

MINUTES OF HANKERTON ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 22 MAY 23

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF HANKERTON PARISH COUNCIL Held on Monday 22 May 2023 at 7.30 pm in the North Aisle, Hankerton Church

Present: Parish Cllrs Jacqui Erskine-Crum (Chairman), Richard Barrow, Kate Nurden: M R Bromley Gardner (Clerk); Wilts Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall; and 19 members of the public.

1. Election of Chairman. Jacqui Erskine-Crum was unanimously elected Chairman for the year. She signed her Acceptance of Office.
2. Election of Deputy Chairman. Deferred to next meeting.
3. Apologies. Cllr Dai Davies.
4. Public Questions/Receipt of Petitions. None.
5. Declarations Of Interest. None.
6. Urgent Matters at Chairman's Discretion. None.
7. Co-option of Candidates. There were 2 vacancies to fill. Two candidates had come forward, they both introduced themselves briefly, after which the PC voted to co-opt both onto the PC. They both signed their Acceptance of Office and joined the table.
8. Minutes of Last Meeting. The Minutes of the last meeting (held on 4 Apr 23) had been circulated in advance. They were approved and signed. Cllrs Richard Barrow and Kate Nurden were urged to complete their Cllr Profiles including a photograph.
9. Exemption from External Audit. In accordance with Sect 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015, the PC declared that the PC was exempt external audit, since both gross annual income and expenditure are below £25,000.
10. Approval of 2022/23 Annual Governance Statement. The PC decided that all points in the Annual Governance Statement had been covered and that the Chairman should sign it, which she did.
11. Approval of 2022/23 Accounts. The RFO took the PC through the 2022/23 accounts and the Accounting Statements. Dr Malcolm Gerald, resident of Hankerton, had conducted the Internal Audit. The balance of the accounts at year's end was £3 (£3668 last year). The Parish Council approved the accounts and the Accounting Statement was signed.
12. Finance. There was £29 in the current account and £7865 in the deposit account, the precept having been paid in. The following payments were authorised:
 - 2023/1, £158.80, Community First for insurance.
 - 2023/2, £116.34, WALC membership.
 - 2023/3, £1169, to the PCC for hire of North Aisle (£119) and support to churchyard maintenance (£1050).
 - 2023/4, £500, to the PCC North Aisle account for donation to the North Aisle.

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- 2023/5, £59.33, to Cllr Dai Davies who had paid the Hampshire Flag Co (receipt held) for one Union Flag.
- 2023/6, £39.60, to the Clerk for AVM refreshments.
- 2023/7, £56, to the Clerk for 50% of his SLCC membership.
- 2023/8, £101.98, to Cllr Kate Nurden for items bought for the Coronation celebration.

13. Allocation of Portfolios for 2023/24.

- Footpaths – Denis de Souza
- Highways – Dai Davies
- Area Board – Jacqui Erskine-Crum
- Flood Prevention – the PC would continue to rely on David Pynn as advisor (David Pynn was in the meeting and agreed.)
- Patients Group – Shayne Smith to continue in this role
- Amenity Area – vacant
- Emergency Plan/Winter Plan – David Bosley
- Grants – vacant
- Information Coord – Jacqui Erskine-Crum.
- Defibrillator – Richard Barrow.
- Climate Strategy – vacant

14. Planning Application. The planning application PL/2023/03382 Land west of Bullocks Horn Lane was discussed. It was noted in particular that the Bullocks Horn residents hoped to settle with the applicant, granting access to electricity in return for agreed, perhaps even legally-binding, limitations on further development on the site. The PC decided on No Objection but to Comment – the fact that the storage barn had only been built in the past year or so and had probably never been used genuinely for storage; the additional traffic; and mainly the fact that the application was for a residence but the applicant had told many people that it would be a holiday let, which came under different rules and different policies in the application process. **Action: Clerk**

15. Flags Policy. Item deferred to the next meeting, apart from one decision – that no flag other than the Union Flag should be flown until the policy had been decided.

16. Speeding. Item deferred to the next meeting, other than that a survey of residents would be attempted, using the Grapevine (but noting that the next available Grapevine was not until the Aug/Sep issue ie after the July PC meeting; the Chairman would talk to Robin Tjolle about the questions that he had thought of for the survey. **Action: Chairman**

17. Dog Poo. Kate Nurden raised the subject. Having reviewed the costs it was decided not to buy additional litterbins, but to seek to post further signs. (The Clerk had asked Highways for more signs but so far without success – would keep trying).

Action: Clerk

18. Movies@Malmesbury. The PC decided not to offer Movies@Malmesbury any financial support.

19. First Aid Training. The PC discussed buying in first aid training for residents (nor just defib training). Some costs had been obtained – from 2 different commercial

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providers, courses for up to 12 people cost about £400. It was decided that the Chairman would draft some words for the Grapevine (but the same problem – the next available issue was the Aug/Sep issue) and the Clerk would research more providers.

Action: Clerk

20. Hillwell Trees. This problem had been raised at the Annual Village Meeting a week earlier. The Hillwell trees were causing problems in 3 areas: reducing visibility to the left when trying to drive out from Hillwell; reducing the space provided for car parking in Hillwell; and reducing the available space on the footpath from Hillwell eastward. The Clerk reported that he was in negotiation with the householder. The PC agreed that he should now call in Highways who might have powers to speed up the clearing of the problems.

Action: Clerk

21. Hankerton Booklet. The Clerk reported: the booklet was intended to be given to new arrivals; Robin Tjolle held the last 20 copies and had been responsible recently for giving copies to the new arrivals; he was happy to continue with this if the PC wanted; and with 20 copies remaining now was too early for a reprint. The PC agreed to accept Robin Tjolle's offer. The Clerk would draft a one-page amendment insert to be added to future issued copies.

Action: Clerk

22. Best Kept Village Competition. The BKV judging period had just start, continuing until mid-June. The village Litterpick had not taken place (due to torrential rain on the scheduled day) – was anything else needed (apart from all residents to pick up any litter seen)? The decision was no action needed.

23. Footpaths. The Clerk had been asked at the last meeting to care-take Footpaths until a Cllr was appointed to the role. He had met and talked to 2 landowners since the last meeting. He urged residents to walk the footpaths if they had been sown – “you know where the footpaths are, walk on them and walk the crops into the ground”.

24. Planning. Report on Planning Applications:

- Considered by the PC since the last meeting:
 - none.
- Decided by Wilts Council since the last meeting:
 - Little Acre Chapel Lane single-storey side extension,
 - Rookery Farm barn
 - Both permitted .
- Earlier Planning Applications not yet decided:
 - Five Lanes Solar Farm,
 - Land at Purlieus Farm – variation of conditions,
 - Minety Sub-station extension,
 - Old Post Office.
- Current Planning Applications:
 - Land west of Bullocks Horn lane.
 - Just arrived, too late for agenda – Minety Solar Farm, variation of conditions, specifically increase of battery units from 12 to 22.
- Appeal:
 - 35 Chapel Lane, refusal of PL/2022/01233.

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25. Councillors' Observations/Points for the Next Meeting. None

23. Next Meetings. 3 Jul, 4 Sep, 6 Nov.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Chairman