

Hanley Castle Parish Council

Minutes of the October Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 19th October 2023 in Hanley Swan Village Hall.

Present: Councillors: Sue Roberts (Chairman), Alex Walker, Sue Adeney, Angela Hartland, Lesley Smith, Pippa Barkley.

Apologies: Councillors: Sara Beadon & Alison Sparkes; Peter Goodyear (PPW), DCllr Katherine Wells.

In Attendance: The Clerk, C & DCllr Tom Wells, Nick Harper (Pond Warden), Steve Gogerty (NHDP), Graham Holmes (Playing Field Warden) and 2 parishioners.

112/23 Welcome and Apologies: Cllr Roberts welcomed everyone to the October meeting of the Parish Council. Cllr Roberts accepted the apologies received by the Clerk.

113/23 Declarations of Interest & Dispensation Requests from Councillors

- a) Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded that they must be kept up to date.
- b) Dispensations. No requests had been made.

101/23 Minutes: The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 21st September 2023 had been previously circulated and the minutes were **approved** following amendment to 'In Attendance' section to include Graham Holmes (Playing Field Warden).

The meeting was then closed.

It was raised that the Pump House had broken tiles and asked if it could be repaired. The bollard in front of it was also broken.

ACTION: Cllr Walker to report tiles to the owner Nick Lechmere and the Clerk to report the bollard to Highways.

102/23 Matters Arising and Progress Reports for information:

- a) Action list was discussed and updated.
- b) Parking by the Schools – An issue with parking at the Primary School had been raised by a parishioner. It was thought that it had been due to the village hall hosting an event and was not a daily occurrence. It was agreed to contact the Headmaster and ask if they would consider a Travel Survey.
ACTION: Cllrs Beadon & Barkley. A meeting at the High School to discuss parking was being held and the Parish Council had been invited.

103/23 Finance:

- a) Payments in the schedule of Appendix 1 were approved.
- b) Receipts: £11,000 precept instalment.

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

M/23/01261/FUL	Sink Farm Hangmans Lane Hanley Castle Worcester WR8 0AJ	Proposed erection of 6 no. 5m tall floodlights to serve existing an equestrian manege
No Objections raised		
M/23/01408/NMA	Merebrook Farm Hanley Swan Worcester WR8 0DX	Non-material amendment following a grant of planning permission 21/02121/HP. Removal of one velux roof window to south (rear) elevation. Inclusion of two velux roof windows to north (front) elevation.
No Objection – Application Approved		
M/23/00809/LB	Pool House Hanley Road Upton Upon Severn Worcester	Replacement of metal framed window with timber cross casement to match others on east elevation
No Objection Raised		

c) Applications that arrived after Agenda

M/23/01387/FUL	The Royal British Legion Coverfield Hanley Swan Worcester WR8 0EG	Demolition of former Royal British Legion and erection of detached dwellinghouse
Extension of time requested		

d) Planning Decisions:

M/23/01276/NMA	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	Application Approved
M/23/01118/HP	4 Vicarage Fields Hanley Castle Worcestershire	First floor side extension and rear lean-to canopy	Application Approved

105/23 District and County Councillors' Reports: Cllr Tom Wells addressed the Council. He advised that the SWDPR was in the examination phase. He also said that he had been invited to attend a meeting at HCHS on the 6th November and was pleased to see the Parish Council had also been invited. He talked about the idea of installing 20mph flashing signs outside the High School but the costs were estimated to be around £12000 and he asked if the Parish Council would consider the possibility of helping to fund them and consider the ongoing costs. He updated the Council on the Picken End application which was awaiting an action by the Developer; there was a new case officer appointed who hoped to bring it to a conclusion as soon as possible. He also advised that large sections of County Hall were closed due to RAAC Concrete - it was thought that it might take several years before it would reopen fully.

The Worcestershire On Demand Bus Service was being relaunched. It was hoped that the issues had been resolved. It was still a 2 year project with 2 minibuses involved. The soft launch did not go well and the service may require the Town and Parish Councils to promote it.

106/23 Report of the:

a) Parish Paths Warden – No Report Received but the Clerk had been advised that the Scheme was moving under the administration of the Lengthsman Scheme.
b) Pond Warden – A memorial bench for Brian Robinson had been approved. It would require a concrete base and Cllr Walker would ask for a quotation for the work. New bins were being ordered to replace the ones currently there. The Noticeboard was discussed and it was agreed to look at putting the Information Section under the Noticeboard. Cllr Roberts to see if it is something that could be built and printed by Blake of Ocean Blue Graphics.

