

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HORRABRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL HELD BY VIRTUAL MEANS, ONLINE; ON TUESDAY 13th April 2021 AT 7.30PM
(also available at www.horrabridge-pc.gov.uk/)

PRESENT: Cllrs M Huda (Chairman), A Moorhead, C Edmondson, D Farrar, E Hemsil, M Glinn S Roche
Ms S Honey (Clerk), Cllr D Moyse (WDBC) plus 2 members of the public

PUBLIC OPEN SESSION – due to the nature of the online meeting platform, no Open Session was held. Members of the public can still ask questions in advance of a meeting by contacting the Clerk.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm and immediately requested one minute's silence in respect of the passing of Prince Phillip, The Duke of Edinburgh

246:20/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs F Peart (personal) and T Lear (lambing)

247:20/21 ABSENCE WITHOUT APOLOGIES

None

248:20/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

249:20/21 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.

250:20/21 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 9TH March 2021

Cllr S Roche noted a correction in 230:20/21, third paragraph, relating to Barton Estates; should read "Caravan" Act 1962. The Clerk made the correction and the Minutes of the Tuesday 9th March 2021 parish meeting were **agreed by a show of hands** and will be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

251:20/21 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk informed the council that the new Handyperson, Mr David Full, had started in post on 29th March 2021.

The Memorial Books had been brought up to date which completed the work on updating all the Burial books and records over the last 9 years.

The VAT claim had been submitted for the year 2020/21 £5439.26

252:20/21 PLANNING COMMITTEE – APPLICATIONS/DECISIONS

Applications

0145/21 Replacement roof and extension to existing garage at 4 Sampford Gardens, Horrabridge

Cllr S Roche asked the council to consider the application then rather than hold a separate planning meeting for a small application. After a short discussion the **council resolved to Support** the application.

Cllr S Roche reported back the decisions of the planning committee meeting held on 1st April 2021 whereby all the following applications had been **Supported**.

Decisions

0105/21 Erection of new stable block: Land off School Lane, Horrabridge -Supported

0109/21 Single storey extensions to front and rear plus decking with balcony: Northbank, Horrabridge - Supported

0110/21 Reinstatement of external stone built former stable and store to become garden store: The Shrubbery, Horrabridge - Supported

0134/21 Erection of first floor side extension at 31 Torbridge Road, Horrabridge - Supported

253:20/21 FINANCIAL MATTERS

I. Bank Reconciliation and Budget Monitor

The Bank Reconciliation (App A) and Budget Monitor (App C) dated 31st March 2021 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 March 2021

Name	Date	Description	Amount	
Rospa	19/03/21	Play area inspection	90.60	
Viking	11/03/21	Paper	16.74	
HMRC	31/03/21	PAYE	145.86	
				253.20
Direct Debits				
Ms S Honey	16/03/21	Zoom monthly charge March	14.39	
TOTAL				£253.20

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

III. To reimburse Mrs C Edmondson for renewal of WDBC garden waste collection £40.00

The council **resolved to agree** to the payment by a show of hands.

IV. To resolve to pay WDBC for emptying of litter bins £340.08

The council **resolved to agree** to the payment by a show of hands.

V. To resolve to pay WDBC for commercial refuse charge £196.00

The council **resolved to agree** to the payment by a show of hands.

VI. To renew payroll service by DM Payroll Services for 2021/22 £144.00

The council **resolved to agree** to the payment by a show of hands.

VII. To discuss and agree village hall and burial ground charges for 2021/22 (from 1st May).

After a short discussion the council **resolved to agree**, by a show of hands, to leave the village hall and burial ground charges at the present rates.

VIII. To discuss closure of Lloyds Reserve account.

The Clerk reminded the council that the account had originally been set up in 2019 due to the amount held in the TSB current account being over £100,000 which exceeded the banking compensation limit of £85,000 at the time.

She reminded the council that if the earmarked funds for the pavilion (£25,000) and youth club (£2,000) were paid over then the amount would reduce and therefore the balance could be transferred back into the TSB account without attracting bank charges (to date £82.00 approx.)

After a short discussion the council **resolved to leave** the account as it was for the present.

254:20/21 PROGRESS REPORT

Cllr A Moorhead suggested the fence in the burial ground was beyond the simple repairs suggested at an earlier meeting. He suggested he obtain a quote for a more detailed repair.

255:20/21 OPEN SPACES REPORT

Cllr C Edmondson provided the following report (for information only);

The Environment agency are planning to rebuild the salmon ladder retaining wall in Spring this year when water level drops. Their surveyors came out and inspected it on 2nd March. Tree trunk is still in the ladder, possibly due to weight and position.

