

# Hanley Castle Parish Council

**Minutes** of the June Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023 in Hanley Swan Village Hall.

**Present:** Councillors: Sue Roberts (Chairman), Alison Sparkes, Alex Walker, Sue Adeney, Angela Hartland, Pippa Barkley, Lesley Smith.

**Apologies:** Councillor S Beadon; Peter Goodyear.

**In Attendance:** The Clerk, C&DCllr Tom Wells, DCllr Katherine Wells, Nick Harper (Pond Warden), Graham Holmes (Playing Field Warden) and 5 parishioners.

**68/23 Welcome and Apologies:** Cllr Roberts welcomed everyone to the June meeting of the Parish Council. Cllr Roberts accepted the apologies received by the Clerk.

## **69/23 Declarations of Interest & Dispensation Requests from Councillors**

- a) Register of Interests: Councillors were reminded that they must complete the register of interests following the election – The Clerk had emailed a copy to each Councillor.
- b) Dispensations. Councillors had completed dispensation forms relating to precept setting and finance and these were granted for a period of four years.

**70/23 Minutes:** The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2023 had been previously circulated and the minutes were **approved**. It was noted that Tony Atkinson had stepped down from the Village Hall Committee and Graham Holmes would replace him as the Parish Council Representative going forward. Caroline Peer would be the new representative on Hanley Castle Parochial Charities with Helen Owens.

**ACTION: Cllr Roberts to thank Tony for his many years of service.**

*The meeting was then closed. Progress on the Green Infrastructure was raised as a site visit and decision was required before the autumn planting season if Hanley Habitats were to help. The Picken End development was raised due to the June meeting of the Southern Area planning committee being cancelled and it was asked if it was known when the application might go in front of the committee. A date was not known but the DCllrs would let the Council known when a date was set. The Council was asked if they felt signage for the Village Hall was required from the cross roads as it was unclear where it was from the direction of the pond. **The Clerk to enquire about a brown sign by the pond.** It was enquired how much information was held about the Parish at the caravan sites at Blackmore Park. It was suggested that **Cllr Hartland introduce herself to the management teams as the Parish Council Business Representative and let them have information about the Parish Link and the website.** Parishioners raised the issue of fumes coming from the Old Bakery. The Council listened to their concerns and confirmed that it was on the agenda to be discussed. It was also asked that the Oak tree on the Village Green was inspected especially as its lower limbs were almost touching the ground. **Request an inspection of the tree.***

**71/23 Matters Arising and Progress Reports** for information:

- a) Action list was discussed and updated.

- b) All damaged signs to be reported to WCC
- c) Cllr Walker to ask for parishioners' views on extending the wooden rails on the Village Green to curtail parking on the grass.

**72/23 Finance:**

- a) Payments in the schedule of Appendix 1 were approved.
- b) Receipts: None received.

**73/23 Planning:** a) To Consider the following application:

|                                 |   |  |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| <a href="#">M/23/00732/GPDE</a> | Little Mead Worcester Road<br>Hanley Swan Worcester WR8 0EA | Notification for Prior Approval for a Proposed Larger Home Extension |
| No Objection raised             |   |  |

d) Planning Decisions:

|                               |  |   |                      |
|-------------------------------|--|---|----------------------|
| <a href="#">M/23/00396/HP</a> | 4 Apple Tree Gardens<br>Hanley Swan Worcester<br>WR8 0DD | Construction of Garden room   | Application Approved |
| <a href="#">M/23/00034/HP</a> | Mill House Hanley<br>Castle Worcester WR8<br>0BU         | Small 1st floor extension over existing lean-to; timber garage for car and loft storage | Application Approved |

**74/23 NHDP: Next Steps & Actions** – A new working party had been formed and had started to review the documents. Looking for a trigger point as when to start the changes was difficult as the SWDPR website was out of date and timings unsure. The planned activity was to continue with the review and to contact David Clarke and CALC. Employment land would be the main difference. Due to the new activity NHDP would move to a separate heading on future agendas.

**75/23 District and County Councillors' Reports:** The Parish Council was updated on the launch of Community Demand Response Transport which is part funded by MHDC and WCC. It was thought that the buses would be running 7am-7pm, 6 days a week. Details would soon be made available. The Boundary Commission review of County Council wards was also discussed and the Parish Council was asked to submit its comments and recommend no changes in this part of the County. The footway at the Hanley Castle end of Roberts End remained in a poor state of repair and it would be requested that work was undertaken to improve it around Holloway Farm.

