Minutes of the Hale Parish Council Annual Meeting held on Tuesday 1st November 2022 at 7pm in Hale Village Hall.

Present: Councillors Gemmell (Chair), Gillmon, Kyle, Lavis and Vickery.

In attendance: The clerk.

22.103 TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: **-** None received.

22.104 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS - None received.

22.105 CHAIRMANS BUSINESS- The death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and the ascension of His Majesty King Charles III was marked by the reading of the Proclamation by Cllr Gemmell outside the village hall on Sunday 11th September. This was attended by members of the parish and a fitting tribute was published in the village magazine. Communication was received from the Deputy Lord-Lieutenant Hallam Mills to thank the village for their reflection and recognition of the Queens death. It was announced at the full New Forest District Council meeting on the 10th October that Cllr Edward Heron will not stand for re-election for the Downland's and Forest Ward in 2023 having served for 16 years. Cllr Heron has been an excellent councillor and Hale PC will convey their thanks to him prior to his leaving.

22.106 MINUTES

22.106.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6th September 2022.

22.106.2 Matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda.

Asset of Community Value - The clerk has filled out the application form to register Hale School as an Asset of Community Value. This was signed by the chair and will be submitted to NFDC.

Documents storage – The clerk has made enquiries to track down documentation that was stored at Llloyds Bank, Fordingbridge and will visit Ringwood branch for further information.

Signage – A sign stating "No overnight camping" has been ordered and will be installed outside the village hall.

22.107 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

No members of the public were present.

22.108 EXTERNAL MEETINGS.

***Neighbourhood Watch meeting* -** Cllr Vickery attended a handover meeting with the new co-ordinator Sarah Pook and the outgoing co-ordinator Sharon Barnett. Previous funds were returned to the Parish Council and a S137 application for new funding will be discussed at the next meeting. Current village Neighbourhood Watch signage is in poor condition however this is less relevant now that most activity occurs online. A spare sign is available if the NW group feel this is necessary.

***Greening Campaign* -** Cllr Kyle attended a workshop on the Greening Campaign which HPC previously agreed to join. To initiate Phase 1 a public meeting would need to held to launch the campaign. Cllr Kyle felt that as Hale is a small parish joining with Woodgreen would be beneficial. Cllr Kyle will attend the Woodgreen PC meeting on November 8th to present the campaign to Woodgreen councillors.

***Planning Enforcement update* –** Cllr Gemmell and the clerk attended a planning enforcement information meeting at Hyde Hall led by Lucie Cooper (Enforcement Manager). Parish councils were updated on the planning enforcement process and discussion centred on how parish councils can work together with the planning team to ensure this process works efficiently.

Village Hall Committee – Minutes from the meeting held on 13th September have been circulated to all councillors.
National Grid meeting – Representatives from National Grid met with councillors from Hale and Woodgreen in Hale Hall on Sept 8th to inform the councillors on the procedures associated with the refurbishment of the cables carried by the pylons which run from Nursling to Mannington (including the stretch across Hale Purlieu). Refurbishment of the cables will commence next summer however some vegetation clearance around the pylons will begin in winter. No excavation work will take place.

22.109 RISK ASSESSMENTS: Risk assessments have been carried out on all council owned property and assets. A financial risk assessment has also been completed. The risk assessments were approved and no remedial works were currently required.

22.110 VILLAGE HALL CARPARK: The licence agreement between Hale PC and HCC (on behalf of Hale School) states that the rent can be reviewed every 3 years in line with RPI. A review in September 2022 showed an increase in the rent from £761.00 to £870. HCC requested that this increase be negotiated due to the demands on the budget of the school. It was discussed, unanimously agreed and **RESOLVED** to accept the new rental fee of £870.00 but donate the £109 increase in the form of a one off grant to Hale School for the financial year 2022/23 and review the situation annually thereafter.

22.111 SPEED LIMIT REMINDER: Locations for the installation of a temporary SLR within Hale Parish were discussed and agreed. These will be submitted to HCC for approval. Locations include 3 sites along Forest Road, one site along Tethering Drove, one site along Hale Road and one site along Hale Purlieu. Sites proposed within areas of a more sensitive nature e.g. Hale Purlieu may not be approved by HCC as other factors must be taken into account which may make these locations unfeasible. Councillors urged Cllr Gemmell to proceed with the ordering of the SLR.

