Minutes of the Hale Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 5th March 2025 at 7pm in Hale Village Hall (Downstairs)

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

In attendance: The clerk, Cllr Janet Richards (NFDC) and 2 members of the public.

25.19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None received.

25.20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: To receive declarations of interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda (in accordance with the Localism Act 2011).
Cllrs Vickery and Lavis declared an interest for 25.24 - 25/00106FULL

25.21 MINUTES:
25.21.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7th January 2025.
25.21.2 Note matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda.
Hale Lane – Sir Desmond Swayne contacted Hampshire Highways on behalf of Hale Parish Council. Hampshire Highways responded to his letter with the following - *Hale Lane was last inspected on 14 January 2025 and during this inspection only one safety defect was identified. A repair is currently being scheduled. The condition of Hale Lane does not currently justify funding for resurfacing or other large scale works. However, the Highways Team will continue to monitor the condition of the carriageway through regular scheduled inspections and also reports received from the public.* HPC will follow up by sending photos of the defects in the lane to both Desmond Swayne and Highways.

25.22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Two members of the public contributed to the discussion during 25.25.

25.23 REPORT BY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR: Nothing to report.

25.24 PLANNING APPLICATIONS: To consider the response to the following applications.

Case Number	25/00106FULL
Proposal	Alterations to outbuilding to facilitate ancillary use as annexe
Site	Old Dames School, Hatchet Green, Hale, SP6 2NB

Councillors discussed the application and were satisfied that there were no issues with the internal changes to the annexe and no aesthetic changes to the exterior.
Councillors **RESOLVED** to recommend Option 3 – Permission.

Case Number	25/00024FULL
Proposal	Single-storey extension; demolition of single-storey extension
Site	May's Cottage, Forest Road, Hale, SP6 2NR

Councillors discussed the application and were satisfied that the proposed works are in line with DP36 (the 30% rule). Councillors **RESOLVED** to recommend Option 3 – Permission.

25.25 HARRY'S MEADOW: The planning application for part of Hale Park for - "Use of land as a seasonal campsite for 50 pitches for no more than 60 days in a calendar year", (known commercially as Harry's Meadow) was decided on 13th Feb**.** The planning application was approved temporarily until May 2027 and the decision notice outlines many conditions associated with it. Hale PC will draft

a letter to Steve Avery to clarify some of the conditions outlined and how they will be enforced; these focus on the size of a pitch, the inclusion of campervans and caravans, protection of the lime tree avenue, the allowance of any other camping at Hale Park and the use of fire pits, lighting and music. The running of a campsite for 60 days will also require a licence from NFDC; the clerk will contact NFDC to ensure this is in place.

25.26 LICENCE APPLICATIONS: To consider any responses to the following applications.

Licensing Act 2003 - Variation Premises Licence (S34)
Premises: HARRY'S MEADOW CAMPSITE HARRY'S MEADOW CAMPSITE, HALE PARK, HALE, FORDINGBRIDGE, SP6 2RE Ref: LICPR/22/13072

Councillors agreed that the planning conditions in place for Harry's Meadow do not correspond with the licence application. The licence application refers to a bar area as being "lit" whereas the planning conditions limit light installation. The planning conditions state a noise curfew of 22:00 whereas the licensing application requests a noise curfew of 23:00. A representation to NFDC outlining these concerns will be made.

Licensing Act 2003 - Grant of Premises Licence (S17)
Premises: DEAD DUCK BREWERY, 4 ST GEORGES COTTAGES,
TETHERING DROVE, HALE, SP6 2NJ Ref: LICPR/25/00531

Hale Parish Council supports this application however will make a representation to clarify how sales are conducted. The licence application is for - *Sales of alcohol off the premises via on line sales 24 hours a day. Opening hours the same.* This does not clarify if the public will be able to collect sales from the premises or if all sales will be delivered by courier. Hale Parish Council feels that if the general public are able to collect sales from the premises then this may cause a public nuisance to neighbours and will clarify the conditions of the licence.(Since resolved)

25.27 CONSULTATIONS:
Hampshire and the Solent devolution (Consultation until 13th April) – No Hale Parish Council response will be made but individual responses are encouraged.
New Forest National Park Local Plan Review (Consultation until 18th March) - Cllrs Lavis and Kyle will co-ordinate a response from Hale Parish Council.
All parishioners are able to submit responses to both consultations online.

