Draft minutes of the Hale Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 5th October 2021 at 7.00pm in Hale Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs Breedon, Gemmell (Chair), Kyle, Lavis and Vickery

In attendance: The clerk, District and County Councillor Edward Heron and one parishioner.

The meeting was recorded by Cllr Gemmell

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

21.147 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS - To receive declarations of interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and to agree any dispensation requests. None received.

21.148 CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS – Hale Parish Council has been informed by NFDC that there has been no call for an election and hence a co-option process will begin to fill the current vacancy. The closing date for applications will be October 27th.

21.149 DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT – Cllr Heron gave a verbal report. HCC have again had to make budgetary savings and generally rural areas have fared well from budget cuts however from 23/24 the Lengthsman service will no longer be funded by HCC. A possible model funded by parishes and NFDC is being further investigated.
Speeding – a full NFDC meeting to be held on 11th October will discuss two submitted petitions and the possible installation of average speed cameras across Roger Penny Way. At a recent meeting between Cllr Heron, the Official Verderer and the Police and Crimes Commissioner (PCC) the PCC indicated her support although a formal response has not been received.

21.150 MINUTES

21.150.1 To consider and resolve to approve the minutes of the Hale Parish Council meetings held on 7th September 2021.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 7th September.

21.150.2 Note matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda.

Trees at village hall–NFDC will survey the trees to the right of the village hall as requested by HPC. The clerk will liaise with NFDC as to when this may occur.

Ladies Mile Road Surface – HPC are working towards arranging a meeting of all those parties involved to try and resolve the issues along Ladies Mile.

Tethering Drove – Highways have agreed to repaint the roundels along Tethering Drove to read 30mph. The clerk will clarify when this will be carried out. .

Harrys Meadow Campsite– a letter was drafted and sent to Steve Avery on 24th July to which no reply has been received. The clerk sent a further email requesting a response, however none has been received. A response will continue to be sought.

Broadband – John Mangan continues to lead the broadband project. The submission will no longer be a combined submission with Woodgreen due to increased costs and deadline issues however John continues to liaise closely with Lance Benest (Woodgreen Parish Council). The Hale submission requires 150 people to sign up. An information evening was held on 30th September and applications have been delivered to those interested households.

Retention of documents – Further information is required regarding the fireproof cupboard in the hall currently used by HPC. HPC Asset Register/financial records to be consulted. Cllr Gemmell will discuss at the next Village Hall Committee meeting.

Forest Farming Group – Cllr Vickery wrote with an expression of interest and is awaiting a reply.

21.151 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - Members of the public are invited to address the council on agenda matters or raise any matters not otherwise on the agenda.

Cllr Gemmell opened the meeting to members of the public.

A parishioner spoke of concern regarding birch encroachment onto the open forest along Hale Purlieu. He felt that the area should return to heath land as it once was.

HPC will contact The National Trust and Natural England to clarify their management objectives for this area and seek to be a consultee.

Cllr Gemmell closed the meeting to members of the public.

21.152 TREE WORKS –

21.152.1 To consider the response to the following application.

Case Ref:	CONS/21/0498
Proposed Works:	Prune and deadwood 1 x Oak tree
Site Address:	Hatchet Green, Hale, Fordingbridge, SP6 2NB

HPC unanimously agreed that the work as it is required to ensure the safety of the tree.

21.152.2 To approve funding for the remedial works required in relation to the tree work application CONS21/0498.

The work required involves the removal of some dead wood and also the removal of some living wood which is overhanging a building belonging to a residential property. The owner of the property has offered to pay half of the costs of the work. It was **RESOLVED** to approve funding up to a cost of £500 to carry out the tree works required. The clerk will liaise with the parishioner to organise the works.

21.153 NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY CONSULTATION – ARTICLE 4 DIRECTION. TEMPORARY CAMPSITES WITHIN CLASSES B AND BA OF PART 4 OF SCHEDULE 2 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL PERMITTED DEVELOPMENT)(ENGLAND)ORDER 2015 (AS AMENDED). - To discuss and formulate a formal response from Hale Parish Council.

HPC unanimously agreed with the NPA's proposal to invoke an Article 4 Direction to limit/restrict temporary campsites in the New Forest National Park. The response to the NPA will include the following:-

There are currently adequate existing campsites/pitches in the New Forest.

Habitats Regulations – ensure that the requirements of the Habitats Regulation are met and any mitigation measures put in place.

