

MINUTES OF MEETING OF HARDINGTON MANDEVILLE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 15th AUGUST 2023 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions – Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status & any disability); Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.

Nancy Chapman, Parish Clerk

Present

Robin Carpenter (Chairperson), Joanna Szmaj, Robert Halls, Malcolm White and Mike Hewitson (Somerset Councillor).

In Attendance

Nancy Chapman (Parish Clerk) and 2 Members of the Public.

Before the meeting commenced there was an opportunity for the public to speak:
No matters were brought for discussion.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Peter Higgins. Richard Beatson, Mark Pollock and Oliver Patrick.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18th JULY 2023 (Already Circulated)

The minutes were approved as correct records of the meeting.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

4. MATTERS OF REPORT

RC and RH attended the first LCN meeting group. Cllr Mike Hewitson was elected chair and Yeovil Town Cllr Rob Stickland was elected vice chair. There are 18 LCN's in Somerset and at least 9 'link officers' to be appointed. There is a web presence for each and a handbook and FAQ's on website (via www.somerset.gov.uk). The plan is for meetings on alternate months. Discussions point will include: Transport & highways (including Chinnock Hollow and 'rat runs'), Antisocial and lawless behaviour, slow broadband roll out, public transport, inclusiveness and connections and communications.

5. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS (BY INVITATION)

Cllr Hewitson discussed the A30 West Coker Closure. There was parishioner concern that the West Coker Hill / Collar way Lane has had a lot of traffic problems. Cllr Hewitson also reported that another survey will be undertaken on Chinnock Hollow in September. This will only assess the change since the Chinnock Hollow was cleared recently.

6. PLANNING AND PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None.

7. HIGHWAYS

- a) RC reported a new pothole near the north side of 7 St.James Terrace.
- b) The A30 West Coker closure was discussed previously.
- c) A parishioner has written to the Parish Council, complaining of speeding vehicles passing through the village (particularly in the Penn Lane area). A discussion took place regarding changing the village speed limit to a 20 or 30 mph. Cllr Hewitson said he would provide email contact details to discuss this further.

8. FOOTPATHS

A resolution was pass to purchase a dumpy bag of grit for spreading on the footpath near the Community Filed entrance, North Lane. MW agreed to use a tractor to help spread it.

9. PARISH ISSUES

- a) The refurbished door has now been returned to the Mandeville Arm's phone box. The rest of the phone box now requires painting.
- b) MP will give details of the proposal for the 80th Anniversary of D-Day (6th June 2024), at the PC September meeting.
- c) A parishioner has emailed the PC asking if they are willing to contribute to the village Pump wall repair on the eastern side (having previously contributed to the wall repair on the western side). The quote for repair is £500 (note that not all off the 5 metres area needs repairing). The PC pass a resolution to pay 50% of the repair (£250).

- d) Unfortunately, the refuse-collectors emptied the black-bin containing the litter-picking equipment into their truck recently! The VHC are looking to restock the missing parts.
- e) Cllr White asked if there is a PC budget for maintaining the Church grave-yard. The Clerk replied there is £300. Discussion took place regarding keeping the area un-mown for the wildlife. It was agreed Cllr White should discuss this with Daphne Creed.

10. COMMUNITY FIELD

- a) The Annual Community Park Inspection has been received. Only 'Low risk' items were identified, the majority of which just require monitoring.
- b) The Clerk has contacted the maintenance team, asking them to weed-kill the bike track (they replied to say it has been too wet recently). The Clerk agree to chase them up, asking them to include weed-killing the footpaths and car-park too.
- c) The BBQ under-tray has now been replaced (thank you to Cllr White for doing this). RC has removed the portable bbq and will do further signs asking people not to use them in the field. He will also put a note in the messenger.
- d) There is an Ash tree with die-back in the field next to the park. Cllr Higgins owns the Ash, and will remove the tree at some future point.
- e) RC/PH have been to the community field and tightened the zip-wire. If it needs tightening again, the manufacturer will need to do it.

11. FINANCE

- a) A Resolution was passed to pay the following amounts-
- | | |
|--|---------|
| - The Play Inspection Company – Annual Inspection (£60.00 + VAT £12.00) | £72.00 |
| - Mark Edwards – Reimb for Siteground-1 Year Website Host (£143.88 +VAT £28.78) | £172.66 |
| - Mark Edwards – Reimb for Fasthosts Domain Renewal (£143.91 +VAT £28.78) | £172.69 |
| - Somerset Council – May Parish Ranger Scheme (£176.05 +VAT£35.21) | £211.26 |
| - Somerset Council – July Parish Ranger Scheme (£176.05 +VAT£35.21) | £211.26 |
| - Robert Hall – Reimb.for X2 Connect LTD – glass for Phone box (£25.52+VAT£5.10) | £30.62 |
| - Lucy Gibbons –locum clerk (June & July) | £155.02 |
| - Hardington Flower & Craft Show (contribution towards show costs) | £113.00 |
| - Hardington Flower & Craft Show (Missing cheque replacement from 2022) | £25.00 |

12. PARISH RANGER SCHEME

- a) Work completed includes: tidy around the village hall, repainting the village hall handrail, and strimming the Moor Lane/ North Lane footpath.
- b) Work proposed for September includes: strimming around the mandeville Arms phone box, strimming Rectory Lane to Broadstone lane, striiming Y10/20 footpath (Penn lane to broadstone lane).

13.CORRESPONDENCE

None.

14.VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Village cinema events are booked for 21/09, 19/10, 16/11 and 14/12. The VHC are investigating installing a solar power battery.

Following discussion, it was agreed the Village Hall Parish reserve should be amended from £4500 to £5500 for the 2022/23 precept.

15.MATTERS OF REPORT & ITEMS OR NEXT MEETING

Chairman: None.

Councillors: None.

Clerk: None.

16.DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING & CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 8.41pm. The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, 19th September at the Village Hall.