

Minutes of Haresfield Parish Council Meeting

Held in the Village Hall on Monday November 28th 2022

Present: Councillors Nicky Ford (vice chair), Charlotte Tilsley, Ursula Jeakins, John Hunt, Jane Triber, Alan White, District councillor Mark Ryder

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

.....

Apologies: County councillor Stephen Davis

Chairman: Cllr Nicky Ford took the chair

Public Participation: none

Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record.

County Councillors and District Councillor's Report: Cllr Ryder reported:

Regarding recent residents' comments regarding noise from motorway: in order for this to be investigated it has to come under the category of Statutory Nuisance. But in fact, motorway noise is not covered by the Statutory Nuisance legislation. Because the bund at Hunts grove is angled, this should not cause a sound reflection in the village. It was suggested that noise increase may have become more noticeable because of the lull in road noise during Covid, and the fact that noise levels have increased now that traffic flow is back to normal.

As a district there have been issues regarding development management and situations arising with need for intervention of enforcement officers, with requests for this not being met. This department was very understaffed, and there is now a Senior Enforcement officer in place and monitoring and staffing levels are expected to improve.

Haresfield lane: indications are that there is still a year of work ahead there. The current plan is for this work to start in Jan 2023, but this is not certain.

Matters arising:

Village maintenance: Hedge cutting in the village was carried out by Stephen Coates – PC is very grateful to Stephen and also thanks residents who helped with clearing the cuttings.

Highways, traffic and parking: Inappropriate school parking continues to be an issue. PC has requested Police Community Support Officer to attend and give advice to parents.

Heavy traffic from the housing development at Brookthorpe is using Haresfield Lane. DC have written to Highways committee at GCC regarding the highway monitoring in place on Haresfield lane and has had no response – no-one is clear what this is for. Cllr Hunt

notes that the road is noticeably worn near the church, due to the heavy weight of lorries.

Road naming: Cllr Ryder advised contacting Neil Marriott re street sign for the road often referred to as Little Haresfield Road/Haresfield Court Lane.

A resident has queried the signage and speed limits in and out of the village. These are not strictly speaking correct, and PC has requested this matter to be addressed by Highways, with no response so far.

Village hall/activities: Christmas Chatters, Sat 17 December with MacMillan stall, and

Carols round the Village Christmas tree, with mince pies and Mulled wine on Sunday 18th 5pm

Incinerator / CLG: Clerk has attended recent meeting with CLG at which was discussed.

Footpaths/ bins: The dog bin has not yet been installed due to the recent heavy rainfall but it is hoped that this will be possible shortly.

Merryfield trustees: Following the incident of a resident falling on the pathway reported last month, Paul Barton has reported the poor state of repair of the footpath to GCC.

The Boundary Commission: A revised boundary proposal has been put forward. This includes a change to the original proposed electoral boundary changes. The proposal is for the transfer of Hardwicke ward (which includes Haresfield) to North Cotswolds – this is not welcome and does not make sense for access to our MP Siobhan Baillie who has voiced her opposition to the proposed changes. From the District Council perspective, the North Cotswolds MP is not as well placed as the Stroud MP to look after the interests of residents in this area. PC to reiterate our opposition to this proposal. Cllr Ryder felt it was unlikely that there would be any change despite the clear objections already voiced, but PC to restate their opposition nonetheless. Comments may be made until Jan 29th.

Road closures: We are anticipating official notification of the Permanent TRO Prohibition of Driving Haresfield Lane.

Correspondence:

Dark Skies - CPRE are undertaking a dark sky study to see if a chosen area could become a dark skies reserve. Cllr Ford suggested that the village could initiate a dark sky day annually as there is quite a bit of night lighting in the village.

Highways query – A resident has contacted the PC to enquire about the speed limit along Little Haresfield Lane.

Noise - A complaint has been received regarding a daily noise nuisance caused by a leaf sucking machine at Garden Cottages in Little Haresfield Lane. This has been reported to the Environmental Health department.

Noise - A resident has enquired about planning S.22/2339/CM | Compliance with condition 32 (Noise) relating to appeal APP/T1600/A/13/2200210 Allowed 16/01/2015. GCC Public Access appeal ref. 13/0001/INQUIR. The PC was not contacted as a statutory consultee, and a report was published by planning on 21/11. Clerk replied to the email enclosing the report.

BT box - It has been asserted that the BT box is situated on private land. BT has acknowledged that they were not aware of this. Had they been aware, the box would not have been sold to the PC under the adopt a kiosk scheme in 2016. BT has offered to remove the box at their own expense. The PC is in discussion with the Village Hall committee regarding the future of the phone box, the book swap and the relocation of the defibrillator.

Some correspondence of a libellous nature has been received regarding members of the PC. All documentation is being recorded and PC have referred the matter to the GAPTC (Glos Association of Parish and Town Councils).

Planning: Councillors raised no objection to S.22/2319/LBC Location: 4 The Old Coach House, Haresfield Court, Description: Replace old single glazed, wooden windows and doorway at the rear of the building with double glazed, aluminium ones

Finance & Clerks Report: Cheque payments were agreed and authorised by councillors.

The sum of £1,001 has been received for a VAT claim, submitted to HMRC by the clerk.

Community Infrastructure Levy – this has to be completed and submitted to SDC by 10th December.

Budget setting: Clerk presented councillors a draft budget proposal, a decision was taken to restrict the precept increase to 4% in view of financial pressures affecting everyone at the moment. Clerk to

PC expressed grateful thanks to Cllr Tilsley for her huge contribution to the Parish Council over more than 4 years, and Chair for 4 years and presented her with a garden pot.

Any other business:

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm

Date of next meeting: Monday January 30th 2023