

**MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL MEETING OF HORRABRIDGE PARISH
HELD ON TUESDAY 14th May 2024, 7PM
AT HORRABRIDGE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr M Huda (Chairman), Cllr S Roche (Vice Chairman), Cllr J Blackmore, Cllr Moorhead, Cllr Farrar, Cllr M Glinn, Cllr A Mansfield, Cllr T Lear,

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

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7pm

1. Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 16th May 2023

On the proposition of Cllr Huda, seconded Cllr Farrar, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve minutes of the Annual Meeting of Horrabridge Parish held 16th May 2023, and duly signed by the Chairman.

2. Chairman's Report 2023 /2024

The following report was read by Cllr Huda, Chairman.
Welcome to Horrabridge Parish Annual Meeting.

It has been another busy year for Horrabridge Parish Council and I would like to thank the Councillors and volunteers for their hard work throughout the year.

In May we held a Coronation event in Weir Park which was a great success and this year we are planning an event to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of D-Day. To be held on 8th June.

At Christmas, 10 Christmas trees were put in Weir Park and local organisation were invited to decorate the trees. This was a great success with the lighting of the trees together with singing Carols.

The Council hosted a coffee morning during 'Village Hall Awareness Week', in March. Hall users were invited to attend to promote their events. It was well attended, and it may become an annual event. The event raised £30.88 in donations which went towards the Pavilion fund.

As you can see, we are currently in the process of renovating the village hall. The handyman has been busy, filling and painting.

The Clerk submitted a nomination application to WDBC for the Mayoral Award, nominating Mr & Mrs Kendall, for the Long Service Award. I was pleased to announce in April they had won the award and was presented with the award at the award ceremony on 26th March 2024

3. Finance Report for 2023/2024

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

The financial situation improved by £0.8k during the year, bank balance year end is £53.4K up from £52.6k at last year end. Income for the year was £55.4k, the precept of £46.5k contributed 83% of the total. Village hall income was £4.8k and Burial Ground £3k.

Expenditure for the year was £54.2k. Staff cost, as always, was the highest cost of spend being £28.2k, representing over 50% of the total. Utility cost were £6.9k and Repairs/Maintenance were £9.9k. HPC further increased the General Reserves by £7k. During the financial year HPC, the sole Trustee of HRFT, agreed to underwrite the Community Pavilion to the tune of £45k. During the new financial year this is expected to be reduced as more grants are obtained. The Clerk added the Council saved £800 by changing insurance provider. The village hall bookings had increased by 39% and the burials had decreased by 39%.

4. Planning Report for 2023/2024

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

1. 12 applications during the year, below the 16 last year, and what has been the annual average of 20.
2. The sub-committee were able to support most of the applications, as is usual.
3. Application 0125/23 for a dwelling at Rose Villa (frontage on Jordan Lane) was **objected** by HPC and **refused** by DNPA.
4. Application 0143/23 for a chalet dwelling at The Manor on Plymouth Road was **supported** by HPC and **refused** by DNPA.
5. Application 0310/23 'Retrospective alterations to access and formation of private driveway serving agricultural holding' at land at Jordan Lane was **objected** by HPC and **refused** by DNPA.
6. Application 0488/23 'Construction of 2 dwellings' at Highlands was **supported** by HPC and **refused** by DNPA.
7. Application 0103/24 Land between No's 4 and 10 Pencreber Road 'Use of land as domestic garden' was **supported** by HPC and **granted** by DNPA.

5. Open Spaces Report for 2022/2023

The following report was read by Cllr Glinn

A busy but enjoyable year for open spaces, the Maple tree in the Memorial ground was pollarded in an attempt to save it which looks unlikely, Weir Park suffered the loss of a mature Beech tree and a large limb on one of the Lime trees due to storm damage, 5 Saplings have been planted to help offset the loss. The Play equipment received a good ROSPA report in March 24 with only low to medium grade defects which are currently being cleared in house at minimal cost. Fillace park, other than the ongoing treatment for Japanese Knot weed, has been relatively trouble free. The fence at the top of the cemetery was replaced along with 2 public benches, thanks to the villagers who helped. A number of young Christmas trees have been planted for use in a few years' time by HPC. A digital record of HPC trees, location, species, age and their health was currently being compiled as per the Tree policy.

The 2 stores in Fillace park are both in good order, following a mild but wet winter we still have 4 tonnes of salt for use next year, The ride on mower did a good reliable job last year, this has been serviced and is all ready for this season if ever the weather dries up. A new professional strimmer was purchased to replace our old worn out one. The pickup

truck passed its annual MOT with no defects though it did need minor repairs earlier in the year, it is though, in good order.

The state of our roads was brought to the attention of DCC Highways, a walk of the village to point out various issues with the local highways officer resulted in, “does not meet the criteria for repair, Chapel Lane”, “passed to our safety team, Fillace Lane”, “passed to our legal team, flooding in Chichester court” and “it will go into the program, Walkhampton Road”. Talks with Devon and Cornwall Police are ongoing regarding controlling excess traffic through the village when the A386 is closed following an accident. Still things to resolve.

Thanks go to all those who have given up their time to help keep Horrabridge a nice and safe place to live, especially the Volunteer Snow Wardens who turn out when it dips below zero.

With special thanks to our handyman, who seems to know everybody and everything that’s going on and does a fantastic job in looking after the village, thank you.

6. Questions from members of the public - None

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.15pm

Signed: Date:
Chairman