ACTION: Clerk to Order Bins & Bench, Cllr Roberts to look into Information Board.

c) Playing Field Warden – Further work to improve the Playing Field had been undertaken. £1000 in sponsorship had been raised towards the work. Three of the bins being purchased would be allocated to the Playing Field.

d) NHDP – An update was provided on the latest NHDP activity. CALC were holding training sessions which would be attended by one of the Steering Committee. The Clerk had received information from Kempsey and CALC regarding possible sources of funding if required in the future and this would be passed on.

e) Local Police – They had been invited to attend the November meeting.

107/23 Highways Matters

a) Road Safety Matters– Cllr Barkley advised that the Elan VAS was £2700 and if purchased it was intended to move the existing VAS to Worcester Road but contact would be made with Highways regarding the current pole suitability and to request a new one on the west side of Worcester Road in a suitable location to ensure it would not encroach over the edge of the road.

The accident that had been reported at the last meeting was attributed to driver inexperience rather than speed.

The use of Crouching Policeman was raised again and confirmation on the cost of them was awaited. Cllr Barkley said that she would speak with Highways to ensure that they had no objection to the use of them.

ACTION: Cllr Barkley & Cllr Beadon to arrange a meeting with Highways

b) Works for the Lengthsman – Nothing reported.

108/23 Carbon Neutral Working Group

a) The Lime at Cross Hands had been worked on by WCC contractors. It was thought to have a hollow centre and to be hundreds of years old. It was agreed to ask for a professional opinion. **ACTION: Cllr Walker to ask Mark Eveleigh.**

It was tree planting season and a note would be put in the Parish Link reminding anyone wishing to plant trees that saplings were available. The pollution of the Poolbrook was thought to be from Severn Trent, the Clerk was asked to put this as an Agenda Item for November's meeting. A talk on green banking and ethical investment was being planned.

ACTION: Put Poolbrook Pollution on Agenda.

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

c) Carbon Neutral Policy – The Policy document had been circulated to the Councillors. It was agreed to have it as an Item of discussion on the November Agenda.

ACTION: Add discussion on Carbon Neutral Policy as an Agenda Item.

109/23 Correspondence

- a) Marches Homes – Email Circulated and shared with NHDP Steering Committee.
- b) Worcestershire Tree Warden Scheme & Enhancing Wildlife in the Parish – Email Circulated.
- c) Polling Station Review – Email Circulated and no action required.
- d) Increase in Village Hall Rates – Email Circulated and increase accepted.
- e) Zero Hour Climate & Ecology Bill – The Bill was discussed in depth and it was proposed by Cllr Adeney that the Parish Council sign it. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Walker but there were 3 votes against so the motion was not supported. Councillors could sign as individuals but not in their role as Councillor.
- f) Parish Paths Partnership Scheme – Incorporation into the Lengthsman Scheme
- g) SWDP Review Update – Email Circulated.

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

- a) Christmas Tree for Hanley Swan – Cllr Smith raised the request of having a Christmas Tree on the Village Green. It was discussed and agreed that it would be looked into by Cllr Walker (Tree) and Cllr Smith (Solar Lighting) and reported back to the Council at the November meeting. **ACTION: Cllr Walker & Cllr Smith to research.**
- b) Albion Lodge – Scaffolding had been installed so the Council hoped that work had recommenced.
- c) Cider Mill on Ewe & Lamb Green – It was reported that the woodwork on the mill was rotting and the Parish Council discussed the possibility of restoring it. **ACTION: Cllr Walker to ask Nick, a Carpenter, if he was able to assist.**

111/23 Date of next meeting: The date of the next meeting was set for 16th November 2023.

Signed Date: 16th November 2023
Chairman

Appendix 1: Schedule of Payments & Receipts 19th October 2023.

Payments to be Approved at October Meeting

Rebecca Abunassar	September Salary	£606.20
New Farm Ground Maintenance	September Cuts	£805.30
NFU Mutual	Orchard Insurance	£226.68
PA Tennant Thomas	Food for Toastie Tuesdays	£84.93
Hanley Castle High School	Verti-draining	£375.00
		£2098.11

Signed Date: 16th November 2023
Chairman