

MINUTES OF THE HAMBLEDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 18th March 2024, Hambleden Village Hall

PRESENT: Cllr Armstrong – Chair, Cllr S Webb, Mrs A Hopkins, Mr C Hussey, Mr R Gronmark, Mr R Ashcroft, Mr G Hartley Russell, Mr J Lidstone.

Mrs L Coldwell – Clerk

1 member of the public (part)

Minute 9946

Public Question Time

- A resident attended to enquire with regards to Pheasants Hill Common and what is the current situation with Buckinghamshire Council with BC devolving to the Parish Council. Currently there is no further update, Clerk to investigate.

Action: Clerk

Minute 9947

To receive any apologies for absence

Cllr Jackson.

Minute 9948

Declaration of disclosable pecuniary and personal interests by Members relating to items on the agenda

None declared.

Minute 9949

To confirm and approve the minutes of the ordinary meeting held 12th February 2024

The minutes for the meeting held in February were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

Minute 9950

Clerk and any Councillors if appropriate to report on matters arising and any updates from previous minutes which are not on the agenda

- Minute 9936 – Clerk has reported to Planning Enforcement the damage to the roadside verges and hedges in the local area caused by construction traffic, no response received yet.
- Minute 9936 – Cllr Webb has submitted the application to Buckinghamshire Council Planning department for works to be carried out on the tree at Cherries Corner, Frieth.
- Minute 9938 – Clerk is still waiting for details of the Safety Team at Buckinghamshire Council to pass Cllr Hopkins – this has been chased several times.
- Minute 9939 – Clerk updated the Climate Change Working Group Terms of Reference on the website.
- Minute 9940 – Clerk arranged for the hedges to be cut at Ellery Rise.
- Minute 9941 – Clerk continues to update the website with any articles about groundwater from BC.
- Minute 9943.3 – Clerk organised for the white lines to be repainted. A “give way” sign is not possible at this location.
- Clerk arranged for the light above the AED in Skirmett to be fixed. The invoice was paid between meetings.
- Minute 9943.4 – a tree survey has been carried out at Pheasants Hill Common following the January storms – to be discussed at the March meeting.
- Minute 9943.5 and 9943.7 – Clerk wrote to thank the residents for the works carried out.
- Clerk has responded to various emails from parishioners regarding highways and footpath issues.
- Minute 9936 – Clerk has arranged for the lilac bush to be cut back outside Frieth Village Hall, but this needs to be done after it flowers in June.
- AED machines have been checked and reported to The Circle.
- Clerk has reported various potholes, damaged signs, blocked drains and faded white lines around the parish. This can be done by anyone via [Fix My Street](#).
- Clerk will be collecting parish maps from Buckinghamshire Council in Aylesbury.
- Clerk has requested more frequent bin collections for the bins in Frieth and Fingest, which are regularly overflowing with dog mess bags.
- Buckinghamshire Highways are considering if they have the budget to erect pedestrian signs in Fingest.
- Clerk has been approached by a resident in Mill End regarding the ongoing problems they face with Thames Water and tankers. All in agreement to write to Thames Water asking what the plans for both Mill End and Hambleden are, copying our MP in.

Action: Clerk

- Cllr Webb has spoken with Culden Faw Estate about the proposed mast in Hambleden, this is in negotiations with the Estate and EE and is expected to be erected in the summer. The mast is designed for emergency services use and will not improve domestic mobile coverage.

Minute 9951**To receive updates if any from meetings attended since the previous ordinary meeting by Clerk and Councillors**

Clerk has attended, with slides circulated to Cllrs where applicable:

- 15/02/24 – Parish Online mapping system training
- 15/02/24 – Agendas and Summons training
- 27/02/24 – Buckinghamshire Council Planning Forum Meeting
- 28/02/24 – South West Chilterns Community Board meeting
- 01/03/24 – Parish Online mapping system training

Minute 9952**To receive updates from the Climate Change Working Party; to consider and adopt if appropriate the draft Biodiversity Policy**

The biodiversity policy was approved and adopted, Clerk to place on website. Cllr Hopkins advised that the letter to Buckinghamshire Council will be discussed at the next working party meeting (date TBC).

