

**Minutes of a meeting of Horrabridge Parish Council held in the Village Hall  
On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7.30pm**  
(also available at [www.horrabridge-pc.gov.uk](http://www.horrabridge-pc.gov.uk))

**Present:** Cllr M Huda (Chairman), Cllr S Roche (Vice Chairman), Cllr T Lear, Cllr D Farrar, Cllr Moorhead, Cllr Glinn, Cllr Mansfield, Cllr Emptage and Cllr Blackmore

**In Attendance:** Cllr West – WDBC  
Caroline Ellis – Clerk

**198:23/24 Apologies for Absence** – Apologies received from Cllrs Hussey, Edmondson, and Hemsil were approved by the Council. Apologies from Cllrs Sanders (DCC) and Cllr Viney (WDBC) were noted.

**199:23/24 Apologies without Absence** - None

**200:23/24 Declarations of Interest** – None

**201:23/24 Public Participation** - None

**202:23/24 Confirmation of the minutes of the Parish meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023** – On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Glinn, the Council **RESOLVED** to agree the minutes of the Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 Parish Council Meeting and was a true record and was signed by the Chairman.

**203:23/24 Planning** – No planning applications for decisions were received.

**204:23/24 Finance** –

- The bank reconciliation, Trial Balance, and Budget Report dated 31st December 2023, was reviewed and on the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Farrar, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve.
- Payments, Clerk's and staff salaries, was reviewed and on the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Moorhead, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve.
- On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Moorhead the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the previously circulated draft budget for 2024/2025
- On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Farrar the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Precept of £48,897 for 2024/2025, which amounts to an increase of £3.28 per month for Band D properties or 5.05% increase.

**205:23/24 Rechargeable Batteries** – On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Blackmore, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the purchase of rechargeable batteries for power tools at an estimated cost of £140. Cllr Glinn offered to purchase the batteries online as this may be more cost effective.

Cllr Lear arrived

**206:23/24 Cemetery Memorial** – The Council considered the request for a child memorial to be erected in the cemetery. The Council agreed on a choice of three memorials to be allowed in either Lunar Grey or Blue Pearl stone, no black stones are permitted. The Clerk will contact the stone mason.

**207:23/24 Grant Applications** – On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Emptage the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the following grant applications:  
Catalyst (Tavistock) £100  
Horrabridge Recreational Field Trust £100

Horrabridge Scout Group £100  
Citizens Advice - £100

- 208:23/24 Village Hall Week** – The Council considered holding an event on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2024 to raise awareness of the Village Hall and the Council. It was agreed to hold a coffee morning and to invite current hall users to attend to promote their events. The event would be advertised locally on noticeboards and on the Facebook page. Cllrs Emptage and Mansfield offered to help with the organising the event. The Clerk would contact the current hall users.
- 209:23/24 Grit Bins** – The Council considered purchasing grit bins in the following locations, at a cost of £99.99 each  
Corner of Greenway Close  
Turning circle Youlden Way  
Turning circle Lower Fillace Park  
On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Moorhead, the Council **RESOLVED** to object to the purchase of the grit bins as the Council agreed there where adequate number of bins located at various points around the village.
- 210:23/24 Meeting Schedule** – On the proposition of Cllr Farrar, seconded Cllr Huda the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the previously circulated meeting schedule for 2024/2025 noting the Annual Council Meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024 and there would be no August 2024 meeting.
- 211:23/24 Strategic Planning; the Joint Local Plan; Development Management (including the role of the Development Management & Licensing Committee); and Planning Enforcement** – The Clerk informed the Council she would be attending this training event on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024.
- 212:23/24 West Devon Vison & Strategy 2023** – Cllr Farrar and the Clerk hope to attend the Teams meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024
- 213:23/24 Christmas Trees Update** – Cllr Farrar reported 8 out of the 10 trees had the lights vandalised. This was very disappointing and distressing for the volunteers. Members of the public offered donations towards the replacements, and some had offered to replace the lights at their own expense. Horrabridge Cavaliers paid for the replacement lights. The Council thanked them for their generosity. The trees have now been removed and the decorations had been returned to the organisations involved. The spikes have been put into storage. It was hoping the trees would become an annual event as it was a success. A wood chipper was located in the London Inn carpark and residents were invited to bring their Christmas trees for disposal for a donation towards the Pavilion Project. £96.15 was raised. It was suggested a cherry picker was hired in May to remove and replace the Christmas tree lights on the large Christmas tree. Cllr Glinn offered to plant Christmas trees in the cemetery to be used in future years events.
- 214:23/24 Village Hall Update** – Cllr Roche reported the Working Group had met and surveyed the hall. Holes in the walls needed filling and the damp patch needs sealing. It was suggested the tiles in the kitchen be removed and replaced. The Clerk would speak to the Handyman regarding a schedule of works.
- 215:23/24 Open Spaces Report** – Cllr Glinn reported the Clerk and himself met with the DCC Highways Officer and walked the village high-lighting issues. The road surface past the school was 'in hand'. HPC possibly need a Traffic Management Plan. The Clerk would investigate. They visited a resident in Chichester Close regarding the flooding issues. A flood warning had been issued from the Environment Agency, for the river Walkham. Thankfully with no resulting flood.

The green cabinet had been successfully moved further along Chapel Lane by SWW. The Snow Wardens had been asked to spread salt during the recent icy weather. There was excess surface water in Jordan Lane due to blocked drains. Cllr Glinn reported this to DCC but was notified that it did not meet their criteria. The Clerk will report this to the Highways Officer.

**216:23/24 Progress Reports** – Cllr Farrar wished to resign as Chairman of HRFT. It was proposed a meeting be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 to appoint a new Chairman. All Councillors to attend.

Cllr Blackmore asked if the Council were able to make repairs to the path between Fillace Park and Weir Park, as the area is covered in a large puddle. Cllr Moorhead offered to obtain quotations.

On the proposition of Cllr Moorhead, seconded Cllr Huda, the Council **RESOLVED** that under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item as it involves the likely disclosure of sensitive and confidential information.

Cllr West left the meeting.

Cllr Roche informed the Council he had been corresponding with HRMC on behalf of HRFT regarding VAT. It was proposed to re-apply for the Community Grant as the current value would not cover the VAT costs if the VAT was not reclaimable.

On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Roche it was **RESOLVED** to move out of Part 2.

Cllr West returned to the meeting.

Cllr Moorhead reported a Fire Risk Assessment had been completed. There were some issues and the Clerk was obtaining quotations.

**217:23/24 Borough and County Councillor Reports** – Cllr West informed the Council Devon Mobile Library would be ending on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024. He explained there was Community Library Support fund available. He would email the Clerk with more details. Cllr West would make enquires regarding the yellow lines promised at Pencreber Road junction. The ward boundaries would be altered at the next elections. Horrabridge would be moved to South West Devon Ward.

**218:22/23 Councillor reports and items for future agenda** – Cllr Moorhead requested a discussion regarding a Road Traffic Plan and the location of the walkie-talkie radios. Cllr Farrar asked if the 80<sup>th</sup> D-Day Anniversary event could be discussed at the next meeting.

**219:22/23 Public Participation** - None

Next meeting 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Meeting Closed 8.50pm

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**Councillor M Huda**  
**Chairman**

**DATED:**