25.28 EXTERNAL MEETINGS:
North West Quadrant meeting 20th January - Cllr Gemmell attended.
Steve Avery National Park Planning Authority updated on the National Policy Framework. The National Park target of 750 houses a year has been doubled to 1500 which cannot be met. The National Park Authority is arguing its case with Government. Steve Avery reiterated the current planning for new housing remains limited to the 5 largest towns and villages and that any exceptions can only be for affordable homes.
Charlotte Belcher spoke for Forestry England. A joint venture with the Police on Roger Penny Way to reduce speeding appears to be getting results. Operation Mountie operated thirteen times last year and 40 fixed penalty tickets were issued. 37 animals were killed on the roads last year compared to 68 in 2014.
Fly Tipping – 140 vehicles with waste in the back were stopped in 2024 and action was taken against 45 drivers. Dealing with criminal activity significantly reduces the available budget for their core work of habitat restoration and a sustainable growth in tourism.
The voluntary charter for professional dog walking businesses has had 92 businesses sign up.

25.29 POLICIES:
The following policies were ratified and will be published on the website -
Sexual and General Harassment Policy; Bio– diversity Duty; and the Community Emergency Plan.

25.30 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE :
The Lengthsman will be working in the village on March 31st.
The sign at Hobbs Oak was removed by vandals and thrown into the nearby woodland but has now been reinstated.
The Village Hall Management Committee has requested to install two benches outside of the hall (one either side of the door). This was unanimously agreed.

25.31 SPEED LIMIT REMINDERS: The SID along Forest Road near Mays Firs would benefit from a solar panel to power it (currently requires frequent battery changes). It was agreed and unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve to spend £1800 on a solar fixing; funding for this will be sought from grant sources.
Plans to install poles for temporary SID's along Tethering Drove and Hale Purlieu are ongoing but are still waiting for completion by Hampshire Highways.

25.32 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY: The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on 29th April in Hale Village Hall and will include representations from local organisations and Cllrs Janet Richards (NFDC) and Edward Heron (HCC) followed by refreshments.

25.33 ACCOUNTS:
It was **RESOLVED** to accept the accounts for the month of January and February and note the following balances - The Treasurers account £772.19 Business account £9,285.40 and 32 Day Deposit Account £15,203.01.

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

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VAT	PAYMENT METHOD
A. Johnson	February and March salary	N/A		Standing Order
A.Johnson	Working from home payment Sept – March	£117.00		Bank Transfer
WIX (paid by A.Johnson)	Website annual fee.	£230.40	38.40	Bank Transfer
Hale Village Hall	Hall usage fees for 2024.	£172.00		Bank Transfer
J. Stewart	Repairs to the car park and track	£600.00		Bank Transfer
New Forest Association	Annual subscription	£22.00		Bank Transfer
Lloyds	Account charges	£4.25		
ADS Treecare	Treework at Hatchet Green	£600.00		Bank Transfer

25.35 CORRESPONDENCE: Received before 27/02/2025.
The following correspondence was noted. Actions in italics.
14/01/2025 New Forest Association – January Newsletter

16/01/2025 NPA – Explore winter in the New Forest National Park
20/01/2025 loveofwater.org – Fordingbridge Bathing Water Public Meeting 18th Feb
23/01/2025 CPRE Hampshire Hedge January 2025 Newsletter
23/01/2025 NFDC – Update on new waste and recycling scheme.
24/01/2025 NFDC – Invitation to Chair to Civic Service on Sunday 23rd March
27/01/2025 Safety of Lithium-ion Batteries Campaign
30/01/2025 Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner – January Newsletter
04/02/2025 New Forest Association, Heart of oak – The naval timber crisis in the reign of George 111.
06/02/2025 NFALC Minutes and slides from meeting held on 27/01/2025
10/02/2025 New Forest Association – February Newsletter
12/02/2025 NPA – Celebrating major milestones in the Higher Level Stewardship Scheme
25/02/2025 Forestry England – Record numbers of key ground nesting bird in Forest.
25/02/2025 NFDC sets council tax rates for 2026/26.
25/02/2025 NPA – New Forest Awakening festival.

Shared on Website
09/01/2025 NFDC News
15/01/2025 New Forest Volunteer Fair 2025
25/01/2025 NFDC New Waste and Recycling Service
08/02/2025 NFDC Statement in response to Hampshire Devolution announcement
08/02/2025 New Forest National Park Local Plan Review – Have your say.

Parishioner email
11/01/2025 Concerns regarding possible changes to tennis court at Redlynch Playing Field.
13/02/2025 Concerns regarding licence application for Harrys Meadow.
17/02/2025 Concerns regarding incident on Hale Purlieu involving horse and a dog.
Any such incidents are very regrettable and it is imperative that all dog owners keep their dogs under control.

25.36 ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND MATTERS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA :
During the night recently a car was heard driving erratically and doing donuts on the village car park. Any such incidents should be reported to 101 (online or by phone).

26.37 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Annual Parish Assembly Tuesday 29th April in Hale Village Hall, Annual Parish meeting May 6th 2025 in Hale Village Hall (Downstairs)

The meeting ended at 8.50 pm.

Signed by .....
Date .....