Action:Clerk

Minute 9953**To consider options for maintaining the field at Ellery Rise; to consider quotations for stock fencing; to consider any other maintenance items or issues**

Clerk has not obtained quotations, future agenda item. Clerk proposed paying for the fencing of the neighbours' field, which they have asked to fence as a gesture following damage to their hedge during cutting. All in agreement. Cllr Hussey has updated the draft management plan, this was approved and adopted, Clerk to place on website. All in agreement to approach Frieth Village Society for them to take on management of the field, according to the plan and within budget to be set by the PC. FVS are happy to do this, and to tackle the encroaching blackthorn in the field.

Action:Clerk

Minute 9954**To consider a tree survey report at Pheasants Hill Common and works recommended**

Cllr Armstrong carried out a site visit, he will identify on the map 3 large trees that need to be dealt with. Clerk to ask the contractor for a quotation for all works suggested, and a second for the 3 trees only.

Action:Cllr Armstrong/Clerk

Minute 9955**To consider a recycling scheme for items not currently removed by Buckinghamshire Council; including possible locations for collection bins and costs**

Item deferred to April meeting.

Action:Clerk

Minute 9956**To consider the purchase of sand bags to be kept by the Parish Council for residents should they be needed during times of flooding; 60 pre filled bag would be at a cost of £299.99 +VAT (one supplier)**

When the Hamble Brook ran high recently, 3 residents asked Cllr Webb for sandbags. Buckinghamshire Council no longer supply sandbags to residents, and it is not a PC responsibility. Culden Faw Estate have said they would be happy to store the sandbags. Cllr Armstrong proposed ordering a pack of 200 decent quality empty sandbags, which would be easier to store, for supplying to residents when needed. They would be responsible for sourcing their own sand to fill. All in agreement to get a quotation, future agenda item.

Action:Clerk

Minute 9957**To discuss the [telephone digital switchover](#) and any affects on residents in the parish**

All analogue telephone lines are being replaced with digital lines, by the end of 2025. This means that during a power cut, a land line will not work and as there are various mobile "not spots" in the parish could mean people were unable to make any calls if the electricity were to be off. Clerk will place an article on the website advising residents who to contact if they have concerns and ask Buckinghamshire Council what support they are providing to vulnerable residents.

Action:Clerk

Minute 9958**To discuss the Devolved Services agreement from Buckinghamshire Council**

All in agreement, Clerk to sign agreement and return to Buckinghamshire Council.

Action:Clerk

Minute 9959**To consider a grant application from St Katherines, Parmoor for a defibrillator**

After a discussion, it was resolved to not provide a grant as the AED would be located on private property and not readily available for the public to use. There is an AED provided by the PC on the nearby Frieth Village Hall.

Action:Clerk

Minute 9960

Finance: a) approve the accounts for March 2024; b) to nominate a Councillor to check and approve the bank reconciliation for February

Accounts to be paid in March 2024

Mrs L Coldwell – salary (via standing order)	802.91
BC Pension Fund (via standing order)	248.09
Mrs L Coldwell – expenses	40.77
Ridgeway Woodlands – tree survey, Pheasants Hill Common	150.00
Buckland Landscapes – grass maintenance	1234.99
Hambleden Village Hall	36.00
M Tuddenham – Hambleden toilet clean	90.00
Total	2602.76
Balance as 1st February 2024	68966.39
Less February payments	(4164.64)
Income – CCB Hall hire (2023 repayment)	36.00
Balance as of 29th February 2024	64837.75
Of which CIL Funds	6618.95
Church Wall reserve	20000.00
Other Earmarked reserves	3250.00
Hambleden Parking fund	912.39
Unrestricted Reserves	34056.41

Film Fund

Total of all funds at 1 st February 2024	4775.87
Total of all funds at 29th February 2024	4775.87

Accounts and payments approved. Cllr Armstrong checked and approved the bank reconciliations.

