

# HANLEY CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes** of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024 in Hanley Swan Village Hall.

**Present:** Councillors: Sue Roberts (Chairman), Sara Beadon, Alex Walker, Angela Hartland, Lesley Smith, Pippa Barkley, Steve Pennant.

**Apologies:** Cllr Sue Adeney, Peter Goodyear (PPW).

**In Attendance:** The Clerk, Graham Holmes (PFW), Nick Harper (Pond Warden), Steve Gogerty (NHDP), Alison Sparkes, 9 parishioners.

**70/24 Welcome and Apologies:** Cllr Roberts welcomed everyone to the June meeting of the Parish Council and accepted the apologies received by the Clerk.

## **71/24 Declarations of Interest & Dispensation Requests from Councillors**

- a) Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded that they must be kept up to date.
- b) Dispensations. No requests had been made but the Clerk was asked to check the requirements for a Financial Dispensation. **ACTION – The Clerk to ask CALC.**

*Closure of the meeting to allow questions from members of the public.*

Members of the Hanley Habitat group were present. They reported that orchid seeds had been donated to them and the question was asked where they should be sown. It was agreed that the best places would be on the Village Green by the small oak tree and also in the churchyard at Hanley Castle. A soil test would be required in both areas to check soil suitability before sowing. Their annual report had received positive feedback and they were thanked for all their hard work. They were asked about the wildflower verges and why they were few colourful flowers. It was explained that they were for biodiversity and not just appearance as they were working on increasing the biodiversity within Parish. They also updated the Council on the Swift Box project. 14 houses had signed up to the project and it was hoped that MHDC would provide funding.

The British Legion application was raised with concern over misleading pictures being submitted depicting a much larger plot with garden and probably damage to trees if it was approved. It was suggested a boundary could be put up to outline the site area and to stop encroaching on the area of trees managed by the Parish Council. It would require a change of use if it was to become a house and it was felt that the property could still be viable for commercial use and it had not been proved otherwise. The design of the property was also a concern as there were no windows on one side of the property and it was felt the materials and style were not in keeping with the surroundings. **ACTION: To look into creating a site boundary to stop encroachment.**

**72/24 Minutes:** The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024 had been previously circulated, and the minutes were **approved.**

## **73/24 Matters Arising and Progress Reports** for information:

- a) Action list was discussed and updated.

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## 74/24 Finance:

- a) To consider and **APPROVE** any payments - The payments in Appendix 1 were agreed.
- b) Receipts Received - £1947.75 Severn Trent Hanley Carbon Grant
- c) New Model Financial Regulations had been received and would be discussed at July meeting.

## 75/24 Planning: a) To Consider the following applications:

Number	Location	Proposal
<a href="#">M/24/00440/HP</a>	Westward Annexe Westward House Hanley Swan Worcester WR8 0DN	Proposed extension of existing annexe to provide a carer's bedroom
No Objection, but reiterate the request that annexe cannot be sold as a separate dwelling in the future.		
<a href="#">M/24/00479/FUL</a>	The Royal British Legion Coverfield Hanley Swan Worcester WR8 0EG	Demolition of the existing Royal British Legion building and replace with single storey detached house.
Object as it has not been demonstrated that the property isn't viable for commercial use. The design is unsympathetic to the surrounding area as it is too modern and industrial in appearance, concern one side has no windows and only windows on the tree side. Mention the misleading pictures attached to the application.		
<a href="#">M/24/00501/HP</a> <a href="#">M/24/00502/LB</a>	The Coach House Hanley Castle Worcester WR8 0BJ	Remove existing shed and replace with garden office room
No Objection		

## b) Applications received after Agenda

Application Number	Location	Proposal
<a href="#">M/24/00793/FUL</a>	Broadacres Farm Haylers End Hanley Castle Worcester WR8 0AL	Full planning application for the roofing over of an open livestock yard
No Objection		

c) Planning Decisions: None Received.

d) Planning Appeals: Planning Inspectorate APP/J1860/W/23/3331962: Land At (Os 8157 4265) WR8 0DJ - Decision made: Refusal.

**76/24 District and County Councillors' Reports:** No Councillors present.

## 77/24 Reports.

- a) **Path Warden** – Cllr Pennant had starting taking over the scheme. A WhatsApp group to report issues had been set up. The annual strimming had been raised and queried if the Lengthsman would be able to undertake this work.  
**ACTION: Clerk to speak to Lengthsman scheme.**
- b) **Pond Warden** – A working group had taken place. A hedge trimmer required repair and this was approved.

