

**MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL MEETING OF HORRABRIDGE PARISH
HELD ON TUESDAY 16th MAY 2023, 7PM
AT HORRABRIDGE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr M Huda (Chairman), Cllr S Roche (Vice Chairman), Cllr E Hemsil, Cllr C Edmondson, Cllr Moorhead, Cllr Farrar, Cllr Emptage, Cllr Mansfield

In Attendance: Caroline Ellis – Clerk
3 members of the public

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7pm

1. Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 10th May 2022

On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Farrar, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve minutes of the Annual Meeting of Horrabridge Parish held 10th May 2022, and duly signed by the Chairman.

2. Chairman's Report 2022/2023

The following report was read by Cllr Huda, Chairman.

This year had been a busy year for Horrabridge Parish Council. We have just had the local elections and I am pleased to see that we have three new Councillors and we welcome Cllr Emptage, Cllr Hussey, who was absent due to work commitments, and Cllr Mansfield to the Council.

We continue to meet monthly on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm and we welcome residents to attend. There are two parts in the meeting where the public can raise comments or concerns and if necessary, these can be added to the agenda at a future meeting for the Councillors to discuss.

We were pleased to host an event, in Weir Park, to celebrate the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee which was well attended. This was fun for all the family. Then unfortunately, we had had the said news of the death of our beloved Queen. A condolence book was available in the Village Hall for the residents. I was honoured to be able to read the Proclamation announcing the new King.

We have just hosted the Big Lunch in Weir Park to celebrate HM King Charles III Coronation. The weather was very kind to us, and it was a fabulous day, I would like to thank the volunteers who helped to make the day special.

The Village Hall was very busy with events, from weekly fitness classes, TASS drop in, painting classes a monthly 'repair café', as well as private parties. Please contact the Clerk if you wish to book the hall.

3. Finance Report for 2022/2023

The following Finance report was read by Cllr Hemsil, Chairman of the Finance Committee.

At the commencement of the financial year the Council had £43624 in the bank by the end of the year this had grown to £52585, an increase of £8961. The year-end balance includes Ear Marked Reserves of £17,800 to cover assets replacement, up from £16k in the previous financial year.

All areas of spend were within budget with the exception of open spaces which was over, due to non budgeted items such as Rota Net matting replacement and the installation, in Fillace Park, of an Air Ambulance night landing lamp. The 2 items cost £12k. and resulted in an over spend of £7682.

Income was up £4540 mainly due to grants and the burial ground. Savings were seen in Staff Cost of £5920 because the clerk's salary was under budget and the lack of a handyman at times during the year and therefore, also under budget.

This year's budget is set at £58.3k but a decision was taken to set the village Precept of £46.5k. The Precept set meant an increase in Council Tax for a typical Band D property of £64 for the year.

4. Planning Report for 2022/2023

The following report was read by Cllr Roche, Chairman of the Planning Committee.

1. 16 Planning applications during the year, a little below the annual average of 20.
2. The sub-committee were able to support most of the applications, as is usual. Villagers are aware that their development may affect their neighbours, and the village in general, and therefore are considerate regarding their plans.
3. Application 0177/22 is noteworthy (Heather Lee on Plymouth Road). In the original application the frontage boundary was to be a granite wall and the applicant wanted to change to rendered blocks on cost grounds. DNPA **refused** to allow the change.
4. Application 0274/22 by Devon Oaks was **objected** by HPC and **refused** by DNPA.
5. Application 0283/22 at 24 Youlden Way was **objected** by HPC because the proposed first floor room over garage blocked light from No. 22. DNPA **granted** after the first floor room was deleted from the application.
6. Application 0125/23 for dwelling at Rose Villa (frontage on Jordan Lane) was **objected** by HPC and decision is pending.
7. Application 0143/23 for chalet dwelling at The Manor on Plymouth Road was **supported** by HPC and decision is pending.

5. Open Spaces Report for 2022/2023

The following report was read by Cllr Huda, in the absence of Cllr Glinn.

This is the first annual report from Cllr Glinn and he would like to thank Cllr Edmondson, for her previous work as Chairman

Budget/Spend – Open Spaces budget for 22/23 was £7.7k our actual spend was £15.5k. The overspend had gone on Capital projects in the village, which will have lasting value. The Devon Air Ambulance night landing site was finalised, and the fence and gate needed realigning at a cost of £300. The Council had to upgrade the sand and rubber safety matting around the circular climbing frame. Another spend was to treat Japanese Knotweed in Fillace Park at a cost of £1.5k. a 10% discount was negotiated. This will be ongoing for the next two years. Tree works cost £600 for the year which included works due to ash dieback. The Mitsubishi pickup is in good order. The Kubota mower was serviced at the end of last season with no issues. Next service will be at the end of this season. The Old Memorial Ground is in good order, the maple tree has recently been pollarded to try and save the tree. Weir Park play equipment passed the recent ROSPA inspection with only a couple of minor issues. The wooden post holding the village sign is showing signs of decay and will need to be replaced.

The bench by the Youth Club had been replaced. The new Burial Ground had two areas of work outstanding. The area needs to be levelled around the graves and the fence leading down to the graves needs partial replacing. The allotments were in good order.

6. **Questions from members of the public** - None

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.12pm

Signed: Date:
Chairman