**76/23 Report of the:**

- a) **Parish Paths Warden** – Report read out and strimming request approved
- b) **Pond Warden** – A working party was set to work on the willow on the 25<sup>th</sup> June. Cllr Sparkes offered to provide refreshments. Improved noticeboards by the pond had been suggested in memory of Brian Robinson - Nick Harper would investigate the costs of them. A meeting would be held with Oracle to discuss the data readings from the water to determine if any action was required. Bread was still being fed to the ducks and signs reminding the public not to do so were suggested. It was noted that the Village Shop sells proper duck food and this should be promoted.

**c) Playing Field Warden** – An application was being submitted for an annual maintenance grant from the FA. They would require a storage unit and it was unclear whether planning would be required. **The Clerk to ask MHDC Planning.** The Parish Council had previously approved a grant of £1500 for works to maintain the playing field, unfortunately additional costs had occurred and it was asked if the grant could be increased to £2590. All voted in favour of the increase. While the work is undertaken signs will be required to keep people off the main area.

**d) Local Police** – report circulated ahead of the meeting.

### **77/23 Highways Matters**

a) Road Safety Matters– A very productive meeting had been held at HCHS. A cost for smaller 'Bobbies' was still awaited. Cllr Barkley to contact the schools about using the bobbies in front of the schools.

Speeding on Worcester Road had been raised. It tended to be worse early evenings, night time and at the weekends. It was agreed to locate the VAS there. The possibility of installing white gates on the Worcester Road to curb speeding was also discussed. The Clerk to contact Highways to see if there is an appropriate location.

**ACTION: Cllr Sparkes to request the VAS is located on Worcester Road; the Clerk to investigate white Welcome Gates.**

b) Works for the Lengthsman – a request was made to cut back on sections of the cycle path and to clean signage around the Parish.

**ACTION: Cllr Sparkes to speak to the Lengthsman with work requests.**

### **78/23 Carbon Neutral Working Group**

a) A good meeting had been held and the Councillors were reminded that they had committed to working towards being carbon neutral by 2025. It was agreed to look at ways to reduce paper, procure a projector suitable for meetings, look at the land managed by the Council to make it greener, consider working with ethical companies, and promote local food produce. **Cllr Adeney to email a document on the proposals for the Clerk to circulate.**

b) Green Infrastructure – **Follow up with MHDC to see if a site visit can be arranged.**

c) Blackmore Industrial Sites. It was agreed to check the conditions on the original application for the sites at Blackmore to see if the conditions were still applicable, with particular reference to the cycle path to Malvern.

d) Allotments – The Clerk to confirm that the Parish Council would ideally like the allotments transferred to Parish Council ownership but, failing that, a long lease would be acceptable. The Council would be willing to pay any legal fees.

### **79/23 Correspondence**

a) Air Quality Around Hanley Orchard – **Cllr Roberts to contact the owner and discuss the matter with him.**

b) Marches Homes – Advised that a separate consultation would be preferable.

c) Local Government Boundary Review – Presentation to the meeting which the Clerk had attended to be circulated.

### **80/23 Topics raised by Councillors, Committees, Clerk & Parishioners**

a) Parish Council use of online platforms – A long discussion was held about an incident on Facebook. It was agreed that social media would not be used by the Parish Council in the same way again. It was also suggested that CALC were contacted regarding Safeguarding Policies and social media platforms.

**ACTION: The Clerk to contact CALC.**

- b) Conservators Levy Parking Permits for Malvern Hills – it was noted that there was no Malvern Hills Trust (Conservators) land within the Parish and therefore parishioners were not eligible for parking permits.
- c) Three Counties Show tickets ballot had been held and was oversubscribed. Cllr Sparkes offered to help with the ballot for the Autumn Show.
- d) Poor Mobile phone signal – It was considered that a mast within the parish would probably be required. The Clerk to write to Harriet Baldwin & Ofcom and parishioners asked to contact their providers.
- e) Scattering of Ashes. A request had been received from the family of an Old Hancastrian to scatter his ashes under the Cedar Tree on the Green. It was agreed that they would be better if they were buried as the area was very well used.

**81/23 Councillors reports and items for future agenda:** Nothing raised.

**82/23 Items for the Next Agenda:** Carbon Neutral policy.

**83/23 Date of next meeting:** The date of the next meeting was set for 20th July 2023

Signed ..... Date: 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
Chairman

Appendix 1: Schedule of Payments & Receipts 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

**Payments to be Approved at June Meeting**

|                                 |  |                            |         |
|---------------------------------|--|----------------------------|---------|
| Rebecca Abunassar               |  | McAfee Annual Subscription | 109.99  |
| Rebecca Abunassar               |  | April Salary               | 519.20  |
| New Farm Grounds<br>Maintenance |  | April Cuts                 | 1207.94 |
|                                 |  | June Total                 | 1837.13 |

Signed ..... Date: 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
Chairman