22.112 TREE SURVEY: A tree survey was carried out by the Tree Management Company on the copse to the right when facing the village hall. The results recommended the felling of some trees which are dead or showing signs of decay and the removal of deadwood from some trees. The clerk will apply for the appropriate permissions from The NPA and obtain quotes for the work to be carried out.
The clerk will email the school to ask that children refrain from playing in the wood before works are carried out and will display notices. Councillors were particularly concerned that previous notices requesting parents do not let their children enter or play in the copse until it is made safe, have been removed without authorisation.

22.113 HALE PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE: Councillors discussed the content of the website and agreed updates and corrections which the clerk will carry out. The notices update system (notices are delivered by email to those subscribed) appears not to be working correctly, the clerk will address this issue.

22.114 S137 REQUEST: Victim Support (New Forest District) have requested a £50 grant; this was unanimously agreed and it was **RESOLVED** to approve the grant request.

22.115 BUDGET AND PRECEPT 2023/24: Councillors discussed and **RESOLVED** to accept the proposed budget for 2023/24 and **RESOLVED** to set the precept for 2023/24 at £13700. There will be no increase and so the precept level has therefore remained the same since 2020.

22.116 ACCOUNTS.

Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve the accounts for the months of September and October .
The Treasurers account balance is currently £37,373.05 and the Business account balance is £6,323.36. Whilst this reflects a greater balance than typically allowed, Hale Parish Council has some large expenditure planned for the near future (copse made safe and SLRs).

22.117 MONTHLY PAYMENTS
It was **RESOLVED to** approve the following payments.

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VAT	PAYMENT METHOD
A.Johnson	Salary –October and November	~~478.83 each month~~		Standing Order
Cutting Edge	Cemetery cut – September	£90.00		Bank Transfer
Cutting Edge	Cemetery cut and hedge cutting – October	£330.00		Bank Transfer
IT Shack	Webroot Security	£34.99		Bank Transfer
Tree Management Group	Tree Survey	£360.00		Bank Transfer
A.Johnson	Office supplies – printer cartridges	£32.35		Bank Transfer

22.118 CORRESPONDENCE - To consider correspondence received before 25/10/2022 and any urgent correspondence received after the agenda was finalised not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda.

For information (circulated)
21/10/2022 NPA Latest news
19/10/2022 Fisher German (National Grid) – Common Land Application
17/10/2022 Friends of the New Forest –Joint Declaration by National Park Societies
13/10/2022 NPA – Details of Full Authority meeting October 20th
11/10/2022 Cllr Heron – Notice of not standing for re-election
7/10/2022 NPA Latest news
7/10/2022 NPA – Panning Committee – 18th October
27/09/2022 Village Hall Committee – Minutes from meeting on 13th September
22/09/2022 NPA Latest News
22/09/2022 HALC – AGM 20th October
22/09/2022 Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner – News from Donna Jones
20/09/2022 John Mangan – Full fibre update
09/09/2022 NPA – Planning committee – 20th September
Various communications regarding the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizaebth 11.

Shared on website
18/10/2022 NFDC Funding for warm spaces
11/10/2022 NFDC Leader of the Council steps down
03/10/2022 News from NFDC
26/09/2022 Hale Purlieu pylons – cable refurbishment
10/09/2022 Proclamation of the Accession
09/10/2022 Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11 1926 -2022

Parishioner emails/telephone calls
03/10/2022 Concerns regarding scrub clearance in May

A response from National Grid explained that an ornithological survey will take place. The clerk will discuss this with the local RSPB as the Council was concerned this was scheduled for January 2023.

22.119 ANY OTHER BUSINESS
Hatchet Green – Members of the Cricket Club have requested a meeting with councillors to discuss the current condition of Hatchet Green. Cllr Vickery and the clerk will attend.

Cemetery Volunteers – The cemetery volunteers have held work parties throughout the summer with the aim of increasing the biodiversity in the cemetery and creating a lovely space for people to visit. Hale Parish Council would like to thank them for their hard work and continued commitment.

22.120 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - The Parish Council meeting dates for 2023 will be the first Tuesday of every other month:

January 3rd
March 7th
April – Annual Parish Assembly (tbc)
May – Annual Council meeting (tbc due to election on 4th May)
July 4th
Sept 5th
November 7th

The meeting ended at 9.15 pm.

Signed by .....

Date .....