

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HORRABRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 10th MARCH 2020, 7.30PM, AT THE VILLAGE HALL, HORRABRIDGE**
(also available at www.horrabridge-pc.gov.uk/)

PRESENT: Cllrs E Hemsil (Chairman), A Moorhead, M Huda, S Roche, T Lear, C Edmondson, P Beard
Ms S Honey (Clerk), Cllr P Sanders (DCC), Cllr D Moyse (WDBC) plus 12 members of the public

PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm

205:19/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr F Peart

206:19/20 ABSENCE WITHOUT APOLOGIES

None

207:19/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

208:19/20 CONSIDERATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF PARISH COUNCILLORS BY CO-OPTION

If there are insufficient candidates to fill all vacancies, the *Representation of the People Act 1985 Section 21* allows the elected members, provided there is a quorum (one third of the whole number of members with a minimum of three) to co-opt members to fill the remaining vacancies. The Clerk reported that **no applications** had been received.

209:19/20 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the 11th February 2020 parish meeting were **agreed** by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

210:19/20 PLANNING

Cllr S Roche informed everyone of a Planning meeting scheduled for Tuesday 17th March.

211:19/20 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk informed council of the information acquired while attending the Cemetery Management Course. The Clerk had been informed the non-consecrated area next to the Burial ground did not need to be consecrated by the Church and could be used as required; the Minister in attendance blessed the ground as part of a ceremony. However, a small amount of un-consecrated ground should always be kept aside for that purpose.

The Clerk would be producing Burial Procedure Notes for future Office reference.

212:19/20 OPEN SPACES REPORT

Cllr P Beard reported the Bus Shelter improvement as being nearly complete and looking better but the Un-burnt material still needed dry weather before action. It was suggested that members of the public were adding rubbish to the material. Cllr M Huda suggested fencing the area until the weather improved but it was felt this would not improve the situation.

Cllr A Moorhead reported that the New Bench Installation of the two benches outside the Leaping Salmon Public House was still pending, dependant on dry weather.

213:19/20 COUNCILLORS PROGRESS REPORTS

HALL ROOF REFURBISHMENT

The Chairman informed the council that he had received three quotes and another was expected shortly by email. After a short discussion the council **resolved to postpone** the repairs until the

end of Summer 2020 as the roof was not actually leaking considering the amount of wet weather received.

RAMP EXTENSION – VILLAGE HALL

The Chairman explained that the contractor had run out of material while completing the Fillace Park path. It was hoped the work could be completed when the Burial ground path was repaired.

VILLAGE HALL REFURBISHMENT

Cllr A Moorhead explained that he had compiled a list of potential areas requiring refurbishment. After a short discussion the council decided to study the list and see which jobs could be completed by the Handyman or councillors before seeking a contractor.

FENCING OF FILLACE PARK CAR PARK

Cllr A Moorhead informed the council that a quote of £600 had been received. Some councillors were worried that a delay in fencing the area might encourage travellers to use the land.

The Clerk was asked if three quotes were required. The Clerk explained that the council should attempt to obtain three although it was understood that some might not bother to reply, in which case the council could choose from the quotes received.

BURIAL GROUND - NEW PATH

The Chairman explained that two quotes had been received and two asked had not bothered to reply. In the meantime he would try to obtain more.

SCREWFIX ACCOUNT

This had proven very complicated to set up and conflicting information had been received regarding opening the account in-store or online. The Clerk had attempted online but the council's bank details were required and the Clerk did not wish to provide these unless the council had agreed.

Cllr S Roche offered to visit the Tavistock store and investigate.

FILLACE CAR PARK LIGHTING AREA

Cllr A Moorhead offered to resolve the problem with the lighting.

214:19/20 TO AGREE THE CLERK'S APPOINTMENT OF THE INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR 2019/20

The Clerk asked permission to appoint the Internal Auditor for 2019/20.

The council **granted permission**.

215:19/20 ST. JOHN'S CLOCK REPAIR FOR DISCUSSION

Cllr S Roche explained that a local electrician and an engineer from Smith's of Derby had seen the clock in order to establish why the hands on the clock face were not moving. The clock needed repair but the organising of such was not easy as St. John's Church had to give access to allow scaffolding above the altar, as Smith's will not allow their engineer to use a ladder.

Scaffold was required at a cost of £300.00 in order to check the belfry before any repairs were factored in.

The Church had agreed the week starting 21st September 2020 but this date is not suitable as the clockmaker is unavailable.

Cllr S Roche asked the council if they wished to go ahead with repairs. Cllr P Beard asked if the council was obliged to look after the clock. The council confirmed.

The council **resolved to repair** the clock.

216:19/20 TO AGREE AND OBTAIN A MUSIC LICENCE FOR VILLAGE HALL

The Clerk explained that the council should hold a Music Licence for people who play music while holding classes in the hall.

The Music Licence organisation had informed the Clerk that they could charge for the six previous years that classes were held in the hall but understood many do not realise the need to hold a Licence for such events and therefore kindly lowered the last six years charges to one (previous) year only; requiring the council to pay for the previous 2019/ 20 and present 2020/21 years only at an approximate cost of £825.47

The council **resolved to pay the relevant charges** in order to obtain the Licence.

