

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HORRABRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 10TH DECEMBER 2019, 7.30PM, AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

(also available at www.horrabridge-pc.gov.uk/)

PRESENT: Cllrs E Hemsil (Chairman), C Edmondson, A Moorhead, M Huda, S Roche, P Beard, T Lear
Ms S Honey (Clerk) plus 8 members of the public

PUBLIC OPEN SESSION

A public open session was held for parishioners to ask questions and raise queries before the meeting started.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm

147:19/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

148:19/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

149:19/20 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.

150:19/20 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the 12th November 2019 parish meeting were **agreed** by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

151:19/20 PLANNING

0411/18 Magpie Appeal to Secretary of State; Use of land for up to 80 caravans

Cllr S Roche informed the Council that it had been thought the application was a reiteration of an existing application however, DNP had recognised it was not. The application has now been sent as an Appeal to the Secretary of State.

Cllr S Roche asked the Council for their approval of a draft statement in support of DNP's refusal of planning.

The Council **agreed to support** the Statement.

0379/18 Magpie Appeal to Secretary of State; Barn use as dwelling house

Cllr S Roche recommended the council make no comment.

The Council **agreed to make no comment**.

152:19/20 CLERK'S REPORT

None

153:19/20 COUNCILLORS PROGRESS REPORTS

LIGHTING NEAR PAVILLION

Cllr A Moorhead reported that the work was imminent as the contractor had asked for keys to the property in order to carry out the work.

PAVILLION VALUATION

Cllr A Moorhead said the valuation had been received at £80,000.

The Council **noted** the amount.

HALL ROOF REFURBISHMENT

The Chairman informed the council that he awaited a third quote. The item was deferred until received.

FILLAGE PARK PATH REFURBISHMENT

The Chairman asked the Clerk if a particular quote had been received. On receiving a reply that it had not, the Chairman offered to contact the contractor involved. The item was deferred.

FUNDING BENCHES AND FILLAGE PARK PATH

Cllr C Edmondson explained that she was waiting for a quote. The item was deferred.

VILLAGE HALL SPEAKER/MIC SYSTEM

The Chairman informed the council that he had attended the demonstration and that a quote should be received soon. He explained that council meetings would probably not benefit from a system, but the WI and others probably would. As the instalment costs are approximately £1,500 the Chairman suggested the WI pay at least 50%. The item was deferred.

154:19/20 FILLAGE PARK FENCE REPAIRS FOR DISCUSSION AND AGREEMENT

Cllr A Moorhead informed the council that he had received one quote so far, however, he did not want to declare the amount until other quotes had been received.

The item was deferred.

155:19/20 AMENDMENT TO HABITUAL AND VEXATIOUS COMPLAINTS POLICY FOR AGREEMENT

The Council **agreed** to the amendments.

156:19/20 BUS STOP REFURBISHMENT (PAINTING) FOR DISCUSSION AND AGREEMENT

Cllr P Beard informed the council that the materials were all ready but a break was needed in the weather before repairs could be made.

157:19/20 FILLING OF POT HOLES IN RECREATION FIELD CAR PARK FOR DISCUSSION AND AGREEMENT

Cllr P Beard informed the council that the area was full of pot holes that were increasing in size. Cllr S Roche asked if the work could be postponed but Cllr Beard replied that the area was deteriorating.

Cllr S Roche reminded the council that a quote for repairs received two years ago had amounted to approximately £24,000. The Chairman suggested gravel might offer a temporary repair. Cllr P Beard explained that this would simply be washed away.

The Chairman suggested the item was discussed at a later date.

158:19/20 FLASHING LIGHTS FOR TRUCK FOR DISCUSSION AND AGREEMENT

Cllr M Huda reported that a magnetic light can be purchased for approximately £86.00. He asked approval to purchase and be reimbursed.

The council **agreed to the purchase** at a limit of £100.00

159:19/20 REPAIR TO BENCH OPPOSITE LEAPING SALMON FOR AGREEMENT

Cllr P Beard explained that the bracer had been repaired but the uprights were still in need of repair.

Some discussion followed whereby the council **agreed** that the two spare benches (from the four ordered previously) be used to replace the benches opposite the Leaping Salmon and review the situation in Spring when the weather has improved.

160:19/20 ACQUISITION OF POWER WASHER FOR AGREEMENT

Cllr P Beard explained that he had obtained a quote for between £1,300 and £1,400.

The Chairman reminded the council that at that amount three quotes would need to be obtained before a decision could be made.

The Chairman stated that he would obtain the other quotes.

161:19/20 ACCESS TO NON CONSECRATED AREA OF BURIAL GROUND FOR DISCUSSION

The Chairman reminded council that a new path would need to be wide enough to accommodate the digger. Some discussion then followed relating to the direction the path would take.

