HALE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Hale Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 7 February 2017 in Hale Village Hall, Hatchet Green, Hale

Present:
Cllr Lucas– Chairman, Cllrs Aitken-Sykes, Harrington, Hartas, Mangan and Templeton

In attendance:
Ms S Plumb – Clerk
Mr S Whitmarsh – Tree Warden
2 members of the public

1 To receive apologies for absence – apologies received from County/District Cllr Heron

2 To receive any Declarations of Interest – Cllr Hartas, as Chairman of the Hall Committee, declared an interest in item 8, the approval of the contract for the hire of the hall.

3 To consider and approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 January 2017 - the Minutes of the meeting were read, approved by all and signed by the Chairman.

4 To receive any matters raised by members of the public – 2 members of the public were present. They expressed an interest in the possible Community Land Trust but appreciate the matter was not on the agenda.

5 To receive a report from the Tree Warden – the Tree Warden reported as follows:

- He is happy to look at tree applications but unless parishioners are particularly concerned about the proposed works the Council should leave the decision regarding the works to the NFNPA.
- The work on the trees next to the hall will be carried out on Friday 10 February. He will attend to check the work and put signs on the wood stacks that there are to be left to encourage natural growth in the dell.

6 To discuss ownership of Hatchet Green and the surrounding area – Cllr Templeton explained that the Land Registry has taken the view the Green and surrounding area ("the Green") is in the ownership of Hale Park. This may not be the case. Compulsory registration was not required in this area until 1980. Between 1920, (the auction of some Hale Park land) and 1980 The Green could have been sold or otherwise transferred and that transaction would not have been registered. The Council has taken responsibility and acted as the owner of the Green for many years and is willing to continue to do so in the interests of the village. However, it would be better to do so from a position of ownership. Cllr Aitken-Sykes proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Lucas and therefore **RESOLVED:** that Cllr Templeton will write to the Land Registry, through his practice, Dixon & Templeton, Solicitors to explain matters further and seek clarification of how the decision can be appealed. All agreed.

7 To consider and appoint a contractor to maintain the cemetery ground for 2017 – Cllrs considered the 3 quotes received for annual maintenance contract at the cemetery. They are as follows:

Contractor	Cuts of grass	£ per cut	Nov tidy	Dec tidy	Hedge	Total	Comparsion figure p/a
A	13	80	110	85	215	1,450	1,450
B	16	125	-	125	700	2,825	2,450
C	14	125	-	64	1,344	3,158	3,033

Contractor A was favoured on price, particularly as he comes recommended and his work is known by some Members and the Clerk. Cllr Harrington proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Hartas and therefore **RESOLVED:** that contractor A, Cutting Edge be appointed. All agreed. The Clerk will contact him and check the necessary insurance and licences.
Mention was made that the protecting plastic on the cemetery notice board has fallen away. The Tree Warden offered to repair it.

8 To consider and approve the contract for the hire of the hall 2017 – Cllr Lucas proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Templeton and therefore **RESOLVED:** that the contract for the hire of the hall 2017 be approved. All agreed. Cllr Hartas did not vote.

9 To consider representation of Hale Parish Council on Hale Village Hall Committee – Cllr Hartas reminded the council that it is entitled to have a representative on the Hall Committee, village representatives will be appointed at the AGM on 31 March. Members felt it would be beneficial to the village to be on the Hall Committee to represent the interests of the village. Cllr Mangan volunteered to undertake the role. Cllr Templeton proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Harrington and therefore **RESOLVED:** that Cllr Mangan would represent the council on the Hall Committee. All agreed.

10 To consider the draft Complaints Policy and Form and Public Contact Form – There was a discussion as to the draft Public Contact Form prepared by the Clerk centred on the fact that some parishioners wished to remain anonymous when referring matters to the council. The majority of members and the Clerk consider that the council cannot consider matters that are referred anonymously. The council will however look at each matter referred on a case by case basis to determine whether it is something it can consider. The council is likely to want to know the identity of the referrer, albeit that identity will remain confidential to the council. It was requested that “parishioner” be changed to “member of the public” in the draft form. Cllr Aitken-Sykes proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Hartas and therefore **RESOLVED:** that, subject to the amendment, the draft Public Contact Form be approved. All agreed.

