32 **HALE PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of Hale Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 12 December 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 J White – Community Ranger, National Trust
3 members of the public

1 **To receive Apologies for Absence** – none

2 **To receive Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Templeton declared an interest in item 6

3 **To consider and approve the Minutes of Hale Parish Council Meeting held on 7 November 2017** – the Minutes were approved by all and signed by the Chairman

4 **To receive any matters raised by members of the public** –

- Jacob White, National Trust – the felling work to eastern side of the common is complete. Work will start on the western side thinning/clearing pine/birch clumps. Unfortunately, due to the funding arrangements there is an intensive period of work over a short time rather than a gradual programme. The felling stops the trees seeding out to other areas. The National Trust apologised for the smoke from the controlled burning, the wet weather did not help the situation, thanks the public who helped when the wind invigorated a fire that the contractors thought had been extinguished. The seedlings on the Purlieu will be cleared with the help of volunteers and there will be some rotational gorse and heather controlled burning, weather permitting.
  Mr White left the meeting 7.45 pm
- Via Cllr Templeton – a parishioner reported a fence problem on the footpath near Hale Purlieu. The Clerk confirmed that the owner has said the fence will be replaced.

5 **To receive a report from the Tree Warden –** the Tree Warden confirmed before the meeting nothing to report.

6 **To receive a report on the responses to the Hale Housing Needs Survey –** Cllr Templeton remained in the room to discuss the matter as the member of the public interested in setting up the CLT. He did not vote. Cllr Lucas reminded the meeting that HPC's role to date is limited to supporting an investigation by those interested in setting up a CLT into the housing need in Hale. HPC has been and will remain totally independent of that investigation. The Housing Needs survey was prepared by HARAH and finalised and sent out by NFDC. HPC amended only the covering letter, not the questions. The responses have been received and analysed by NFDC. HPC has not had and will not have access to the raw data in the completed surveys. Members have considered a summary report prepared by Lucy Buis, NFDC, outlining the responses to part 2 of the survey ie by those people who say they have a housing need. Copies of the summary report were handed to the members of the public present. Members are concerned the summary report does not provide sufficient information to enable them to decide whether HPC will take any further steps in relation to possible affordable housing in Hale and, if so what

those steps maybe. As the summary report shows a prima facie need for affordable housing in Hale Members would like a full report (along the lines of that prepared by HARAH for Ellingham, Harbridge and Ibsley Parish Council). It was proposed by Cllr Lucas and seconded by Cllr Mangan and therefore **RESOLVED:** to ask NFDC to pass the responses to HARAH, and to ask HARAH to prepare a full report before any further decisions are taken. All agreed, (Cllr Templeton did not vote). A member of the public commented that Lucy Buis had said she would be at the meeting. She did not attend. Cllr Lucas confirmed that the summary report is all the information HPC has.

7 **To receive an update on the Hatchet Green Regeneration project and determine the next steps for the following:**

- **verge protection – north of the Green**– The Lengthsman cut back the vegetation from the proposed new passing places. The dragons teeth have been delivered by the Forestry Commission at a cost of £192.50 (32 chestnut posts at £5.50). A parishioner has commented that the bench is used regularly.
  The following quotes have been received to install the dragons' teeth and move the bench:
  Lengthsman – unable to undertake the work, no equipment
  RTS Fencing (used by the Forestry Commission) - £350 plus VAT (£70)
  JS Steward (recommended by Cllr Lucas) - £720 plus VAT (£144)
  There was a discussion as to where the bench could be re-sited given it has had to be moved in the past due to danger from cricket balls. It would be difficult to find a safe alternative site on the north side of the Green. It was therefore decided not to move the bench but to keep the existing passing place and to protect the bench and verge with dragons teeth. Cllrs favoured the quote from RTS but would like it confirmed in writing bearing in mind the slight change of plan Cllr Hartas proposed and it was seconded by Cllr Templeton and therefore **RESOLVED:** subject to confirming the price after the change of plan to retain RTS Fencing to install the dragons teeth.
  Verges near the school - the note approved at the last meeting has been sent to the school. The Clerk is not 100% certain whether it has been sent out. Emma Clark, (head teacher) has explained that parking at the front of the car park is the best option for staff who often leave after dark. The school understands the importance of the verges and is happy to help where it can.
  2 members of the public left the meeting – 8.05pm
  Temporary car park repairs – The repair seems to be holding up well. The bank of gravel at the front of the car park is causing an issue as parents can't turn in. It was agreed to reduce the length of the bank. A parishioner has noted that parents park on the verge when the car park is still empty and have recently started turning in residents' drives.
- **Permanent car park repairs -** after a meeting between Cllr Aitken-Sykes, the Clerk, Paula Downard and Ed Hollinghurst it has been recommended that further work be undertaken on the drainage to the car park before any possible improvements are made to the surface. Mrs Downard is speaking with Hants County Council about repairing the edge of the road and whether they can help with a drainage solution. If they can't it may be worth speaking to Farwells.
- **Cemetery improvements -** The Lengthsman has cut down and removed the dead tree. The next step is to deal with the stump. The following quotes have been obtained:
  James Stewart – a digger but will destroy all the plants. A stump grinder about £100 to hire

