**Minutes of Haresfield Parish Council Meeting**

**Held in the Village Hall on Monday February** **27th 2023**

**Present:** Councillors Nicky Ford (vice chair), Alan White, Ursula Jeakins, John Hunt, Jane Triber.

Clerk: Madeleine King e’mail: haresfieldpc@gmail.com

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***Apologies:***  District councillor Mark Ryder, County councillor Stephen Davis

***Chairman:*** Vice chair Nicky Ford took the chair

***Public Participation:*** included Steve Luckett, Jackie Groves, Robert Hardman

***Minutes of the last meeting:***

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record and signed by the vice chair.

***County Councillors and District Councillor’s Reports:***

**County Cllr Mark Ryder’s report via email:**  \*   As the War in Ukraine continues the Council will continue to fund those 1300 Ukrainians hosted in Gloucestershire allocating £15m of Central Government provided money.
  \*   Scam victims in Gloucestershire have received £8,000 in compensation following Trading standards working with the National Trading Standards Scams Team.
  \*   Gloucestershire has set up Cost of Living “Support Hub” alongside a warm bank at Local Libraries providing advice and warmth.
  \*   Following Stagecoach’s decision to cut Bus Routes, Gloucestershire County Council has managed to retender 350,000 routes and continues to work to restore more.
  \*   As Fuel prices remain high, Trading Standards inspectors have been checking that petrol pumps are accurately calibrated.
  \*   Gloucestershire County Council has passed a motion unanimously to address Domestic Abuse including achieving “White Ribbon” accreditation.
  \*   Householders are urged to Register their appliances with the Association of Manufacturers of Domestic Appliances. With the increase in people using second hand appliances this will ensure that you will be notified if there has been a recall.
  \*   Nineteen Olympic Swimming Pools of tarmac have been used to fill Pot Holes. There are currently 36 teams working to address the backlog.
  \*   GCC have published an update to their Climate Plan which includes the planting of 66,000 trees, and increase in recycling against previous predictions and evidence that we have seen a 12% drop in Carbon Emissions in 2020 compared with 2019.
  \*   The Council has been awarded £500,000 to support walking and cycling.
  \*   You can now book on the day to visit your local recycling centre. There has also been a [Waste Wizard](https://www.gloucestershirerecycles.com/waste-wizard/) launched where you can find out how to get rid of unwanted items.
  \*   Gloucestershire Libraries have been awarded £750,000 by Arts Council England.
  \*   The Council recently passed its 2023/24 budget. This tackles the challenge of inflation without seeing a reduction in services. It would be fair to say there has been very little additional services either.

**Cllr Davis reported via email:**

I have asked for the Beacon Hotel planning application to be determined by DCC rather than planning officers. I have been requested to consider this and I am aware that this could be a sensitive application as the building has been registered by the PC as a community asset. I’m keen to understand if there are any strong feelings either way regarding the application, for example those that object to the proposals and those that perhaps support as it enhances the long-term viability of this community asset for the village. A decision will be made by the DCC Chairman shortly and this will be based on the planning policy points I have raised, feedback of the PC and any comments left on the planning portal. As always, I’d encourage the PC and residents to make their objections or support known via the planning portal at <https://publicaccess.stroud.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=makeComment&keyVal=RPB0WIPNIED00>

***Matters arising:***

***Village maintenance:*** GAPTC has issued advice regarding tree Inspections and maintenance***.*** Clerk to engage a company for inspection to determine any maintenance that may be required.

Replanting of dead trees outside St Modwen: these have not yet been replaced. Clerk to follow up.

Ms J Groves raised a question about the lack of hedges and tree screening at Lower Green Farm. Explanation was given that previous trees had perished, and the proposal made by Ms Groves that any new hedging and/or trees would be required on the land opposite the property. An application for trees/hedging could be made to the 2023 UBB Incinerator community fund, however a maintenance programme would be required. Next round of applications opens at Easter. Ms Groves to submit information about planting required to the clerk, who will assist with the application.

A litter pick was organised by Dee Gibson-Wain which yielded 10 bags of litter – thanks to all who helped in this tremendous effort.

***Flooding:*** Charlotte Tilsley has kindly agreed to act as Flood warden for the village and a form has been submitted to the scheme to enable this. Thanks to Charlotte for taking on this role.

***Village Hall/ village activities:*** Proposed activity for Coronation weekend on Sunday 7th May is in the process of being planned. The Cricket Club has given permission to use their facilities for this.

Proposed village history tour on Sat 22nd April. Dan Nelmes organising.

***Incinerator / CLG: CLG*** Merryfield trustees are in the process of actioning the new matting for Merryfield.

***Highways, traffic and parking:***  Clerk has reminded and been assured by our PSCO Jordan Perry that advice will be given to advise school parents and monitor parking at drop off and collection times.

