



## Full Council Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 Minutes

Date: 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2024 Time: 7:30pm	
Venue: The Annexe, Hackleton Village Hall	
Parish Councillors In attendance: T Barwick, F Billingham, W Blake, T Charteress, S Coombes, R Hawkesford, P Heap, D Noble & G Ward. Also in attendance: One member of the public, Unitary Councillor F Cole & Parish Clerk A Benson	
<b>001/24</b>	<b>To receive apologies for absence</b> Apologies were received from Councillors C Lloyd & J Clark
<b>002/24</b>	<b>Approval of the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024</b> <b>RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 be approved</b>
<b>003/24</b>	<b>Matters arising from the last minutes</b> The Parish Council's formal complaint to WNC regarding the sink hole on Newport Pagnell Road has not been dealt with as per WNC's complaints policy. Issue to be escalated.
<b>004/24</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> – There were no declarations of interest
<b>005/24</b>	<b>Dispensations</b> – No requests for dispensation had been received
<b>006/24</b>	<b>Public Time</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Unitary Councillor Cole provided an updating report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WNC's budget 2024/25 is open for consultation until 23/01/24</li> <li>• WNC's Cabinet has published its Forward Plan</li> <li>• Various updates were discussed regarding issues outstanding in the parish</li> </ul> </li> <li>b. A member of the public spoke about Community Speed Watch and encouraged more volunteers to come forward. They questioned the lack of a Section 50 licence on the post on Brafield Road and suggested the parish council form a highways working party or similar</li> </ol>
<b>007/24</b>	<b>Clerk's Report</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two mowers are being serviced and the blades changed in the hedge trimmers. The other two mowers will be serviced at the beginning of the season.</li> <li>• The £700 grant for the Good Neighbour Scheme has been received</li> <li>• WNC has confirmed our tax base for 2024/25 as 1261.9 rather than the draft figure of 1261.3 so this reduces our precept increase very marginally from 2.99% to 2.95%</li> <li>• Flooding in Preston Deanery and Brafield Road has been reported to Street doctor</li> <li>• All defibrillator pads are being changed as they are up to their use by dates</li> <li>• Parking issues have been raised with the football club</li> <li>• The speed limit in Preston Deanery has been escalated for action</li> </ul>
<b>008/24</b>	<b>To receive reports from Councillors attending outside meetings</b> Councillors Billingham & Charteress and the Clerk attended a briefing on the Community Governance Review Councillor Lloyd attended the Hackleton School Governors meeting Councillors Blake & Heap attended a meeting about a potential dementia pilot

	Councillors Charteress & Ward attended a site meeting at Hatch Lane – see minute 014/24d
009/24	<p><b>Footpaths</b></p> <p>WNC Highways have confirmed that the Parish Council cannot undertake remedial work to the footpath between the Village Hall car park and St Johns Way but it could contribute to the works. As a starting point they will obtain a price to re-surface the footpath. Concerns regarding the footpath flooding were also discussed. <b>Action: Councillors Charteress &amp; Ward to arrange a site meeting with the Environment Agency</b></p>
010/24	<p><b>Finance &amp; Governance</b></p> <p>a. <b>RESOLVED: To ratify payments made out of meeting and approve payment of outstanding invoices/accounts as per the schedule circulated.</b> Councillor Barwick had completed the ICC monthly check of invoices</p> <p>b. The receipts and payments account for month 9 of 2023/24 was received and compared to budget. <b>RESOLVED: The figures presented represent the current financial position of HPC.</b> The bank reconciliation as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 was received. <b>RESOLVED: To approve the bank reconciliation as presented current account £78,574.13 deposit account £145,929.82</b></p> <p>c. <b>RESOLVED: To approve payment of a grant of £6000.00 to the Village Hall to assist with increased utility costs.</b></p>
011/24	<p><b>Cemetery</b></p> <p>A request for the interment of ashes into an existing grave was considered. <b>RESOLVED: To agree to the request and to amend the Cemetery Regulations to allow interments at a date and time to be agreed with the Clerk</b></p>
012/24	<p><b>Memorial Testing</b></p> <p>The Memorial Testing Report was received and discussed. <b>Action: Councillor Coombes to speak to a monumental mason regarding the cost of remedial works and report back to council. Letters to be issued to families requesting remedial works be undertaken to unstable memorials</b></p>
013/24	<p><b>Recreation Ground</b></p> <p>a. Remedial works to the play equipment remain outstanding</p> <p>b. Following a request to WNC to pipe the ditch adjacent to the pedestrian entrance they have confirmed that they are drafting a scheme to install gullies in the ditch to manage drainage from the adjacent land and resolve highway run-off. The gullies will then be closed over and the area be left to re-wild. The plans for this scheme are currently being drafted and it is envisaged that they will be included in the arrangements for financial year 2024 – 2025</p> <p>c. Quotes were received for the self-closing mechanism on the new pedestrian gate <b>RESOLVED: To purchase the higher specification mechanism which is vandal-proof cost £408.00</b></p> <p>d. Concerns regarding dog fouling on the Recreation Ground were discussed. <b>Action: Councillor Coombes to design posters which will be displayed all around the Recreation Ground. Parish Mag' and Social Media to be used to request residents pick-up after their dogs at all times and keep dogs on leads in the play area.</b> If issues are not resolved then the Parish Council may have no option but to ban dogs</p>
014/24	<p><b>Highways</b></p> <p>a. Concerns regarding road safety around the School were discussed. <b>Action: Councillors Barwick, Coombes, Noble, Ward and the Clerk to undertake a site meeting at school pick-up or drop off time to agree what locations could be used for cut-out signage and banners</b></p>

	<b>b.</b> Councillors Charteress & Ward attended a site meeting at Hatch Lane. WNC agreed that the lane needs resurfacing and are currently looking at solutions
<b>015/24</b>	<b>Horton Churchyard Wall</b> The Planning Department has confirmed that the curtilage wall is listed. <b>Action: Clerk to contact the PCC to discuss and Planning Enforcement to be contacted regarding the attachment of the fibreglass roof at the French Partridge to the churchyard wall</b>
<b>016/24</b>	<b>Planning</b> <b>RESOLVED: To ratify the decision made out of meeting to instruct a consultant to advise the Parish Council on planning application 2023/7948/FULL – Erection of a Boundary Fence – Land south of Horton Road subject to an Article 4 Direction</b>
<b>017/24</b>	<b>RESOLVED: To exclude the press and public due to the confidential nature of the next item of business</b>
<b>018/24</b>	<b>Staffing</b> Staffing issues were discussed
<b>019/24</b>	<b>Meeting Dates</b> <b>RESOLVED: To confirm the 2024/25 meeting dates as: 9th April, 14th May, (23rd May Annual Parish Meeting), 11th June, 23rd July, 3rd September, 8th October, 12th November, 10th December, 14th January, 11th February &amp; 11th March</b>
<b>020/24</b>	<b>Next meeting</b> <b>Full Council Meeting Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024 7:30pm</b> Members are requested to forward any items for the agenda to the Clerk by 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2024

**The meeting closed at 9:10pm**