I have spoken to Tim Russell who is the Recreation & Access Projects Officer for DNPA about replacing the original 8' railway sleeper bench on the green at the Toll House, and sent him photographs of the bad state of repair. He will make enquiries and also see if Dartmoor Preservation Trust can help. He will keep in touch with me with updates.

ROSPA report for Weir Park;

- Hole in surface beside pirate ship needs filling.
- The handyperson is putting expanding foam into the finger trap on the pirate ship.
- The Swing on the mixed three bay swings has been removed and needs new locking rings to reattach chain (Handyperson is going to obtain them).
- The bolts at the top of the net swing have been checked and are tight.

The Clerk has contacted Huck Nets trying to obtain a price for two replacement diagonal beams and cost of installation on the rope swing, both of which need replacing; they are rotten at the base and a replacement end bolt cover on multi-play rope & slide. Will hopefully hear back with prices to replace and install before next month and add to agenda for discussion & agreement.

The Roy Giles memorial seat in Fillace Park has been vandalized, one arm broken off and split down the centre, the Chairman will check weather it can be repaired.

The memorial plaque is broken and will need to be replaced. The Seat will be bolted to the ground in the next couple of days.

End of Report

Cllr E Hemsil suggested vandalism should be reported to the Police as there appeared to be an increase in incidents lately.

The Chairman and Cllr A Moorhead suggested vandalism occurred in phases and there appeared to be one in progress at present.

256:20/21 TO AGREE APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR 2020/21 FINANCIAL YEAR

The council **resolved to agree**, by a show of hands, to the Clerk/RFO's suggested appointment of Mrs Penny Clapham as Internal Auditor for the year 2020/21.

Cllr S Roche asked if he could be present when the Clerk met with Mrs Clapham for the audit to which the Clerk agreed and suggested she copy him in on emails.

257:20/21 PURCHASE OF "BUG HOTEL" FOR INSTALLATION ON THE GREEN FOR DISCUSSION. APPROXIMATE COST £35.00 - £190.00

As the member of public, Mr Lakeman, who requested the item for the agenda was present, the Clerk suggested the Chairman allow him to explain the purchase request to the council in person which was granted.

After a short but detailed discussion the council **resolved to agree** by a show of hands, to a "bug hotel" with a maximum purchase price of £190.00.

258:20/21 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE CHURCH CLOCK REPAIRS

Cllr S Roche reminded the council that the church clock was still waiting for repairs of value around £600.00 plus scaffolding of £300.00. He asked if the council were happy for him to contact Smith's of Derby to arrange a repair.

The council **resolved to agree**, by a show of hands, to the request.

259:20/21 BOROUGH AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr D Moyle informed the council of the Julian Glover review of the Dartmoor National Park report. The government were discussing around 27 proposals under a national landscape service. There were concerns that Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and the National Park could be gobbled up by DEFRA.

Cllr D Moyle asked councillors for their support.

260:20/21 COUNCILLORS REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

1. Cllr E Hemsil reminded the Clerk that the Bridge Magazine details needed updating and that the new Chairman was not noted on the parish website. He also reminded councillors that the Round Britain cycle race could cause disruption and delays to traffic around the village and the A386.
2. Cllr D Farrar informed the council that she had been updating the website. She asked if it would be possible to post snippets of council decisions direct onto facebook during meetings to which the council approved.
3. Cllr M Glinn asked for a councillor with in depth knowledge of the village, its boundaries, allotments and trees to help him identify Ash die back to specimens owned by the council. Cllr A Moorhead suggested checking through the council deeds might help.
4. Cllr A Moorhead reminded the council that the food bank had vacated the village hall and that Chapel Lane would be shut for road works soon.
The Clerk reminded councillors that she had put the notice with detail on the website.
5. The Chairman informed the council that he had raised a large Union Flag (because the smaller one was in a poor condition) to half-mast in respect for the death of the Duke of Edinburgh but a new Devon or Union would be required as a replacement for the damaged flag. He also informed the council that the Kubota mower needed repair and possibly a service quickly. Cllr E Hemsil suggested the mower had not been serviced for 2 years.

261:20/21 TO CONFIRM DATE OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING FOR TUESDAY 4th May 2021

The council **resolved to agree** the date of Tuesday 4th May 2021.

262:20/21 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.

263:20/21 TO AGREE PAY SCALE FOR CLERK

The Clerk’s pay rate was discussed and **agreed** at NALC Point 23, after it was discovered she had been underpaid. The council also **resolved to agree**, by a show of hands, to pay £175.00 toward her SLCC registration fees for 2021/22.

264:20/21 TO DISCUSS YEAR END AUDIT PAPERWORK

The Clerk discussed in detail some of the online spreadsheets and year-end figures required for submission to the external auditor; especially reserves.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.50pm

Signed:

Date:

Cllr M Huda, Chairman