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- c) **Playing Field Warden** – The swings had been repaired but a review of the equipment was still required. The Football Foundation grant had been applied for - it was £12,000 over 6 years with £6,000 to be self-funded. A request to assist with the funding was made. It was approved but would need to be included in the budget for the next few years.

**ACTION: The Chairman, Clerk and Warden to meet to review equipment.**

- d) **NHDP** – Report read out. The Plan had been submitted but would not be reviewed for several weeks due to the election.
- e) **Local Police** – No additional report.

### 78/24 Highways Matters

- a) Works for Lengthsman or Reporting to MHDC/WCC – It was asked if the Lengthsman could strim along Worcester Road around the bench opposite Cygnet Lodge and the northside end of Church End to uncover the white posts as they are no longer visible. The village hall sign on Worcester Road was facing the wrong way. The willow tree by the Post Box on the Blackmore Bend Layby needed cutting back. The 40 mph sign coming to Hanley Castle from Upton was obscured.

**ACTION: Clerk to ask the Lengthsman scheme about restrictions and the Lengthsman to attend to the work reported.**

- b) Road Safety Matters - Quotes had been received for 2 heights of gates. A vote was held as the working party could not agree. It was 4 to 3 in favour of the 1.8m. Cllr Barkley reported on an accident that had happened on the 6<sup>th</sup> June at the junction of Church End and the B4211. No one was injured but the Police had attended. Highways felt it was driver error.

**ACTION: White Gates approved to be purchased.**

### 79/24 Carbon Neutral Working Group -

- a) At the Parish Meeting it was agreed to promote the use of the Parish-owned electricity monitors in the Parish Link and on the website.

**ACTION: Cllr Adeney to write a covering paragraph to promote the monitors.**

### 80/24 Correspondence

- a) Smart Water Village Project – The financial commitment was read out and it was agreed to proceed with the purchase of 400 packs.

**ACTION: Clerk to contact the project co-ordinator**

- b) Three Counties ticket ballot – Great success – the draw was oversubscribed.

- c) Upton Library – Email from Chris Mair read out and it was agreed to ask to look at the accounts before considering a donation.

**ACTION: Clerk to contact Upton Villages Together.**

- d) Allotments – Cllr Roberts had been in contact with a local firm of solicitors, Whatley Recordon, who had agreed to look at correspondence and advise should it get to the stage of purchase/lease. It was suggested to also get advice from CALC.

**ACTION: Clerk to pass on the details to the solicitor and the housing association and to ask CALC about allotments.**

- e) Seats by the Green – Gigi offered to attend to them.

- f) Malvern Hills Area CALC Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> June – Invitation Circulated.

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- g) Cricket Donation – An email had been received from the Cricket Club. It was discussed and all voted in favour of a donation of £1000.

## **81/24 Topics raised by Councillors, Committees, Clerk & Parishioners**

- a) Registration of village green – Cllr Roberts to investigate the steps necessary to register the pond and the area around it as a Village Green and to consult the solicitors for further advice if required.  
**ACTION: Cllr Roberts.**
- b) Tree Inspection – It was agreed to get a quote per tree from Adrian Hope  
**ACTION: Contact Adrian Hope.**
- c) Christmas Tree on Hanley Swan Village Green – It was discussed and Cllrs Smith & Walker would look into it and report back with costings at the next meeting. **ACTION: Cllrs Smith & Walker to report findings at July Meeting.**
- d) Speed Bumps by the Swan – The issue of cars travelling past The Swan and concerns about children crossing to the Green was discussed. As there are no street lights speed bumps were not an option. It was agreed to monitor the road usage and to discuss the matter with The Swan.  
**ACTION: Cllr Walker to liaise with The Swan.**

**82/24 Items for the next agenda:** The Christmas Tree & the new Financial Model.

**83/24 Date of next meeting:** The date of the next meeting was set for 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

Signed ..... Date: 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024  
Chairman

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## Appendix 1: Schedule of Payments & Receipts 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024

### Payments Approved at June Meeting

Blessed Lady RC Church		Donation for Church Lychgate Repairs	£500.00
New Farm Ground Maintenance		May Cuts	£805.30
HMRC PAYE		Feb-April	£22.70
Rebecca Abunassar		McAfee Annual Protection	£109.99
WCALC		May Councillor Training	£84.00
Peter Sauntson		May Lengthsman	£135.00
Rebecca Abunassar		June Salary	£625.60
			<b>£2,282.59</b>

Signed ..... Date: 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024  
Chairman