

Hemington, Hardington & Foxcote Parish Council

Chairman:

Clerk: Jen Gregory 07912177288 clerk.hemingtonpc@gmail.com

MINUTES

**Of Hemington, Hardington & Foxcote Parish Council
Held on Wednesday 10th April 2024 7.30pm at Faulkland Village Hall**

Present: Vice Chairman A Hucker, Cllrs F Green, M Hanley, I Biggerstaff

Also Present: Somerset Councillor B Clarke, J Gregory Proper Officer plus 3 Members of the public

Public Participation

Matters raised;

Defibrillator – to be covered in point 23/24 142 of the meeting

Monies requested to support the CSW in a one-off donation of £150.00 to access equipment. The CSW representative gave an overview of the work done to date and the increase in participation of volunteers

23/24 138

Apologies for absence

Cllr Curtis was not in attendance. Somerset Councillor Ham gave apologies

Action: Absence recorded, apologies noted

23/24 139

Declarations of Interest

Members were asked to advise any Declarations of interest in today's agenda items or any pecuniary interests in line with Councils' Code of Conduct.

Resolved: Cllr Biggerstaff declared an interest in the Planning application regarding the holiday let at Chickwell Lane.

23/24 140

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

To receive the minutes of the meeting held 13th March 2024

Resolved: Minutes of the previous meeting was signed by the Chairman as a correct record in the presence of the Proper Officer and meeting attendees

23/24 141

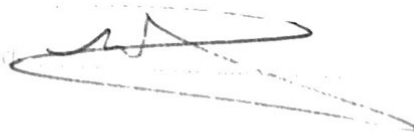
To receive County Councillors Report

Cllr Clarke gave a verbal report on financial matters at Somerset not least the use of a "capitalisation loan". It was suggested that Somerset would only be fulfilling statutory obligations here on in. There was a Stewardship Scheme for the payment of 50k per annum allowing access to a "man with a van" to enable gully clearing, drain unblocking, verge maintenance and sign cleaning etc

Boundary Commission was ongoing and would shape constituencies for the general election. This would not impact parish boundaries but parishes were encouraged to look at spin off LCN's with parishes joining forces.

The Hardship Fund had been extended to September.

Blood pressure monitors and thermal imaging cameras were available free of charge from local libraries.



County Constitution had been reissued and Cllr Clarke stated that Parishes should be mindful of planning application procedures especially relating to registration and speaking times.

23/24 147

Matters Arising / Updates

- a. TAG/CSW
TAG group meets every 2 months with a meeting planned for tomorrow. Dawn Denton would be forwarding to Cllr Clarke information to which he responded he had not received. Cllr Biggerstaff would follow up.

CSW has indicated from the initial open meeting was up and running with 11 volunteers and rotas planned and possible other locations to be considered with Police engagement. There would be monitoring with ASW to look at speeds before, during and after CSW sessions, historic collated accident information would be passed on and notably on the litter pick day cars were having a race.

Repeater signs would help stem some speed into the village

Action: Clerk to enquire with Highways.

- b. Banking Arrangements – On hold and prudent to leave until AGM and possibly see out the end of year financial situation.

c. Play Park

Matting – Creative Play indicated that matting had been inspected independently, installed correctly and met safety and British standard. They reiterated their view of the mowers being too low which caused the damage. Cllr Hucker believe this not to be the case.

Action: Clerk instructed to start insurance claim/ Idverde told to raise mower height.

Septic tank / swings / Tractor – Cllr Hucker complained that these have been left off the agenda despite receiving a draft he did not indicate these items to remain.

d. Litter pick

Successful day as previously indicated with lots of village engagement.

e. Dog Bins

Clerk had made a 2nd request via the website for the Grove Road Bin

- f. Potholes / Verges – Grove Road and Lippiatt Hill
Reported and work had started to Grove Road

g. Bridleway (overgrown County Lane)

Reported via Roam Somerset. Awaiting action.

h. Defibrillator

The Clerk had sourced some prices of various outdoor units included locked and unlocked. Given the location outward dimensions were needed to establish if this created any issue with pedestrians.

Action: Clerk to advise on dimensions

23/24 145

Reports

a. Chairman's report


Cllr Hucker stated there was nothing additional to agenda items listed.

23/24 144

Planning Applications for Consideration:

Extension Granted 2024/0398 Chickwell Lane to Wells Road

Holiday Let Cabin



8/5/24

With all Councillors having opportunity to look at plans and the site the following reasons for objection were set out:

Conspicuous given the location on high ground

Accessibility issues

Concerns regarding the sustainability of the site

Height of the building and already on high ground

Waste and bore hole together

Has there been a tested water supply

Has a Tree survey been carried out given they have removed approx. 6m of historic hedgerow for access purposes

Resolved: Vote was taken with 3 rejections and 1 exclusion (DOI). Enforcement Officer to be notified of hedgerow.

Deadline 11.04.24 2024/ 0480 & 0479 Foxcote Mill, Foxcote

Single Storey Extension to outbuilding

Plans discussed and it was felt there was nothing to object to

Resolved: Vote was taken with all 4 members in favour of recommending application

23/24 145

Play Area

Moles had gone.

Swing gate to be added to the agenda.

23/24 146

Finances

The following payment schedule was presented for payment.

J Gregory Salary and WFH Costs/Postage/Reimbursement of HMRC Cost (148.49) £398.01

Balance on Accounts as at Year End 31.03.2024 £15440.13. Three unpaid cheques c/f totalling £795 (one to be reissued) Audit in progress

To consider grant for CSW – Details provided in open meeting.

Resolved: Payment schedule agreed. Grant of £150 proposed by Cllr Hanley and seconded Cllr Hucker with all members in favour. CSW to liaise with Clerk on payment.

23/24 147

Correspondence

Waste provision – Suez the Somerset Waste Contractor would be making changes to waste days. This was not happening until July so residents would be informed around 6 weeks prior of the changes.

23/24 148

Information / Items to Raise for consideration at the next meeting

ASW subscription

Play Area Swing gate / Signage

23/24 149

Any Other Business

After 12 years of being a member of the Parish Council Cllr Hucker would be stepping down with immediate effect. Cllr Green paid tribute to his work and dedication which was echoed by the meeting.

23/24 150

Date of next Meeting


7th May for Annual Council Meeting

The Chairman thanked all those present for their time and contribution.

Meeting closed at 8.58pm



A signed copy of the minutes can be viewed by arrangement via the Parish Clerk and a copy provided on its website.

Signed 

Dated 8/5/24