

**HINTON CHARTERHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of The Meeting of the Parish Council  
held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
by ‘Zoom’ conference technology,  
commencing at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllr. D Turvey - Chairman  
Cllrs: H.Jones, G Whiteley, W. Sturges,  
F Robertson, M.Parkin  
Mr Geoffrey Parkes (Parish Clerk)  
Dist.Cllr. Neil Butters  
One member of public

**244. Introduction**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the eighth ‘Zoom Conference’ meeting. He introduced Harriet Pilkington from The Glebe who had agreed to volunteer as a new Councillor.

**245. Apologies for Absence**

Cllr. S.Clifton.

**246. Declarations of Interest**

The Chairman reminded Councillors of their duty to declare any interests in items on the agenda.

**247. Minutes of The Meeting of The Parish Council 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

The Council considered the minutes of the Meeting of The Parish Council held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021. It was proposed by Cllr. Whiteley and seconded by Cllr. Turvey that the minutes be signed and adopted as a correct record. All present agreed.

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the Meeting of The Parish Council held on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021 be signed and adopted as a correct record.

**248. Financial Reports**

The Clerk had circulated the Financial Statement for 1<sup>st</sup> February and a spreadsheet showing current total spending against the Budget.

The following payments were made in Jan:

101115	SSE Contracting Ltd (Routine Maint.)	313.97
101116	SSE Power (via Post Office Ltd)	453.67
101117	G Parkes – Jan	380.10
101118	W Palastre – Jan	294.13
101119	HMRC – PAYE Jan	73.40

The following payments would be made in February

101120	G Parkes – Feb	380.10
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101121	W Palastre – Feb	294.13
101122	HMRC – PAYE Feb	73.40

Cllr. Robertson seconded by Cllr. Sturges proposed that the 1<sup>st</sup> February Financial Statement be accepted. All agreed

**Resolved** That Financial Report for 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021, complete with the requests for retrospective and advance authority for payments be accepted.

(The Chairman signed the Financial Statements)

The Clerk had circulated the Budget for 2021-2022 to start on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Cllr Jones said that the restoration of the Stag Cross Roads Finger Post would probably fall into the 2021-22 financial year. The Clerk undertook to include this item.

**249. Internal Audit**

The Clerk reported that he had agreed an outline timetable with the Internal Auditor from ASL. He would be sending the auditor documents from the end of March. The auditor had pointed out that currently Government Regulations allowing remote ‘zoom’ meetings do not extend beyond the 6<sup>th</sup> May and that the Parish Council might like to consider holding its AGM and Annual Parish Meeting before that date in case central Government doesn’t extend the legislation.

**250. Co-Option of Councillor to Casual Vacancy**

The Council had advertised the casual vacancy for the required time. Harriet Pilkington from The Glebe had volunteered as a co-opted Councillor.

Cllr. Turvey seconded by Cllr. Sturges proposed that Harriet Pilkington be co-opted as Councillor. All agreed

**Resolved** That Harriet Pilkington be co-opted as Councillor. (The clerk would arrange for the Declaration of Acceptance and the Register of Interest forms to be sent to Cllr.Pilkington).

**251. Planning**

Not for discussion (but recorded until a decision is made by B&NES)

- (i) 21/00030/FUL – 11 Wellow Lane – New Dwelling. Commented only (the Council noted that the drawings submitted to B&NES had been amended to reduce the size of the underground car park, and to remove business use)
- (ii) 21/00082/FUL – Hall Cottage – 3 High St – Repairs. Reinstate window. Support
- (iii) 21/00083/LBA – Hall Cottage – 3 High St – Alterations. Support

For discussion:

- (iv) 21/00233/FUL – Priory Cottage – Outbuilding. The Council noted that the garden tools storage unit was 7 x 4m.

Cllr Sturges, supported by Cllr Parkin that the Council Support the application. All agreed.

- (v) 21/00444/FUL – Homewood Park Hotel – New Conservatory. The Council discussed the proposals and noted that they were sensible alterations that should help the Homewood Park business.

