Minutes of the Hale Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 7th March 2023 at 7pm in Hale Village Hall.

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

In attendance: The clerk and 8 members of the public.

23.19 TO RECEIVE ANY APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: **-** None

23.20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS - None received.

23.21 MINUTES

23.21.1 It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd January 2023.

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

There were no matters arising.

23.22 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

Eight members of the public all spoke of their concern regarding Harry's Meadow pop-up campsite which has operated at Hale Park for the past three summers. Parishioners present outlined significant nuisance from the campsite, including noise and smoke pollution, anti-social behaviour, trespass and possible incidents of criminal damage. Parishioners requested information on the future operation of the campsite.

This was further discussed under agenda item 23.23.

One parishioner also spoke of issues concerning Hale Lane leading to Woodgreen. The surface of the road is poor - this has been reported to Highways and some remedial work has been carried out to mend potholes. The hedge is overgrown and this will be reported to the landowner and also to Highways if the issue persists. Over grown hedges at Dodgson's Close are encroaching onto the highway and impeding vision– HPC will contact the housing association responsible.

23.23 HARRY'S MEADOW CAMPSITE, HALE PARK.

Hale Parish Council has been in significant correspondence with all the parties associated with Harry's Meadow including the National Park Authority, Natural England and the operators. The operators are running the campsite for 10 days in May as a "rally." The General Permitted Development Order (GPDO) 4 which allows pop- up campsites for 28 days is restricted by the Article 4 Direction put in place in by the National Park Authority. The Article 4 Direction does not restrict GPDO 5 - this would require a new Direction to be put in place. The holding of a rally comes under GPDO 5 so is not restricted by the Article 4 Direction. In order to run a rally the organisation must apply to Natural England for an Exemption Certificate. It is believed that Harry's Meadow are affiliated to a larger organisation which already has an exemption certificate although this information must be confirmed by New Forest National Park Authority.

Hale PC wrote to Steve Avery (Chief Executive New Forest Planning Authority) on 17/02/23 to clarify this information, to which they are still awaiting a response.

The operators have told Hale PC that after the 10 day period in May they do not plan to open the campsite again in 2023.

There is also a new government consultation on a change to the law which would allow campsites to operate for up to 60 days per calendar year. This broadly aligns with the licensing regime, as set out at section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936. Under this regime, campsites would not need a licence to run a campsite (of fewer than 30 tents) if the site is used for camping in tents on fewer than 42 consecutive days, or fewer than 60 days in any 12 month period.

Actions agreed

HPC stressed to parishioners present that it is very important that any incidents of a criminal nature should be reported to the police using the 101 facility – either online or by phone.
Cllr Gemmell will attend the North West Quadrant meeting on Monday 13th which includes an agenda item on this topic by Steve Avery.
A meeting between Hale PC and Steve Avery will be scheduled.
A letter will be sent to Desmond Swayne (MP) outlining the apparent ineffectiveness of the current Exemption Certificates process operated by Natural England.
A meeting with Hale PC has been requested by the operators of the campsite – this will be considered.
Cllr Lavis will compose a response to the new government consultation and will circulate to other councillors for approval by email.

23.24 TREEWORKS APPLICATIONS:

Case Ref:	23/0098Cons
Proposed Works:	Continue to coppice an area of Sweet Chestnut as detaile din application along with locations plan for a further 2 years, Previous permission was granted on 09 Dec 2020 (Case reference CONS/20/0640 valid for a period of 3 years.)
Site Address	Portion of Inner Plantation, Hale Purlieu, SP5 2NN

Councillors agreed to recommend approval of the application but will also recommend that no tree work is carried out at the weekend or on public holidays as this can cause a nuisance to local residents.

23.25 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE (SID) - Hale PC has purchased two speed indicator devices for use within the village; one is currently installed (the post was already present) at Hatchet Green. Other locations where the SID will be installed include Forest Road, Tethering Drove and Hale Purlieu. Existing posts will be used where possible. New posts do not require planning permission but do require the permission of the landowner. Cllr Gemmell is liaising with Hampshire Highways who will install any posts required.
The cost of the SID exceeded the £5000 previously agreed, Councillors unanimously agreed and **RESOLVED** to approve the extra costs incurred. The total value being £7302.00 (VAT £1217.00)

23.26 VILLAGE HALL FUNDING REQUEST–. Councillors agreed that due to another funding request received this item will be deferred until the next meeting.

23.27 EXTERNAL MEETINGS -
Climate Change and Nature Emergency Event 1st March – Cllr Lavis attended this NFDC event aimed at outlining the processes being carried out by NFDC to address climate change. Cllr Lavis felt that the meeting contained little information which could implemented by Hale PC.
Hampshire Climate Change Event 1st February – Cllr Kyle attended a similar meeting in Winchester and also felt that the advice offered was not applicable to Hale PC.
Police Meeting 2nd March Fordingbridge Town Hall – Cllr Vickery attended a meeting arranged by Fordingbridge Town Council where Parish Councils could meet with Police Inspector Ord. Hale is policed by Neighbourhood Teams made up of PCSO May and PCSO Adrian Woodhead. Further support is based in Ringwood and further Response Patrols are based in Lyndhurst, Lymington and New Milton. There's been a huge rise in non dwelling break-ins, however this area has a better detection rate than the rest of Hampshire. Better communication between patrols and base is planned; training is currently taking place on a system which will show "live" information rather than needing to go through to a control centre in one of the hubs. Both Inspector Ord and PCSO May agreed that the current logging of a crime either by phone or online was lengthy however PCSO May

assured that he reads every log so he is aware of what has been happening in the area even if he hasn't been called to respond.
Hatchet Green Management Meeting – Cllr Vickery and Amanda Johnson (Clerk) met with Briony Black and Jenny Harding from Natural England and Iain Soutar and Ian Coffin from Redlynch and Hale Cricket Club to discuss management of Hatchet Green. The very dry summer has left many bare patches and exposed large stones and flints which are a hazard to cricket players and other users. Natural England will put forward some recommendations and suggest management practices that will not compromise the value of the SSSI.