Minute 9961**Members questions: including any items for the next agenda**

- 1. **Cllr Webb** – advised that there will be filming in July in Hambleden village. They will be spending a substantial amount of time in the village, and plan to have road closures which will mean traffic will be rerouted through the field next to the Church. There has been a letter drop to residents in the village.
- 2. **Cllr Hartley Russell** – enquired on behalf of Skirmett Village Hall if there would be any grant funding possible towards the installation of sound deadening pads in the hall. Clerk will forward the grant application form.
Action:Clerk
- 3. Training course for the defibrillators and CPR, is there one arranged for 2024? Clerk to organise.
Action:Clerk
- 4. **Cllr Hopkins** – will be attending the Local Nature Recovery Strategy engagement workshop in April, and asked Cllrs to contact her if there is anything they would like her to raise.
- 5. A “Wildflower Meadow Management” training session has been organised in conjunction with Frieth Natural History Society, Cllr Hopkins would like to attend at a cost of £50. All in agreement.
Action:Cllr Hopkins
- 6. **Cllr Lidstone** – there is a tree on Fingest Lane which has fallen and is leaning on wires, unsure if they are electricity or telephone. Clerk will report.
Action:Clerk
- 7. **Cllr Armstrong** – wishes to place a review of the Clerks hours on the next agenda, to see if they need to be increased following a rise in work.
Action:Clerk

Minute 9962

To consider all recent applications received from Buckinghamshire Council and any other planning applications submitted and published on the Buckinghamshire Council Planning Portal between the circulation of the agenda and the meeting:

[23/07295/FUL – Stables North East Of Greenwood Cottages Main Road Rotten Row Hambleden](#) – Erection of replacement equestrian building with yard and land for equestrian use – **no objection**

[24/05464/CTREE – The Cherries Parmoor Lane Frieth](#) – Raise the canopy by 1m x 1 Beech – **no objection**

[24/05442/LBC – Henley Business School Greenlands Henley Road Hambleden](#) – Listed building application for upgrading of and replacement of internal fire doors and associated works – **no objection**

Planning Application Decisions made by Buckinghamshire Council since previous meeting

[23/07961/VCDN – Pargrove Parmoor Lane Frieth](#) – Variation of condition 2 (plan numbers) attached to 22/07188/FUL (Householder application for construction of two storey detached outbuilding and parking area following demolition of 3 x timber outbuildings) to allow for substitution of drawings – **Application Permitted**

[24/05054/FUL – Ashcroft Frieth Hill Frieth](#) – Householder application for demolition of existing garage and replacement with a carport and store **Application Permitted**

[23/08094/FUL – The Walled Garden Skirmett Road Hambleden](#) – Householder application for construction of timber conservatory to replace existing and two replacement doors and one window – **Application Permitted**

[23/07930/FUL – 2 Ellery Rise Frieth](#) – Householder application for proposed construction of two-storey storey rear and side extension with internal and fenestration changes – **Application Permitted**

[24/05399/PNP6A – Burrow Farm Hollow Lane Rotten Row Hambleden](#) – Prior approval application (Part 6, Class A) for construction of agricultural storage building – **Details Not Required to be Submitted** (PC not consulted)

[24/05075/TPO – Poynatts Manor Skirmett Road Skirmett](#) – Remove as dead or dying x 1 Ash (2), x 7 (3-5, 7-8 & 12-13) Sycamore, x 1 Field Maple (6) and reduce by 2-3 metres as in poor state x 3 Sycamore (9-11) – **Application Permitted**

[23/08168/CTREE – Glebe Croft Chequers Lane Fingest](#) – Fell as roots growing under oil tank x 1 Pine – **Not to make a Tree Preservation Order**

Minute 9963

To confirm the date for the next meeting as:

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 8th April – Skirmett Village Hall

The meeting was closed at 21.28.

Signed Date