

## HATHERSAGE PARISH COUNCIL

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### Leisure, Facilities and Amenities Committee (LFAC) meeting Tuesday 14 May 2024, 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall (Sampson Room) MINUTES

**Present:** Cllrs Jane Marsden (Chair); Tim Hill; James Marsden; Heather Rodgers; Peter Rowland  
**In attendance:** Maura Sorensen (Clerk); member of the public James Mee (*part - for agenda item 6/minute item 006/24*)

- 001/24 **Apologies for absence** – Cllrs Bridget Hanley and Rosie Olle.
- 002/24 **Order of business – any variation** – none.
- 003/24 **Public participation** – Mr James Mee for agenda item 6 (minute item 006/24). Mr Mee had contacted the Parish Council at the end of January querying the reasons for [his] payment of a license fee to Hathersage Parish Council for access to his property, Brook House, and outlining the research he had undertaken supporting his contention that he should not have to pay this fee. Mr Mee reiterated and expanded upon the content of his original email. The Chair confirmed with Mr Mee that the Parish Council had sought legal advice, noting it had taken some time to procure the advice. The Chair acknowledged legal advice provided to the Parish Council supported Mr Mee's contentions - that the Council had no grounds to charge an access license fee. Noted advice from solicitors – both for Mr Mee and for the Parish Council - at the time of Mr Mee's purchase of Brook House (in 2007) had not reflected what Mr Mee had subsequently uncovered about his legal right of access. Mr Mee noted that, though the bus shelter was technically sited where he has right of access, he had no issue with the siting of the shelter.  
Noted the amount in licence fees that Mr Mee had paid since 2007; Mr Mee estimated this at approximately £6K.  
The Chair asked what Parish Council measures would be acceptable to Mr Mee. Mr Mee suggested a partial repayment of license fees paid since 2007 – suggesting a figure of £2.5K – would be acceptable. The Chair asked Mr Mee to set this out in writing [in an email] noting the matter would then be considered at the 4 June full Parish Council meeting. Mr Mee agreed to do so, and he left the meeting.
- 004/24 **Declaration of interests in matters on the agenda** – none.
- 005/24 **Minutes of the meeting held on 9 April 2024 were confirmed.**
- .1 **Action Log - noted actions and agreed some further/follow-up actions (*noted in the Log*).**
- 006/24 **Brook House and Right of Access:** Cllrs noted actions agreed with Mr Mee at item 003/24. **Confirmed** immediate termination of the license fee. **Noted a recommendation** to the Parish Council to consider a partial reimbursement of license fees paid (an amount of £2.5K) to Mr Mee.
- 007/24 **Playground and Play Equipment** - maintenance, repairs or other matters. Referenced the RoSPA report circulated earlier in the day – to be considered in greater depth - suggested convening a site meeting at which the detail of the RoSPA report would be considered – Leisure Services Manager (LSM) and Village Caretaker to be invited to participate. Noted also late circulation of the regular Alliance Environmental (AE) report. When reviewing the RoSPA report, consideration to be given to any specific directions to AE about regular testing and/or treating play equipment. **ACTION – site meeting to be convened in due course.**  
Cllr Hill flagged a loose block in the wall bordering the playing field **ACTION – Cllr Hill to flag this with the contractor (Nick Howarth)**  
Cllr Rodgers flagged that the area inside the fence by the commemorative oak tree needs tidying up **ACTION – Clerk to liaise with contractor (Redwood).**

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- 008/24 **MUGA** - maintenance, repairs or other matters. Noted an update from the LSM that one of the MUGA users had tried to effect a surface repair (where there was a hole/tear in the surface). LSM will address this with the MUGA user noting staff had been waiting for a spell of drier weather before undertaking the surface repair.  
Cllr Rodgers referenced protecting Memorial Hall windows from damage where footballs are kicked out of the MUGA *noted this was a matter for the Memorial Hall Management Committee.*
- 009/24 **Hathersage Playing Field Association (HPFA)** – Cllr Rodgers noted she was liaising with members about scheduling an HPFA meeting.
- 010/24 **Heart of Hathersage (HoH) and Parish Rooms**
- .1 Updates on various repairs **noted** in the Action Log.
  - .2 Provision of a desk, tables and shelving – Cllr Hill referenced provision of some offcuts to be used for shelving – further investigation needed.
- 011/24 **Bund wall / grass verge, Jagers Lane** – **noted** verge cutting had been completed and **noted** a request from the contractor for some additional payment related to additional time taken on this job. Cllrs **agreed** an additional payment of £40.00 **ACTION – Clerk to liaise with the contractor and the RFO re invoicing for the additional amount.**
- 012/24 **Biodiversity Policy and Action Plan** – standing agenda item – note ongoing initiatives; flag any proposed initiatives. Nothing to add or note, this month.
- 013/24 **Parish benches and seats**
- .1 **Consider** seeking tenders for maintenance. Noted the contractor appointed to undertake maintenance and treatment a couple of years ago had no availability, currently. The Chair noted no immediate works were needed on the majority of benches and seats. Suggested the Heart of Hathersage seating may need treatment – **agreed** professional advice be sought **ACTION – Cllr Hill to liaise with Pennine Woodworking.**
  - .2 **Provision of a seat next to the post box (at the start of Station Approach)** – to **consider**. Queried whether a seat had, previously, been sited there **ACTION – Cllr Rowland to investigate**. Cllrs discussed possible alternative sites in the vicinity, and types of benches/seats. Queried, if it was agreed to place a bench or seat at Station Approach, whether it should be a memorial or commemorative bench/seat. Queried whether permission would be needed [and from whom] to site a bench/seat. **Suggested if queries about previous siting of a bench/seat, and whether permission is needed, are addressed ahead of the June full Parish Council meeting, it may be possible for firm recommendations to be considered at the meeting.**
- 014/24 **Millenium Tree Plaques** – the Chair shared an update including further work needed; suggested liaison with another (more local) contractor – Cllr Rodgers shared contact details – Chair to liaise with the contractor.
- 015/24 **Toilets**
- .1 **Noted** the latest Wallgate service report.
  - .2 **Noted** the contract for cleaning of the toilets and the adjacent office/kitchen space had been awarded to Solutions 2 (Contract Cleaning) Limited, from 1 June 2024; and **noted** handover arrangements are being undertaken *Clerk looking to convene a meeting with current cleaner, Solutions 2 cleaner, Clerk, and Cllr Hill*. Cllrs noted the need to monitor cleaning under the new contractor; some concerns raised about whether a single daily clean would be sufficient over the busy summer months and summer weekends.
- 016/24 **Baulk Lane Dog Waste Bins** – **noted** confirmation from DDDC Cllr Simon Ripton that reinstatement of a bin has been agreed. Cllrs suggested the bin should be reinstated at its prior location. To be confirmed whether DDDC will provide the bin or whether the Parish Council will be expected to do so **ACTION - Clerk to liaise with DDDC Officer**.  
Cllr Hill had flagged an issue with an overflowing bin in the playing field. Noted it was the responsibility of DDDC to empty the playing field bins however the matter had been flagged with the Village Caretaker and he had agreed to resolve the current problem. Suggested, when meeting with the Village Caretaker about playing field equipment monitoring, also discussing with him his current village rounds and cleaning routines.

- 017/24 **Burial Ground Capacity** – the Chair shared a verbal update noting, following the formal Parish Council approach to the Shuttleworth Trust about making additional land available, Michael Shuttleworth had gotten in touch with her. He had noted the matter would be formally considered by the Trust. The Chair flagged other potential options including land adjacent to the vicarage (garden; allotments) – noted an approach would have to be made to the diocese.  
Cllr Rodgers referenced remaining spaces for burials - 23 at the bottom of the Burial Ground and capacity for one further row at the top. Suggested another approach – to maximise use – would be to limit further burials and increase capacity for interment of ashes.
- 018/24 **Any other maintenance, repairs or other matters to bring to the Committee's attention**  
Cllr Rodgers referenced loose and broken tarmac - and a loose grating – on the pool drive/ car park **ACTION – matter for SPC to consider**. Cllr Rodgers flagged that tarmac repairs were also needed on the Memorial Hall Drive/car park – suggested co-ordinating work at both sites.
- 019/24 **Clerk's Report/Correspondence** – none.
- 020/24 **Next meeting - Tuesday 11 June 2024 at 7.30pm, Hathersage Memorial Hall (Sampson Room).**  
**Noted** June agenda items.  
**Noted** the decision at May full Council to hold LFAC and Transport Committee meetings on the same dates with one meeting preceding the other (alternating priority). **Noted**, to manage this, both committees will need to closely adhere to agenda timings and may also need to agree a cut-off point where any items not addressed are deferred to the next meeting.

*Meeting ended at 9pm*

Signed:

Date:

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