Increased camp sites increase fire risk within the New Forest.

Free roaming animals – allowing further campsites across the Forest increases tourist interaction with livestock which is a risk to both people and the animals..

Date of effect - the recommendation submitted to the NFNPA on 25th March proposed that the article 4 Direction should come into effect from June 2022; the consultation process states the date as being from September 2022. HPC question why the original date of June 2022 has been changed and prefer the earlier date.

21.154 MID-TERM SURVEY – To discuss and approve the final survey prior to publication.
HPC will use Question 13 of the draft survey to formulate a short survey asking parishioners their priorities for the council for 2021 to 2023. Councillors will do this face to face at the Hale markets in November and December subject to approval from the market organisers. The survey will not be online or postal.

21.155 NEW FOREST DESIGN GUIDE CONSULTATION - To receive report form Cllr Breedon and Lavis, discuss and formulate a formal response from Hale Parish Council.
Cllrs Lavis and Breedon both felt the Design Guide is a well written document, not too prescriptive and gives scope to design in a modern manner whilst taking into account the conservation aspects of the New forest. Cllr Breedon will formulate the response from HPC and will email to all councillors.

21.156 RISK ASSESSMENTS 2021 – To receive risk assessments and consider/approve any action and/or spending required which has been identified in the risk assessments.
The risk assessments were approved and showed no major risks. Any remedial works required can be carried out by the Lengthsman.
Some trees at Hatchet Green (on the path leading to Hatchet Farm) are showing signs of ash dieback; Cllr Breedon will contact a Tree Consultant for an initial assessment.

21.157 NEIGHBOURHOOD TASKING GROUP – To discuss HPC attendance at the group and if agreed nominate a representative.
The Neighbourhood Tasking Group meet in Downton and is comprised of representatives from local village Neighbourhood Watch Groups and the police. They are keen to include representatives from Hampshire. The clerk will contact the Neighbourhood Watch Group to ask if they can send a representative.

21.158 ACCOUNTS - To review the accounts for the month of September 2021.
Members **RESOLVED** to approve the accounts for the month of September.
The Treasurers account balance is currently £34,389.48 and the Business account balance is £6322.07.

21.159 MONTHLY PAYMENTS - To approve the following payments**:**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments.

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VAT	PAYMENT METHOD
A.Johnson	Salary			Standing Order
Cutting Edge	September cemetery maintenance	370.00		Bank Transfer
Hale and Woodgreen Magazine	Grant	300.00		Bank Transfer
X2 Connect Ltd (reimbursed to A.Johnson)	Paint	93.31	15.55	Bank Transfer
Tech B	Webroot security	25.00	4.17	Bank Transfer
Amanda Johnson	Home working expenses (April – Sept)	117.00		Bank Transfer

PKJ Littlejohn	External audit	240.00	40.00	Bank Transfer
SK Property Maintenance	Painting of cemetery gates	180.00		Bank Transfer
SK Property Maintenance	Painting of phone box	360.00		Bank Transfer
Time2 Display Ltd (reimbursed to J.Mangan)	Printing – Fibre Broadband letters	50.00	8.33	Bank Transfer

21.160 CORRESPONDENCE - To consider correspondence received before 29/09/2021 and any urgent correspondence received after the agenda was finalised not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda.

Shared on Website
24th September –NF NPA - Article 4 Direction -Pop up camp site consultation
27 September – NFDC – Supporting local businesses with free virtual training

For information and/or discussion (all circulated)
7th September - Parishioner Letter – Standards Committee
Cllrs discussed the matter and will send a reply to the parishioner.
12th September – Parishioner letter – Harry's Meadow
18th Sept – Friends of the New Forest – Byelaw Watch
22nd Sept - Forestry England – Permitted Events in the New Forest – update
22nd September - Parishioner Letter – Verge parking
Cllrs discussed the matter and will send a reply to the parishioner.
Verge parking is an issue throughout Hale and the wider Forest and is an ongoing issue which is difficult to remedy. The clerk will contact Hale School to ask them to remind parents that verge parking is not permissible.

21.161 ANY OTHER BUSINESS
The NW Quadrant meeting will be held ion 11th October, Cllr Lavis will attend.
Woodgreen Community Shop has invited Cllrs to attend their AGM on Wednesday 6th October.
A review of the conditions document will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting**.**

21.162 DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Tuesday November 2nd 2021 at 7pm in Hale Village Hall