Hemington, Hardington   
& Foxcote Parish Council

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**M I N U T E S**

**Of Hemington, Hardington & Foxcote Parish Council**

**Held on Wednesday 13th November 2024 7.30pm at Faulkland Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs Biggerstaff, Hanley, Green, Curtis, Buckwell, Francis and Cross

**Also Present:** J Gregory Proper Officer plus 5 Members of the public

**Public Participation**

Matters raised;

Thanks expressed to Cllr Francis for cutting the hedge. Would be appreciative if he could cut the area to the west end panel. Cllr Francis agreed to complete in next couple weeks. Batteries may be required to this unit at a cost of c£50 each.

The hairdresser had a break in early early Wednesday morning, salon ransacked with hamper stock, dyson equipment, colouring and scissors taken. Tenants in upstairs flat upset but within 24 hours 4 arrests had been made. Some distruption to business temporarily.

Thanks to Cllr Green and his son Chris for removing the weeds by the pond and edge of the green for bulb planting 3 bulk bags removed where willow root was crowding out irises and other plants.

Another cut of the bridleway was necessary, assistance appreciated with strimming and stonework. Due to the darker nights this may need to be weekend job or look to the spring depending on take up.

**24/25 062 Welcome and apologies for absence**

Everyone was present and members of Council introduced themselves to the meeting.

This was Cllr Biggerstaff’s first meeting as Chair and thanks expressed to Cllr Hanley for him taking up the role for a 6 month interim period.

**24/25 063 Declarations of Interest**

**Resolved: No declarations advised for tonights meeting.**

**24/25 064 Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

To receive the minutes of the meeting held 9th October 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 with a written amendment to the name Rex Eastmen should be Rex Eastment.**

**24/25 065 Chairmans Report**

Noted bulk British narcissus for sale via mole valley if needed. Cllr Buckwell said much had been planted already including patches by the pond, the green, around some dog bins and outside the 30mph sign. The latter was felt a great idea by all showing that the village is cared for, people live there and highlighting the signs. Cllr Buckwell thanked those who gave up their time to help plant.

**24/25 066 Matters Arising from Previous Meeting**

* + 1. A366 TAG Group

Cllr Biggerstaff reported that a TAG meeting was held last week with a response awaited from Nick Cowling who had been handed the project by Sara Davis. There was Norton St Philip Parish meeting tonight however the lead on highways Cllr Val Fox was ill and not in attendance. A draft survey had been proposed which the NSP Clerk would send to us. .

* + 1. CSW/ASW

ASW was very quiet with sun times there was lower amounts of data. He stated that whilst the westbound unit was OK east bound was struggling so he would have this looked at.

Terms of Reference for the FASST (Faulkland Action to Slow Speeding Traffic)  had been circulated.  Their purpose was as a working group with no delegation of powers, to research, provide data and recommendations for the parish Council.  The Parish council agreed that data/recommendations would be reviewed and discussed with possible actions, with a need for a balanced view.    Members of the group included Tim Gibbs from ASW, Cllr D Buckwell CSW/PC, Paul Buckwell and Tom Ayres (CSW) Cllr I Biggerstaff, other members were welcomed.

Public and councillors alike thanked Paul Buckwell for leading the CSW Team and for the team in committing their time to the cause.

* + 1. Councillor responsibilities

Deferred to the next meeting with a list to be circulated. This was no means a definitive list and other responsibilities to be added such as website, environmental etc.

**24/25 067 Planning Matters for Consideration**

2024/1712 Erection of stable block and menage – The Barn, Charlton Farm, Hammer Lane.

The query over hectarage seemed to have been a administration error by Somerset in confusing Hammer Lane and West Barn. The Clerk had raised the issue with Planning.

**24/25 068 Finances**

The transfer of the account to Unity had been particulary problematic and still continues with NatWest claiming cheques have been altered (yet haven’t). We have a small balance of funds in Unity to pay bills and one last instruction to Natwest should ensure that the account is moved. All in all its been a stressful time for a number of members. Cllr Hanley had made a short-term loan to the Unity account to cover costs of £1k this has been repaid.

J Gregory Salary & Expenses £252.64

SALC Training £ 53.00

D Buckwell Reimbursement battery cost £ 79.99

Resolved: Proposed Cllr Hanley and seconded Cllr Green for payments to be made.

With regard to batteries needed for the East bound unit TG instructed to review and report so costs can be agreed.

Due to the move of accounts an ICO Direct debit instruction would need to be carried out. This was agreed for the Clerk to arrange.

**24/25 069 To receive County Councillors Report**

Cllr Clarke was not at the meeting. A report in his absence had been circulated.

**24/25 070 Other business Referred to the Clerk**

Training

There was a number of training courses at present. Cllr Biggerstaff had just completed one. Training dates and link to SALC would be circulated and any bookings to be made through the Clerk.

**24/25 071 Matters for consideration at the Next Meeting.**

Thanks to the Clerk for the flag Cllr Green would fly this for the King’s birthday tomorrow. Question is whether to leave it up with the decision that it be flown on special occasions. His son Chris had offered to be the “Flag Monitor” and this was agreed – there was other suggestions for assistance with this by the public.

Fly tipping at the east side of the layby.

Request made for a Christmas tree – Cllr Francis would arrange with Ammerdown as previous years.

Update from the village hall committee advised that the Fayres that have been held have had varying success with volunteers putting in an awful amount of work. Coffee mornings would replace this next year perhaps on a Saturday morning to help support the roof repairs. On this, new quotations were being sought.

**24/25 061 Date of the next Meeting**

## 11th December 2025 7.30pm Faulkland Village Hall.

MH gave apologies for the December meeting advising he had a work commitment.

Council had a confidential session following this meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.52pm

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