***Police:*** Crime report – Following a concerning crime report for Oct-Dec which suggested over 30 crimes in our area, clerk questioned the figures provided and it appears that these do not reflect Haresfield, the number of crimes being only be 5. PC has requested more accurate and helpful breakdown of such figures in the future.

***Roads & Closures:*** Clerk has thoroughly researched the possibility of having a formal name for the officially unnamed Haresfield to Gloucester Road (aka Little Haresfield Road, New Road etc) but the cost would be around £2000, comprising £120 for the application plus £30 for every property along the road. Councillors decided that the costs were too great to take this any further.

Road closure for Severn Trent works on Haresfield-Gloucester road, called, in official correspondence, TTRO 3728. From outside the properties known as ‘Lower Green Cottages’ to Colethrop Lane, for a distance of approximately 693 metres. The road is expected to be closed from 13th March 2023 until 15th March 2023 only. Clerk to enquire whether this will mean closure of the whole road affecting access to the Court.

Road from Pool Farm to Colethrop Lane, Haresfield
This road will be closed from 23/05/2023 to 23/05/2023 to allow for bridge inspection work by Network Rail. Emergency and pedestrian access will be maintained.

Naas Lane, Brookthorpe
This road will be closed on the 6th March 2023 between the hours of 09.30hrs and 15.30hrs. This is to allow for works on behalf of BT Openreach.

PC members drew attention to the continued deterioration of the roads through the village due to the inappropriately heavy traffic, including some very large highways lorries which are so large they are unable to reverse. Clerk to again enquire of Highways if there is any way to address this continuing problem.

***Footpaths/poo bin:*** The first of the planned pamphlets of walks around Haresfield has been completed and will be uploaded to the website as soon as it is available. The dog waste bin is due to be installed in March.

***Planning:***

Planning consultation for S.23/0199/HHOLD 25 Hoskareslo Close, Hardwicke, Gloucester, Gloucestershire. No comments were made on this application.

Location: Beacon Hotel, Haresfield, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire.

Application Type: Full Planning Application Application Number: S.23/0181/FUL Description: Proposed ancillary building to create 5 additional letting rooms. Respond by date: 28.02.2023 clerk asked case officer for a weeks extension.

Steve Luckett explained that the proposal to expand the accommodation at the Beacon is essential for its future survival, at a time when lots of pubs are being forced to close. He has had to turn away people requiring accommodation. The pub is part of the heart of the village and has played a very positive role in community life. To have access which is dog friendly and has disabled access is an enhancement of this provision which could be warmly embraced by residents.

PC had some concern about parking which frequently blocks the turning area and Steve Luckett explained that the main parking area would be remade with individual numbered parking bays. PC also asked for clarification about appearance of the structure and was informed that it has been designed to fit in with the appearance of the existing building. PC supports the application for this extension.

ProCook – additional signs have been put up and are lit all night. PC to remind St Modwen that only directional signs were agreed, and these further signs are in contravention of this agreement. Stroud planning enforcement to be contacted.

***Correspondence:***

A road in Hunts Grove has been named Humphrey Cook Way - clerk has been in touch with Barbara Cook, his widow, who expressed great appreciation for this mark of respect.

Haresfield School is starting to use the outdoor classroom and employing a firm who runs sessions for children on a Friday. They have requested permission to build a fire. PC to inform them that this can only go ahead if they get specific permission from the Woodland Trust. Clerk to provide contact details to school.

Gigaclear – community hub agreement shortly to expire (for village hall) – councillors agreed clerk to renew this and it should still be free of charge.

Barbara Manzi-Fe has reported fly tipping which has been passed on by the Clerk.

SDC have adopted a new Parish and Town Charter which councillors acknowledge as positive.

Two long rails have been left by Network Rail at the side of the road by the crossing. PC requested clerk to ask for removal.

Ivor Duarte asked for information about the future of application for Farmhouse Triangle development, which was rejected by SDC. No information has been received by PC in relation to this.

BT – Clerk has been in correspondence re rescinding of ownership of the BT telephone box. Clerk awaits confirmation that the box ownership has been transferred back and the electricity cut off.

***Finance & Clerks Report:*** TheS137 expenditure figure has been notified as £9.93 for the 2023-24 year. Section 137 refers to the Local Government Act 1972 which enables local councils to spend a limited amount of money for purposes for which they have no other specific statutory expenditure.

*Cheque payments were agreed and authorised by councillors.*

**Any other business:**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.08pm

**Date of next PC meeting: Monday April 24th 2022**

**Monday March 27th Parish Meeting, 7.30 in the village hall. All welcome for this informal event**