

# Hanley Castle Parish Council

**Minutes** of the September Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023 in Hanley Swan Village Hall.

**Present:** Councillors: Sue Roberts (Chairman), Alex Walker, Sue Adeney, Angela Hartland, Lesley Smith, Sara Beadon.

**Apologies:** Councillors Pippa Barkley & Alison Sparkes; Peter Goodyear, DCllr Katherine Wells.

**In Attendance:** The Clerk, C & DCllr Tom Wells, Nick Harper (Pond Warden), Steve Gogerty (NHDP) and 10 parishioners.

**99/23 Welcome and Apologies:** Cllr Roberts welcomed everyone to the September meeting of the Parish Council. Cllr Roberts accepted the apologies received by the Clerk.

## **100/23 Declarations of Interest & Dispensation Requests from Councillors**

- a) Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded that they must complete the register of interests following the election – The Clerk had previously emailed a copy to each Councillor.
- b) Dispensations. Councillors had completed dispensation forms relating to precept setting and finance and these had been granted for a period of four years.

**101/23 Minutes:** The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023 had been previously circulated and the minutes were **approved.**

*The meeting was then closed.*

The presence of Himalayan Balsam in the Parish was raised. It is known to be a very invasive species and it was asked that the Parish Council seek advice on how to handle it.

**ACTION: The Clerk was asked to contact Worcestershire Wildlife Trust, the County Council and DEFRA.**

The Council were asked to pay for the Insurance for the Community Orchard again and this was approved. The Chairman was asked to contact the Solicitor and ask for copies of the transfer of Ownership of the Orchard to the Parish Council.

## **102/23 Matters Arising and Progress Reports** for information:

- a) Action list was discussed and updated.

## **103/23 Finance:**

- a) Payments in the schedule of Appendix 1 were approved.
- b) Receipts: None received.
- c) Cllr Adeney asked the Council to consider covering the cost of the hot food served at the first Cafe Tuesday hot meal; this was to become a monthly event with subsequent meals covered by donations. The payment of £84 was approved. Additional expenditure for advertising banners was also approved.

**104/23 Planning:** a) To Consider the following applications:

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<a href="#">M/23/01276/NMA</a>	Merebrook Farm Hanley Swan Worcester WR8 0DX	Non-material amendment following a grant of planning permission 21/02121/HP. Remove the corner window of the north (front) elevation and replace with a central window
No Objections		
<a href="#">M/23/00998/FUL</a>	Haylers End Energy Recovery Plant Hangmans Lane Hanley Castle Worcester WR8 0AJ	Change of use of waste incinerator Brown Field site for static lodge and stable.
Object as it is a green field site not a brown field site. Request further detail of retrospective and new parts to the application		
<a href="#">M/23/01118/HP</a>	4 Vicarage Fields Hanley Castle Worcestershire WR8 0BF	First floor side extension and rear lean-to canopy
No Objection		
<a href="#">M/23/00836/FUL</a>	Gilberts End Farm Gilberts End Hanley Castle Worcester WR8 0AR	Proposed erection of a new dwellinghouse to replace an existing agricultural building (scheme in lieu of Class Q prior approval for conversion)
No Objection		
<a href="#">M/23/00741/HP</a>	Cotteswold Hanley Swan Worcester WR8 0DN	replace approved single-storey side extension with a two-storey side extension
Objection previously submitted		

b) Planning Decisions:

<a href="#">M/23/00826/HP</a>	Maple House Gilberts End Lane Hanley Castle Worcester WR8 0BX	Conversion of detached garage into a annex. The accommodation is required to provide additional support to disabled relative and will remain part of the single unit (Maple House)	Application Refused
<a href="#">M/23/00666/FUL</a>	Girlguiding Worcestershire Blackmore End Hanley Swan Worcester WR8 0EE	Demolition of existing toilet building to be replaced with detached shower and toilet block.	Application Approved

<a href="#">M/23/00767/HP</a>	Crantock Gilberts End Hanley Castle Worcester WR8 0AS	Erection of a single storey, oak framed and oak clad outbuilding to the northern boundary to provide a combined shed, summerhouse and home office.	Application Approved
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**105/23 District and County Councillors' Reports:** Cllr Tom Wells had received a request for double yellow lines on Church End from a parishioner, following an occasion when the refuse collection vehicle could not access the village, but it was asked who would enforce any parking restrictions. The High School had asked for 20mph flashing lights/safety signage but at £32,000 it was considered too expensive. The County Council were considering solar 20mph signs instead which would be much cheaper to install so this would be supported. If flashing 20mph signs were acceptable it might be a help in trying to reduce to a 30mph zone. He reported that the dial a bus service was not working very well, it was complicated and hard to follow. Cllr Adeney mentioned Kinross which had a successful rural bus service and said she would contact them to find out how they operated it. Cllr Wells advised that Malvern Hills had to deliver 14,800 houses in the SWDPR.