23.28 GREENING CAMPAIGN. Cllr Kyle and Cllr Datta (Woodgreen PC) have made some initial investigations into possible uptake within the village and found low enthusiasm. Phase 1, which involves "green and waste reducing" challenges to complete at home, were generally being carried out already, especially with the increased costs of living. It was unanimously agreed not to continue with the Greening Campaign at this time but Hale PC will keep updated with green issues and pursue any more effective schemes which come along.

23.29 ELECTION UPDATE
Parish Council and District Councils elections will take place on 4th May in Hale Village Hall. Nomination forms to become a parish councillor are available on the New Forest District Council website and must be submitted by April 4th. All voters will be required to show photo ID this year, details of suitable ID is available on the Hale PC and NFDC website and the village notice boards.

23.30 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY – The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on April 18th with presentations from village and local organisations. A speaker has yet to be confirmed.

23.31 TELEPHONE BOX REPURPOSE – The telephone box has been fitted out with shelving and a notice board to serve as a local information centre**.** The box will also run as a "pop-up" to showcase local organisations and events beginning with its decoration for Easter by Hale Brownies. It was unanimously agreed and **RESOLVED** to purchase an "Information" sign for the kiosk and replacement glass panes (Total cost £42.00)

23.32 S137 REQUEST Hale PC received a grant request form New Forest Disability for £60. It was unanimously agreed and **RESOLVED** to grant this request**.**

23.33 ACCOUNTS.
Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve the accounts for the months of January and February.
The Treasurers account balance is currently £6,152.85and the Business account balance is £26,343.31

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

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	VAT	PAYMENT METHOD
A.Johnson	Salary – Feb and March			Standing Order
Hale Village Hall	Usage fees for 2022	£193.00		Bank Transfer
Wessex Rehab (Reimbursed to A.Johnson)	No camping sign for Car Park	£95.00		Bank Transfer
New Forest Association	Annual Subscription	£17.00		Bank Transfer

Wix.com (Reimbursed to A.Johnson)	Annual website plan	£136.80		Bank Transfer
A.Johnson (To be reimnbursed)	Office supplies	£22.43		Bank Transfer
A.Johnson	Homeworking costs. Oct 2022 – March2023	£117.00		Bank Transfer
Barry Cobern	Fitting out of telephone box	£300.00		Bank Transfer
Stocksigns Ltd	Speed limit sign	£7302.00	£1217.00	Bank Transfer
SLCC	Annual subscription (shared equally with Woodgreen PC)	£73.00		Bank Transfer
Hale School	Grant	£109.00		
SLCC (reimbursed to Amanda Johnson)	Data Protection Course (shared equally with Woodgreen PC).	£18.00		Bank transfer
NFDC	Green sacks and refuse removal	£52.50		Bank Transfer

22.35 CORRESPONDENCE - To consider correspondence received before 01/03/2023 and any urgent correspondence received after the agenda was finalised not dealt with elsewhere in the agenda.
06/01/23 NPA – Notice of Planning Committee 17th Jan
06/01/20 Friends of the New Forest – Forest Matters e-letter
13/01/23 Hale Village Hall Management Committee – Minutes of meeting held on 10th Jan.
17/01/23 New Forest NPA – Latest News
18/01/23 NALC Newsletter
19/01/23 NPA – Full authority meeting 26th Jan
20/01/23 NFDC – Invite to Chair to Civic Service 12th March
23/01/23 NFDC – Press release - Drivers thanked for slowing down on Forest Roads
26/01/23 CPRE – Dark Skies E-Newsletter
27/01/23 HALC Newsletter
27/01/23 NFDC – Climate Change and Nature Emergency Meeting 1st March
27/01/23 NPA – Latest Newsletter
31/01/23 Police and Crime Commissioner – Monthly Newsletter
08/02/23 Steve Avery (NP) Response to HPC letter regarding Harry's Meadow.
23/02/23 Keep Britain Tidy – Great British Spring Clean 2023
24/02/23 NPA – New Forest Awakening Festival
27/02/23 Friends of the New Forest – Walk of Brockenhurst Park
01/03/23 Police and crime Commissioner – Monthly Newsletter

Parishioner emails
21/01/23 Concern regarding deforestation of Turf Hill and Millersford Copse (Non-parishioner but from local parish)
22/01/23 Parishioner concern regarding state of road surface and hedge at Hale Lane. - Reported to Hampshire Highways and some remedial works have been carried out.
31/01/23 Parishioner note of approval of deforestation works at Millersford.
20/02/23 Parishioner concern regarding drainage ditch at Tethering Drove. - Forwarded to National Trust
24/02/23 Parishioner email regarding road signage- This will be forwarded to Highways.
24/02/23 Parishioner email regarding fly posting
Various correspondence regarding Harry's Meadow.

Shared on website
31/01/23 Forestry England works at Turf Hill and Millersford Copse.
01/02/22 NFDC announces £139 million financial plans
28/02/23 NFDC set council rates for 2023/24
28/02/23 Information regarding telephone kiosk.

22.36 ANY OTHER BUSINESS - None

22.37 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – The date of the next meeting will 18th May , this will be the Annual Parish Meeting. The Annul Parish Assembly will be held on 18th April.

The meeting ended at 9.45 pm.

Signed by .....

Date .....