  Nigel Harris – to grind stump 3 – 4 inches below surface - £60

Cllr Harrington proposed and Cllr Lucas seconded and it was **RESOLVED:** to ask James Stewart to remove the stump with a digger as the plants are going to be replaced in any event. All agreed.

8 **To consider the draft Parish Plan –** Members thanked the working party for the work on the Parish Plan to date. There will be a public exhibition on 21 January. The Parish Plan will focus on the future of Hale. It was suggested the following matters also be considered:

- How to access the defibrillator in an emergency, an extra person is needed to collect the equipment while anyone present carries out CPR if there is not a first responder available to attend.
- The food market – add to the list of new activities
- The friends cafe – add to the list of new activities
- Local businesses
- A new Parish Council/village website

A member of the public asked if the affordable housing would be part of the exhibition. Cllr Lucas confirmed all information that HPC has on this scheme will be available and members will be there to talk about it.
The member of the public left the meeting – 9.05 pm

9 **To consider and approve the budget for 2018/19 –** the draft budget prepared by the Clerk had been considered by Members. The figures were discussed and some amendments made. It was proposed by Cllr Lucas and seconded by Cllr Aitken-Sykes and therefore **RESOLVED:** to approve the draft budget subject to agreed amendments. All agreed.

10 **To receive the Clerk's report** –

Cemetery: Cutting Edge will be doing the December tidy

Dragons teeth near the Forest Road cattle grid – a representative of Hampshire County Council highways has spoken with the owner of the land with the dragons teeth on it.

11 **Correspondence** -

01.11.17 – D Langfield, NFDC – Protocol on the death of a senior royal – to be discussed at the January meeting
21.11.17 – H Barber, Access Team, HCC – cutting list for 2018 – Cllr Harrington has completed the 2018 cutting list
23.11.17 – P Simmonds, Age Concern – village agent – to be considered as part of the Parish Plan
28.11.17 – a parishioner – re military helicopters over the Forest – the Clerk referred the parishioner to Cllr Heron and the New Forest Consultative Panel
29.11.17 – a parishioner – re verges and school parking (discussed at 7 above)

12 **To consider any matter referred by the Planning Committee** – none

13 **To receive a report from Councillors on meetings attended** –
Cllr Aitken-Sykes – Western Escarpment Area Conservation Steering Group – nothing to report

14 **To consider and approve the following payments;**

12.12.17	J Stewart (fuel)	£ 30.00
12.12.17	Hale & Redlynch Cricket Club (fuel, donation)	£ 20.00
12.12.17	J Mangan (refund of compactor hire from N Harris)	£ 20.00

12.12.17	G Farwell Ltd (gravel for car park)	£446.66
12.12.17	SLCC (membership 2018)	£100.00
12.12.17	Fordingbridge Town Council (Lengthsman expenses)	£ 7.20
12.12.17	Bournemouth Water Business (cemetery water rates)	£ 11.54
12.12.17	Forestry Commission	£192.50
19.12.17	Data Protection Registration	£ 35.00
22.12.17	Clerk salary	£429.22

It was proposed by Cllr Harrington and seconded by Cllr Hartas and therefore **RESOVED:** that the payments be approved. All agreed.

15 **To approve the accounts for November 2017 and to record the bank balances –** approved.

16 **Any other business** – the dates of various meetings in 2018 were discussed.

17 To note the date of the next meeting is **Tuesday 9 January 2018 at 7.30pm at Hale Village Hall**

There being no further business to discuss the Meeting closed at 10pm

Signed: Date: 9 January 2018
Chairman

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