**ACTION: Cllr Adeney to investigate the Kinross Bus.**

**106/23 Report of the:**

**a) Parish Paths Warden** – Report read out.

**b) Pond Warden** – A request had been made for a commemorative plaque by one of the oak trees to remember a previous Pond Warden. It was discussed and voted against due to possible damage to the tree and the preferred option of a bench or noticeboard was suggested. The Duck Houses' floating height had been successfully adjusted. The Clerk was asked to contact Worcestershire Pathways and ask if the Noticeboard by the Pond could be updated to include history and wildlife information.

**c) Playing Field Warden** – The groundworks on the playing field had been successful and the grass was greatly improved. Further work had been suggested and it was hoped that grants would cover the cost but a request was made for an additional £2000 in the interim so the work could be started. This was voted on and approved.

**d) NHDP** – An Update was provided; the failure of MHDC to demonstrate a 5 year housing land supply was a blow and could have implications until the SWDPR is approved. A new NHDP would be required in 2026 and a consultant to assist with the workload was requested. The Clerk was asked to contact Kempsey to find out about their experience.

CALC were holding a training session that a few of the Committee would attend. The Committee were drafting a detailed timeline against national policy.

The Clerk would make a note of planning applications that refer to the NHDP and also contact CALC to ask what funding may be available.

**ACTION: Clerk to contact Kempsey PC and CALC.**

**e) Local Police** – report circulated ahead of the meeting. The new contract was agreed and the Clerk would return it. A request for them to attend a meeting to talk about Neighbourhood Matters and successes in tackling local crime.

**ACTION: Invite Police to a future meeting.**

**107/23 Highways Matters**

a) Road Safety Matters– Cllr Beadon reported on an accident on the B4211 at the end of the school day - it was not sure if the police had been notified so the Clerk was asked to send the photos to the police. The Elan City VAS was discussed and it

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was agreed that they would be a good addition, the Clerk was awaiting a response from Highways regarding a new pole on Worcester Road which would be a good location for the existing VAS. Crouching Policemen had been recommended as a speeding deterrent, Cllr Beadon to get a mock-up of one.

There had been a problem on Church End whereby the parked vehicles prevented a bin lorry getting through and raised concerns regarding the access for emergency vehicles. The issues were parking in the pinch point and parking in the village. It was agreed that Cllr Adeney would contact the Head Teacher regarding it.

**ACTION: Clerk to contact the Police and Highways. Cllr Beadon to investigate signs. Cllr Adeney to contact the Headteacher.**

b) Works for the Lengthsman – The Lengthsman was booked onto the required training course to be able to work on the roads.

### **108/23 Carbon Neutral Working Group**

a) The Habitat group's trial areas had been surveyed and showed that in some areas coarse grasses were dominating, outcompeting flowering perennials, so a different management approach would be tried out next year and yellow rattle seed added this autumn to help reduce the grassiness in these areas. Cllr Adeney would contact Chris Lewis-Farley to meet at Chapman's Orchard to arrange a meeting to go around all of the green infrastructure sites. **ACTION: Cllr Adeney to contact Chris Lewis-Farley.**

b) Allotment – following the initial response no further communication had been received. The Clerk would continue to pursue the matter.

### **109/23 Correspondence**

a) Show Tickets – All had been successfully distributed.

b) Use of playing field – it had been approved to allow a hall booking use of the field as long as the ground was dry.

### **110/23 Topics raised by Councillors, Committees, Clerk & Parishioners**

a) British Legion Building – it was agreed that the Clerk and Cllr Adeney would revisit applying for it to be an asset of community value. **ACTION: The Clerk and Cllr Adeney to revisit asset of community value.**

b) Albion Lodge – Concerns had been raised by parishioners about what was happening as building work appeared to have ground to a halt.

c) Christmas Fayre – Cllr Smith said that a traditional Christmas Fayre was being planned to be held in Hanley Swan around the Green.

**111/23 Date of next meeting:** The date of the next meeting was set for 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

Signed ..... Date: 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
Chairman

Appendix 1: Schedule of Payments & Receipts 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023.

**Payments to be Approved at September Meeting**

Zurich Insurance		Additional Premium	57.76
Rebecca Abunassar		August Salary	606.20
A J Gammond		Underground Pipe	90.00
PKF		Annual Audit	252.00
Nick Harper		Duck House Maintenance	86.35
New Farm Ground Maintenance		August Cuts Inc Hanley Habitat	1150.90
P Davighi-Edwards		Sky Plastics - additional caps	94.36
MHDC		Uncontested Election	50.00

Signed ..... Date: 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
Chairman