

MINUTES OF HANKERTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 6 NOV 23

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Held on Monday 6 November 2023 at 7.30 pm in the North Aisle, Hankerton Church

Present: Parish Cllrs Jacqui Erskine-Crum (Chairman), David Bosley, Dai Davies, Denis DeSouza, Malcolm Gerald, Kate Nurden: M R Bromley Gardner (Clerk); Wilts Cllr Elizabeth Threlfall; and 17 members of the public.

1. Apologies. Cllr Richard Barrow.
2. Public Questions/Receipt of Petitions.
 - A resident complained about a basketball hoop and a car parked on the turning circle of Hillwell, and an unevenness on Footpath Hillwell-Church Lane. Chairman and Clerk, perhaps with other Cllrs, would look at it in the near future.
 - Why the audit fine? Explanation was given (see Minutes of 4 Sep 23, para 7).
 - Various residents spoke about the planning application for 5 Follyfield.
3. Declarations Of Interest. None.
4. Urgent Matters at Chairman's Discretion. None.
5. Minutes of Last Meeting. The Minutes of the last meeting (held on 4 Sep 23) had been circulated in advance. They were approved and signed. Some Cllr profiles were still outstanding.
6. Finance. There was £5737 in the 2 accounts. The following payments were authorised:
 - 2023/9, £48, to PKF Littlejohn LLP, audit fine.
 - 2023/10, £162, to Community Heartbeat Trust, defibrillator annual support cost.
7. Planning Applications Consideration. Decision: in future all planning applications will be decided in a PC meeting. If there isn't a planned PC meeting that would achieve a decision by the required response date, either a later response date will need to be negotiated, or an additional meeting will need to be arranged.
8. Reducing Vehicle Speeds. Decision: the PC would submit a LHFIG request form, explaining the PC's intent, outlining the proposed measures (as follows), and requesting advice.
 - Additional signs to be fixed below the 3 village signs, giving some form of 'slow down' message – detailed wording to be decided later.
 - Rumble strips and painted 'SLOW' on the road in 3 places – roughly in the Holt area, on Cloatley Road near Chapel Lane, and just north of Hankerton Bridge.

Action: Clerk
9. Flooding. The recent flooding was discussed. Knowing that David Pynn had sent photographs and video clips of water rising out of the sewer manhole covers on 3 recent dates, the PC decided that if no satisfactory response was received from Wessex Water with one week, the PC would write to the Chief Executive of Wessex Water. The Chairman and David Bosley would work on the letter. **Action: Chairman, David Bosley**

Chairman

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10. Planning Application PL/2023/08418 – 5 Follyfield. The planning application was discussed including hearing from residents. Decision:
- The PC objected to the application to vary the siting due what seems to be a consequent lack of off-road car parking space; and while difficult to tell from the drawings, it looks as if the garage isn't a garage at all, being too small to take a car, thus amplifying the car parking problem.
 - The PC objected to the applications to vary the materials and fenestration as aesthetically Follyfield should remain as originally designed.
11. Investing the £60K. This was just to introduce the subject, no decision needed yet. The question for Cllrs to answer would be this: did they want to invest to maintain value over time, or to increase value? The latter would be the riskier course, the former the safer. If choosing the former, the Clerk recommended CCLA as a safe and well-reported investment company.
12. Water Butt at Bus Shelter. In Richard Barrow's absence (he had promised to provide a water butt) there was nothing to be said.
13. Upkeep of Bus Shelter. The PC decided to accept that there was a problem at the bus shelter that needed attention and that the single quote for £345 provided by Kate Nurden should be accepted. **Action: Clerk**
14. First Aid Training. The Chairman reported that the training would cost about £400 for up to 12 people but that so far only 4 names had been put forward. She would re-advertise again. **Action: Chairman**
15. Precept 2024/25 – 1st Look. The Clerk talked through the draft that he had issued to Cllrs. The Tax Base had not yet been announced. The main unknown was the amount that might be spent on anti-speeding measures.
16. No item 16.
17. Amenity Area Willows. In Richard Barrow's absence, it was understood that he had not started work on the willows yet but that he would do so, and the Clerk reported that he had discussed the willows growing in the pond with the owner's agent and that we had permission to clear all the self-propagated willows in the pond itself.
18. Planning. Report on Planning Applications:
- Considered by the PC since the last meeting: None
 - Decided by Wilts Council since the last meeting: None.
 - Not yet decided: Minety Substation Expansion. Minety Solar Farm, variation of conditions. Yew Tree Farm, demolish and replace (note Conservation Officer objection).
19. Councillors' Observations/Points for the Next Meeting. Eastcourt signpost.
21. Next Meetings. 8 Jan, 4 Mar, (13 May AVM), 20 May APCM, 1 Jul, 2 Sep, 4 Nov.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Chairman