Consideration was given to the draft Complaints Policy, relating to complaints in relation to the process of the council. There are further revisions needed and the draft will be revised and circulated again for the next meeting.

11 To consider the draft Training Policy – this was reviewed. Cllr Harrington proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Hartas and therefore **RESOLVED:** that subject to the draft Training Policy be approved. All agreed.

12 To receive a report from Cllr Mangan as a Trustee of Salisbury Hospital Trust – Cllr Mangan explained that there are currently reviews of hospital services in Wiltshire, Dorset and Hampshire. All of these may affect local residents, albeit the majority are referred to Salisbury Hospital. Cllr Mangan wished to encourage people to become members of the Trust to ensure the people who use the service are aware of what is happening and have their say. He is happy to answer questions and will speak further on the subject at the Annual Parish Meeting.

13 To receive a report from County/District Cllr Heron – County/District Cllr Heron was not present.

14 To receive the Clerk's report –

1. Replacement of Dragons Teeth near the Hall
   The Hale and RedlynchTransition Group has paid a grant of £140 into the account to fund the replacement dragons teeth. The Group runs the Hale Local Food Market and the funds raised are invested in local sustainable ethical requirements and projects.
2. CiLCA
   The Clerk attended day 3 of CiLCA training. She has passed Units One and Two of Five. The final training day is 27 February. All units have to be completed by 22 December 2017.
3. The Transparency Code and HPC website/IT
   The Clerk attended a course on the Transparency Code and the use and funding for a website. There is money available from HALC to assist compliance with the Transparencies Code, which may cease in April. The Clerk will prepare an application as HPC may well be able to obtain funding for eg a new website, new printer, training etc.
4. Trees next to the hall
   The Clerk and Tree Warden met the contractor from Gristwood & Toms on 27 January. The work will be done on Friday 10 February. The Tree Warden, Hall Committee and School are aware. It is not necessary for anyone to attend.
5. Cemetery
   The Horticultural Society has offered to work on the flower bed in the cemetery and to provide some plants. All such work is on hold pending the response to the Parish Plan Questionnaire
6. Annual Parish Assembly
   Peter Roberts has kindly agreed to be the guest speaker. Invites have gone out to other local organisations asking if they would like to attend.

15 Correspondence

i. 25.01.17- a parishioner re tyre tracks on the verges. Cllrs have seen parents parking on the verges when dropping and collecting children from the school. It is difficult to manage. Installing further dragons teeth will only move the problem elsewhere. The Clerk will ask the school if the parents can be gently reminded not to park on the verges and to be sensitive to the environment particularly in this wet weather.

16 To consider any matter referred by the Planning Committee – none.

17 To receive a report from Councillors on meetings attended including:
Cllr Harrington – North West Quadrant meeting – a leaflet to be given to new residents in the Forest is in draft. A system is being devised in nominated areas for policing the parking on the verge. The Planning Review for the NFNPA is ongoing.

18 To consider and approve the following payments –
24.02.17 Clerk Salary £380.20

Cllr Hartas proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Aitken-Sykes and therefore **RESOLVED**: that the above payments be approved. All agreed.

17 To approve the accounts for January 2017 and to record the bank balances-
Approved.

18 Any other business –

- The Tree Warden is happy to carry out any small jobs the council may have that cannot await the Lengthsman
- Cllr Hartas invited all to attend the Village Hall Committee AGM on 31 March 2017
- Steve Lockett, the post man has retired on grounds of ill health. There will be an opportunity for parishioners to contribute to a thank you gift.
- National Grid will starting ground investigation surveys on Hale Purlieu next week.

26 To note the date of the next meeting is Tuesday 7 March 2017 at 7.30pm at Hale Village Hall

There being no further business to discuss the Meeting closed at 9.10pm

Signed: Date: 7 March 2017
Chairman

Clerk: Sue Plumb, 5 Blue Valley Mews, Fordingbridge, Hants, SP6 1FB
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