217:19/20 EMERGENCY FLOOD ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISCUSSION AND AGREEMENT

Cllr A Moorhead explained that the bad weather had put pressure on Sortridge and Jordan Lane drainage. He suggested in future, the Handyman walk the drain flow up to Plasterdown checking for blockages when bad weather was forecast in order to help the water flow. He gauged the time for this job to be around two hours.

The council **agreed that the Clerk should inform** the Handyman of the arrangement.

218:19/20 TO REVIEW THE SUITABILITY OF THE OFFICE SAFE AND AGREE A REPLACEMENT

The Clerk explained that Burial Records should be kept in a fire proof safe. The Chairman offered to investigate a newer style of safe.

219:19/20 DEVELOPMENT OF WOOLWELL AFFECTING THE ROAD SYSTEM FROM THE GEORGE JUNCTION AND PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE A386 FOR DISCUSSION

After some discussion the affect a proposed development of 2,000 new houses (part of the Joint Local Plan, JLP) could cause to traffic flow from Yelverton through to Derriford, especially at Plessy Roundabout in Roborough; the **council resolved to give its support** and comment to the JLP regarding road capacity and the effects of increased housing in the area.

Cllr S Roche to action.

220:19/20 FINANCIAL MATTERS

I. Bank Reconciliation and Budget Monitor

The Bank Reconciliation (App A) and Budget Monitor (App C) dated 29h February 2020 was reviewed and **approved** by the Council.

2. Consideration of approval of the following Payment List (App B) and Clerk's and Staff pay for February 2020

Name	Date	Description	Amount
Travis Perkins	17/02/20	Building sand	32.16
Colourbridge	21/02/20	Vinyl print sign dogs	10.80
Best Host	15/02/20	Website provider	66.00
Vincent Tractors	15/02/20	Service Kubota	223.00
DALC	31/01/20	Being A good Employer course	66.00
Yelverton Garage	31/01/20	Truck diesel	56.90
M t Allen	27/02/20	Fillace Park path repair	7,010.40
Viking	27/02/20	Black bags and pens	104.36
TOTAL			7,569.62
Direct Debits			
British Gas		Village Hall - GAS	302.07
South west Water		Allotments	42.85
			344.92

The Council **approved** the payment list and the Clerk's and staff salaries.

221:19/20 BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr D Moys informed council that the Dartmoor Plan is going to the inspectorate at the end of March 2020. Inspection by the public is now passed.

She hoped there would be positive news for Magpie Leisure Park residents.

An appeal for stables off Jordan Lane had failed. She hoped she might be able to help with a compromise.

West Devon Borough Council would appoint its new Chief Executive next week.

She had a £500 grant available. Cllr S Roche suggested it would help purchase a new safe for the office. Cllr D Moyse offered to support an application.
Regarding the Corona Virus, people should follow the Government advice issued.

Cllr P Sanders informed council that Dartmoor National Park Budget had received the same amount this year as the previous. This was a large cut that would bring pressure. An outline had been agreed regarding the coming year based on a 2% pay rise which the Unions had already rejected. It could be 3%.
The Council budget was geared toward the care of the elderly and children. The previous overspend had been transferred as a negative balance to a reserve for the present. Pot Holes continue to be a problem; shortage of funds and the inclement weather have contributed.

The Chairman informed Cllr P Sanders of a constant problem with two potholes near the A386 and Whitchurch junction. Both were temporarily repaired alternately and both wore out again alternately. He suggested DCC make a positive repair to that area of road which might reduce the costs of constant pothole repair.
Cllr P Sanders offered to investigate.

222:19/20 COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

1. Cllr M Huda reported that the Youth Club improvements/repairs amounted to around £9,000. The Chairman suggested grants of up to £4,000 could be obtained leaving £5,000 of which the Cavaliers had offered half (£2,500). The council could offer the other half.
The item was referred to the next agenda.
2. Cllr T Lear informed council that the Beavers had a local litter pick planned.
3. Cllr C Edmondson informed council that two stones were misplaced in the Salmon Weir letting water flow out. The Chairman and Cllr P Beard explained that the Environment Agency were aware of the problem.
4. Cllr A Moorhead asked Cllr P Sanders (DCC) if part of the problem of water flow in Jordan lane might be due to landowners not cutting back their hedges, leaving drains overgrown. Cllr Sanders explained that DCC had no way of legally enforcing landowners to cut back hedges but did try to persuade them.
Cllr A Moorhead asked the council for permission to approach local landowners and ask them to comply. The council agreed.
5. The Chairman asked why the Village Hall was not flying the Devon Flag and where was it. Cllr P Beard offered to investigate.
The Chairman proposed the following for future agenda;
Allotment Fees 2020/21
Beating the Bounds (Cllr S Roche)
Staff Salaries

The Clerk was asked to send a letter of thanks to Marcus Allen for excellent work on Fillace Park path.

223:19/20 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Tuesday 14th April 2020.

Standing Orders Suspended 8.40pm

The Chairman offered members of the public a short Open Session for questions.

Standing Orders Restored 8.44pm

224:19/20 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

To resolve that in accordance with Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the meeting.

225:19/20 TO DISCUSS A GRANT APPLICATION

The council discussed the application. After considering the amount the council would be able to provide, the application was declined.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00 pm

Signed:

Date:

Cllr E Hemsil, Chairman