Cllr Turvey, seconded by Cllr Sturges proposed that the Council Support the application. All agreed subject to the usual conditions that changes do not create additional noise or light disturbance.

**252. Highways**

- (i) A36: Dist.Cllr, Neil Butters said that B&NES had required Iford Manor to remove the tyres on the area opposite Branch Road. The Clerk pointed out that a map had been submitted by Iford Manor in January indicating that the land in question had been compulsorily purchased by the Highways Agency in the 1980s.

- (ii) Other Roads:

The Wellow Community bus group had contacted HCPC again about the risk to vehicles from the flooding outside Tuggys Barn entrance. Cllr. Sturges asked that B&NES Highways team get in contact with him when they intend to visit the site.

Green Lane. Cllr Pilkington commented on the road flooding below the Green. All agreed that run-off from surrounding fields is largely the problem. Cllr Robertson pointed out that this run-off silts up the drains and that flooding is much reduced when they are cleaned out by B&NES Highways.

Councillor Turvey reported that a number of residents are keen to start a community speedwatch group in the Village. The Clerk would contact Avon & Somerset Police to ask for them to brief residents on all the requirements for such a group.

- (iii) Footpaths. .

Cllr Jones volunteered to remove all the brambles on the B3110 outside The Brambles. The Clerk agreed that stems overhanging the public footway can be cut back, but would check with the representative of the Brambles residents' group as the plants are growing on their land.

Cllr Turvey mentioned the perennial problem of dog mess on footpaths – especially as they are under more use at the moment. Councillors agreed that they did not want to see a proliferation of more signs in the countryside. It was suggested that volunteers use degradable spray paint and highlight the offending mounds. This can draw attention to the hazard and possibly shame offenders into not doing it in future.

**253. Village Facilities**

- (i) Cllr. Jones reported that Mr Cook had started procuring materials. They would check with the bus operators whether a temporary bus stop, or sign, might be required.
- (ii) Cllr Jones had placed the order with Somerset Forgings for the repair and refurbishment of the cast iron finger post at The Stag Cross Roads. There may be quite a delay before this can begin. It was agreed that Stefan Chiffers of B&NES Highways would need to agree with Cllr Jones the movement of the existing Give Way sign.
- (iii) Street Light Maintenance Contract. The Clerk reported that the street lights were still being maintained by SSE – although SSE had noticed that the contract had not yet been extended by HCPC. The Clerk had kept up to date with local councils taking up maintenance contracts with Volker – although this had been much delayed by the lock-down situation. It would be kept under review.
- (iv) Broadband in the Parish. A number of residents had been asking again about the development of broadband links within the parish beyond the small area near the main cabinet in the High Street. Cllr Robertson said he was in frequent contact with Truespeed and trying to get them to commit to a fixed number of additional households wanting to take up a Truespeed contract before they'll consider installing more infrastructure. Understandably Truespeed are currently overwhelmed with requests. As soon as possible HCPC would arrange for a non-council – probably zoom – meeting for a briefing and Q&A session open to all residents.

**254. Open Forum**

Cllr Sturges asked about the litter picking group. It seemed that the admittedly cheap litter-claws the Council had weren't fit for heavy use. The Clerk had supplied all the current equipment and stores that HCPC has for litter picking to Bill Palastre and Nigel Songhurst and said that if Councillors wish to purchase more to just let him know.

Dist.Cllr. Butters reported that the A36 Cleveland Bridge in Bath will be closed for initially three months from the 10<sup>th</sup> May. Depending on what is found during engineering investigations it could remain closed for a lot longer – possibly even years.

Cllr. Sturges reported that the Memorial Hall had been booked by B&NES for Elections on the 6<sup>th</sup> May for the Avon & Somerset Police Commissioner, and for the West of England Mayor.

**255. Date of Next Meeting & Specific Items for the Agenda**

The date of the next meeting was set as Tuesday the 16th of March 2021 at 7.30pm by Zoom. The Clerk would issue the usual agenda and joining details on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

**The Meeting Finished at 8.35pm  
Date of Next Meeting: 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021 (at 7.30pm)**