Tarmac was suggested as the best surface. The Chairman reminded council that it was not a priority but should be considered for the future.

Cllr P Beard asked the Clerk to inform the Handyman when a burial was imminent. The ground was always kept tidy but the Handyman could perform an extra check for these particular days.

162:19/20 ATTENDANCE OF CLERK AT CEMETERY MANAGEMENT COURSE FOR APPROVAL - £55 PLUS VAT

The council **approved** the Clerk's attendance at the course.

163:19/20 FINANCIAL MATTERS

I. Bank Reconciliation and Budget Monitor

The bank reconciliation (App A) and Budget Monitor (App C) dated 30TH November 2019, was reviewed and **approved** by the Council.

II. Consideration of approval of the following Payment List (App B) and Clerk's and Staff pay for November 2019

Name	Date	Description	Amount
Colourbridge	11/11/19	Christmas light posters	36.60
Travis Perkins	06/11/19	cable ties	3.20
Travis Perkins	23/11/19	cable ties and timber	18.81
Travis Perkins	25/11/19	cable ties	6.40
Viking	29/11/19	toilet paper v Hall	22.78
Total			£87.79

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

III. To agree Precept for 2020/21 (App D)

The Chairman explained that a finance meeting had been held whereby the Precept was discussed and an overall figure of £39,400 had been achieved. This figure equates to £1.40 per house per annum.

The Council approved the Precept amount as £39,400

The Council **approved** the draft Precept for 2020/21.

IV. To agree increase in Burial and Village Hall hire charges as recommended by Finance Committee (App E and F)

The Chairman explained that a slight increase had been suggested in BURIAL FEES (App E) which would also bring the parish council's fees in line with other neighbouring parishes.

He also asked council to note a Cemetery Management fee of £80 which did not appear to be used. Some discussion followed whereby the council **agreed to charge** the Cemetery Management fee of £80 on top of every burial and cremation fee.

Clerk to inform undertakers.

Regarding VILLAGE HALL FEES (App F), the Chairman explained that the Finance Committee had suggested a slight increase in the WINTER charges only, mainly to cover heating costs.

The Council **approved** the increase in both sets of charges. Allotment charges would be reviewed in Spring 2020.

V. Grant applications received – Citizens Advice

Cllr S Roche reminded council that it had agreed to publicise when Grants should be applied for. The Chairman offered to post information on Facebook and in the Bridge magazine. Grants would be reviewed again in February 2020.

VI. Tool request (Screwfix) from Handyman (App G)

The Council **approved** the tool request list (App G) which totalled £181.63

Cllr A Moorhead reminded the council that tools should be stored in a suitable place or box to keep them safe and in good order. He also informed council that special gloves were required when using Stanley knives. He offered to purchase these and be reimbursed. The council **agreed** to the purchase.

Some discussion followed relating to the instalment of a mezzanine floor within the shed but no decision was made.

Item VIII was then discussed before item VII.

VII. Item VIII. Waterproof seat covers for truck - £50 (approx) for approval

After a short discussion the Chairman suggested a full set of covers was obtained for both front and back seats however, this would cost more. A budget of £150 was suggested.

The Council **approved** a budget of £150.

VIII. Item VII. Ride on mower service for approval - £184 Plus VAT

The Council **approved** the payment as only one quote had been received.

IX. Community Hall financial report

The Chairman offered a report from the Community Hall. He explained that approximately £24,000 was held in the bank, however, there were ongoing issues with the floor and heating which were presently too expensive to repair.

The hall itself was in good repair and it was now managed by a sub-committee of the School Governors.

Cllr A Moorhead informed council that he was a committee member and there were two spaces, one of which he had asked Cllr M Huda if he would like to take. Cllr M Huda agreed.

164:19/20 BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

None

165:19/20 COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

1. Cllr P Beard reported that a representative from Devon Highways had inspected certain blocked drains. Some improvements to aid the flow of water and relieve flooding had been suggested.

For future agenda; a pile of un-burnt bonfire material remained in Fillace Park which should be removed. It was suggested a budget of £150.00 was provided in order to clear the material.

2. Cllr M Huda reported that the Christmas light event had proved popular but more help would be needed for the event in 2020.

Some mince pies remained which he had given to the Thursday TASS drop-in. The Chairman suggested the remaining bottles of mulled wine were stored for next year.

The council thanked Cllr M Huda for his work in organising the event.

3. Cllr C Edmondson informed the council that she would not be able to attend the January 2020 meeting.

Standing Orders Suspended

The Chairman suspended Standing Orders in order to offer a second short Open Session.

Standing Orders Restored

166:19/20 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

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

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm

Signed:

Date:

Cllr E Hemsil, Chairman