NALC salary increase due April 2023 and to pay the back pay due.

- 163:23/24 Elections** – The Council noted it had been confirmed the Police and Crime Commissioner Elections and potential General Election to be held on 2nd May 2024
- 164:23/24 Traffic Incidents, Bedford Road** - The Clerk informed the Council she had received two emails from members of the public regarding recent incidents involving heavy goods vehicles causing damage to properties and parked vehicles on Bedford Road. The Clerk reported she had reported the incident to the Local Highways Officer and was waiting for a reply. It was suggested more signage was needed.
- Cllr Sanders arrived.
- Cllr Sanders offered to work with Highways on this matter and the signage with Fillace Lane/Walkhampton Road, which was also an issue.
- 165:23/24 Anti-Social Behaviour** – The Clerk reported she had received correspondence from a couple of members of the public regarding anti-social behaviour in the village. The incidents had been reported to the police. Cllr Lear raised the issue with local youths placing traffic cones in the middle of the road.
- 166:23/24 Open Spaces Reports** – Cllr Glinn reported the salt spreader had been sold at auction. He had received £45.10 in payment, and this had been paid into HPC bank. Environment Agency flood warning alerts had been set up for Cllr Glinn and the Clerk. The cemetery fence had been replaced. The mound of earth in the Cemetery extension had been levelled. Cllr Glinn had received a quotation from Tavistock Town Council for hire of a cherry picker to maintain the Christmas Tree lights in Weir Park at a cost of £286 per day and £176 per half day. It was decided it was too late for this year but would be on the agenda next year. It was reported there was no damage to trees after storm Ciaran. The ash tree on Walkhampton Road had ash die back and was leaning over the highway. It had been reported to DCC. Jordan Lane had been swept and the gullies emptied. Cllr Glinn thanked the local Highways Officer for their quick response to the request. The green cabinet owned by SWW, in Chapel Lane/Station Road, was being moved to the grass verge, to allow better visibility for vehicles on the junction.
- 167:23/24 Progress Reports** – Cllr Lear reported there was still issues in Whitchurch Road with overgrown hedges. She would report this to Highways. Cllr Hemsil circulated a report regarding the information needed for organising ‘Beating of the Bounds’. The event was to be held in 2015 and volunteers would be needed to help to organise. It was proposed to add to the January 2025 agenda. Cllr Hemsil reminded the Cllrs each landowner would have to be approached in person, to request permission to walk on their land. The Clerk would look for further paperwork in the office. Cllr Edmondson reported the Devon Oaks planning appeal had been dismissed. Two new Snow Wardens had signed and joined the scheme. One on Manor Estate and the other in Fillace Park.
- 168:23/24 Borough and County Councillor report** - Cllr West reported West Devon Borough Council would be publishing the Strategic Plan for consultation within the next few weeks. Parish councils would be invited to attend meetings and be involved in the consultation process.
- Cllr Sanders reported the Mobile Library service would be ending at the end of February 2024. He did not support the closure of this service. DCC are in budget in most areas except Childrens Services. Highways were resurfacing roads instead of repairing potholes. This is a more long-term solution. DNPA had issues with the planning IT system. There was a published report from Planning Inspectorate regarding Devon Oaks. They may appeal at the High Court.

169:23/24 Councillors reports and items for future agenda – Cllr Farrar requested the 80th D-Day Anniversary event planned for next year be on next months agenda. Cllr Roche asked the Cllrs if there had ever been a bus stop at the bottom of Station Road. The Cllrs confirmed there had never been a bus stop at that location. Cllr Roche requested the Village Hall refurbishment be an item on next months agenda. Cllr Glinn reported the bridge at Youldon Way had been repaired. Cllr Huda reported the battery in the heat detector located in the kitchen, had been replaced but suggested replacing the device as it was old. Cllr Lear reported the hedge opposite the Magpie junction was overgrown. She would report the issue to DCC. There was a broken catch on the gate by the Longdown cattle grid. Cllr Glinn offered to report this. Cllr Farrar and Cllr Glinn would test the Christmas Tree lights before the 3rd December.

170:23/24 Public Participation - A member of the public commented they live in Bedford Road and it was their property that had been hit by vehicles three times in recent weeks. The Council would be in contact with Highways to suggest more signage was needed. Cllr Sanders would speak to DCC Highways.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Date of next meeting 12th December 2023

Councillor M Huda
Chairman

DATED: