

HATHERSAGE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk – Ms Maura Sorensen, Heart of Hathersage, Main Road, Hathersage, Derbyshire, S32 1BB

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Minutes of the meeting of Hathersage Parish Council held on Tuesday 3 December 2024, 7.30pm

Councillors present: Jane Marsden (Chair); Martin Bloor; B Hanley; W Hanley; Tim Hill; James Marsden; Rosie Olle; Heather Rodgers; Peter Rowland (*part*); James Shuttleworth; Nick Williams

In attendance: Chris Cave (RFO) (*part*); Maura Sorensen (Clerk); DDDC Cllrs Peter O’Brien and Simon Ripton (*part*)

- 153/24 Apologies for absence **received** and **accepted** from the Assistant Clerk.
- 154/24 To **decide** any variation in the order of business – agreed to take agenda item 10.4 (2025-26 Budget Planning) as the first substantive item (*see minute 162/24.4 for details*).
- 155/24 **Declaration of Members Interests** – Cllrs Tim Hill and Peter Rowland in relation to expenses claims.
- 156/24 **Public Participation.**
- a) A period of not more than ten minutes for members of the public and Members of the Council to comment on any matter.
- b) If the Police Liaison Officer, a County Council or District Council Member is in attendance they will have an opportunity to raise any relevant matter.
- Derbyshire Dales District Council (DDDC):** Cllr Ripton referenced matters discussed at the 24 November meeting with the Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner including speeding concerns. Cllr Ripton confirmed he had drafted a letter to Derbyshire County Council (DCC) – draft shared with the Commissioner, for comment. Cllr James Marsden noted 30mph limits could be extended on sections of roads with cycle lanes.
- Noted the recent message about alterations to Christmas and new year bin collections **ACTION – Clerk to post details on Facebook.**
- Derbyshire County Council (DCC):** dissatisfaction flagged with lack of gritting beyond primary routes. Suggested approaching DCC to request additional gritting **ACTION – Cllrs to advise Clerk re specific road requests.**
- Police:** no monthly report had been shared. Noted liaison with PCSO Boswell about setting up a Jagers Lane Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.
- c) A report on the 24 November open meeting with the Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner was **received**. The need for extra CCTV coverage (and related funding) was flagged. Cllr W Hanley referenced a conversation with a High Peak Police Officer about the Smart Water marking initiative; the Officer had noted Smart Water packs were available for distribution to the public. **ACTION – Cllr W Hanley to liaise further with the High Peaks Officer; Parish Council to look to organise distribution of packs to residents – suggested publicising this in Hathersage News (and other community social media).** Queried whether the Bakewell Safer Neighbourhood Team could distribute packs at their regular Hathersage community events.
- 157/24 **Minutes** of the HPC meeting of 5 November 2024 were **confirmed**; and actions arising from the minutes **noted**.
- 158/24 **PDNPA, DCC, DDDC matters; and related reports from community groups**
- .1 **PDNPA – oral report/update from Parish Member Cllr W Hanley.** Cllr Hanley referenced PDNPA briefings and a discussion on sustainable transport including linking up various trails. Referenced a review of the composition of the PDNPA Board, and Peak Park-wide representation – noted current representation does not accurately reflect populations across the Park. Referenced a significant PDNPA birthday in two years. Noted the Peak Park will feature on the 15 December episode of Countryfile.
- .2 **PDNPA Draft Local Plan and Parish Council response: noted** the HPC response had been submitted **ACTION - Clerk to circulate the response to all Cllrs.**

Signed:

Date:

Shuttleworth Lamp – restoration – next steps - to **consider** including any immediate actions and expenditure, and estimated overall restoration costs. The Chair flagged that the lamp had (briefly) stopped working – suggested it may have been weather-related – the lamp was now working again.

Cllr Hill summarised details of restoration works to be undertaken including the additional constraints related to the formal heritage status of the lamp. The Chair referenced a charge of £500 for specialist advice in advance of submitting a formal planning application. There was a significant discussion about whether this pre-planning advice was necessary. Cllr Olle flagged that the Parish Council will be applying for Listed Building Consent; fees for Listed Building Consent were unknown; **ACTION- Cllr Olle agreed to look into the charges and to seek some informal advice on the matter.**

Cllrs in favour of seeking formal advice noted the Council would not be able to undertake any works until full PDNPA consent was given. Cllrs also referenced input from local architect Tom Crooks. Noted Mr Crooks has expertise in this field and that he had advised the Council does seek formal pre-planning advice.

A vote was taken and a majority of seven Cllrs voted in favour of seeking formal planning advice at a cost of £500 (three Cllrs voted against).

Cllr W Hanley requested that regular reports and updates on progress – and expenditure – be shared with Cllrs – **agreed.**

Churchyard donation request: a donation of £1,500 was **agreed.**

Martyn’s Law (improving security in public premises against terrorist attack): a report from a recent DALC training event was received. The Clerk expanded noting the law was still in progress through parliament – details of implementation (and implications for parish councils) were awaited (once the law is formally passed).

Financial Matters:

- .1 **Received** the RFO’s Report.
- .2 Accounts for payment totalling £99,429.21 including £12,168.44 VAT were **approved** for payment.
- .3 **Noted** account scrutiny arrangements and **approved signatories** (Cllrs Martin Bloor and B Hanley) from the agreed schedule for the January 2025 meeting, to approve and pay wages and any urgent items between this meeting and the January 2025 meeting.
- .4 **2025-26 Budget Planning and Finance Committee recommendations:** to **consider.** A draft budget with Finance Committee recommendations had been shared. The RFO flagged specific items on which Cllrs input and agreement was sought, or to which Cllrs attention was drawn.

Salaries – noted it had been agreed to review the Clerk’s salary in December 2024 – *the Clerk left the room while this was discussed.*

IT – £3K allocated.

Legal advice - £5K allocated.

Toilet cleaning – noted costs will vary – lower costs in winter (fewer cleans) – noted a 5% increase in costs was anticipated, and budgeted.

Heart of Hathersage repairs – £1K allocated.

Shuttleworth Lamp - £20K had been allocated for repairs and renovation; *Cllrs asked that electricity costs for the lamp be reviewed alongside the repairs.*

Parish Rooms repairs – £500 allocated.

CCTV - £1.5K allocated for routine maintenance; noted other associated CCTV costs including a potential contribution to a Hope Valley ANPR system; *overall CCTV allocation of £9K agreed.*

Playing Field repairs - £1K allocated for works remaining to repoint the wall; £2K allocated for other/miscellaneous repairs.

Playing Field Bark - £2K allocated.

Trees maintenance - £2K allocated.

MUGA – £2.5K allocated for relining; Cllrs queried resurfacing plans/costs – noted a sum of £16K in the reserves fund; MUGA fencing – noted quotes were still awaited **action for the Clerk – liaise with the Leisure Services Manager on quotes**.

Donations – agreed to allocate £500 for Hathersage Lunch Club; and £1K towards other requests. Reference made to Hathersage Band; suggested the Council might be able to make a donation towards costs of equipment e.g. music stands; agreed to allocate £500 **suggested inviting the Band to submit a donation request**.

Cllr W Hanley queried financial support for acoustics improvements in the Memorial Hall. The RFO noted the Council had previously set aside a contribution of £5K; noted the Management Committee were still in the process of pursuing other funding.

The RFO flagged that the amount of current cash reserves held by the Parish Council might impact future precept allocations; noted advice was being sought from DALC.

Committees and Working Groups: to receive minutes **where meetings have been held since the previous month's full Council meeting**; consider recommendations; and note actions.

163/24

Leisure, Amenities and Facilities Committee: received minutes of the meeting of the 12 November 2024. Queried formal full Council approval of changes to MUGA charges **ACTION – add to January HPC agenda**. Cllrs commented on the hourly charge where an individual is delivering a training session, charging attendees and making a significant profit; suggested future annual increases should take this into account.

- .1 **Request to site a memorial bench in the Burial Ground:** this request was **unanimously agreed**; family to be informed that the Parish Council would not be responsible for maintenance or replacement of the bench. Noted the Council was reluctant to approve new benches on the basis of space limitations and that longer-term costs of maintenance – or bench removal where it became unsafe – generally became the responsibility of the Council by default.
- .2 **New grit bin for Higger Lane:** DCC had confirmed that a grit bin could be provided free of charge inclusive of a first salt fill. DCC had suggested two possible locations and two bin options (larger; smaller). Noted that, once sited, the Parish Council would need to make sure that it was clearly marked as belonging to the Parish Council and that the Parish Council would be responsible for all future maintenance as per DCC's winter service policy. Cllrs **agreed** to opt for the smaller bin, at the first location indicated by DCC **ACTION – Clerk to liaise with DCC**.

164/24

Burial Ground and queries to be addressed about burial applications and charges: the Chair expanded on the report. Cllr W Hanley proposed accepting the report recommendations – **unanimously agreed**. Noted the intention to meet with Noutch (Funeral Directors) and to liaise with DDDC - both to clarify the Burial Ground application process and to flag queries about charging of double fees.

165/24

Transport Matters: there was no Transport Committee meeting in November; updates on transport-related matters were shared.

- .1 **SIDS (Speed Indicator Devices).** Cllr Tim Hill note the pole that had been sited (to house a SID) was too short. Also noted a second pole installation was awaited. Cllr Hill is pursuing the matter with DCC and will seek support from DCC Cllr Alasdair Sutton, if necessary.
- .2 **Hope Valley Active Travel Masterplan.** Cllr Tim Hill referenced the recent DDDC newsletter and the Ashbourne Reborn update. He noted the lack of progress on the Masterplan – **agreed** that Cllr Hill flag concerns with DCC Cllr Alasdair Sutton and with DCC Officer Mike Reardon.

166/24

Swimming Pool Committee (SPC): received minutes of the meeting of the 19 November 2024. Cllr W Hanley noted dates had been agreed for the mobile sauna to set up at the pool and that the sessions had immediately sold out.

- .1 **Pool heating project and contractor engagement** - an **update/report** on the 27 November meeting with SHEco. Cllr Hill commended the very polished SHEco presentation including a detailed analysis of data provided by HPC informing factors affecting heat loss. Cllr Hill anticipated SHEco providing him with a meeting summary (and slides); noted he would share a report at the 10 December SPC meeting and a further report at the January HPC meeting.

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Date:

- 167/24
- .2 **Future Lidos donation request:** Cllr W Hanley expanded noting Future Lidos had done much good work for the sector. Noted mutual benefits to the Pool and Future Lidos from shared knowledge, experience and expertise. Cllrs queried to what extent the Pool could benefit further from Future Lidos. Suggested the Council was more likely to be a net contributor than a beneficiary. **Agreed not** to make a donation at this time.
- .3 **Pool staff and Cllrs 27 November meeting:** the Clerk shared an oral update on discussions and outcomes; notes of the meeting to be shared at the 10 December SPC meeting.
- Human Resources-related (HR) Matters**
- 168/24
- .1 **Sexual Harassment – new duties for employers – HPC policy and procedures:** the Chair flagged that the policy has to cover *all* Parish Council staff and that policy wording should be carefully reviewed to ensure this is clearly reflected. ***ACTION – Clerk to share the draft policy and procedures with Bhayani for advice/feedback; further iteration to be shared with all staff and to come back to full Council for approval.***
- CCTV**
- .1 **Hope Valley Police ANPR proposals:** noted recent correspondence from the police. The Chair referenced a conversation with PCSO Brockett in which he had expressed that he was very keen to progress this initiative. Noted the response shared by Bamford with Thornhill Parish Council including the suggestion about convening a meeting with representatives of Hope Valley parish councils, and PCSO Brockett. ***ACTION – Clerk to liaise further with PCSO Brockett and the other Hope Valley parish councils; Hathersage PC to offer to host a meeting.***
- 169/24
- IT - including the HPC website; social media** – the Clerk noted she had a meeting later in the week with Pete Hawkins (IT Contractor) about setting up a shared file system; and a website refresh.
- 170/24
- Clerk’s Report/Correspondence:** noted updates/items shared since the November 2024 meeting
- 171/24
- Village Matters**
- .1 **Hathersage News:** to **agree** HPC news/items for inclusion in the next issue – suggestions to be shared with the Editor.
- 172/24
- Memorial Hall:** received minutes of a recent meeting of the Memorial Hall Management Committee. Cllr Rodgers commented that the Hall generally ‘just about runs to profit’. Noted room hire charges would increase in 2025. The Chair referenced the pool heating project and plans to install solar panels on the Memorial Hall roof asking Cllrs if they know of anyone who could advise the Council about reaching an appropriate arrangement with the Management Committee. Cllr James Shuttleworth noted this raised queries about premises ownership and custodianship particularly where another charity is involved. Cllr Shuttleworth suggested this was a matter that merited greater research and consideration.
- 173/24
- Noted** DALC circulars and other items circulated since the last meeting.
- 174/24
- Date and time of next meeting – 7 January 2025;** and **noted** items for the January 2025 agenda.

The meeting ended at 21:35; a meeting of the King George’s Field Charity was held directly after the closure of the Parish Council meeting.