

MINUTES
09.01.2024
GODSHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 7.30 pm at Godshill Village Hall.

Present:

Cllr Woodward – Chairman

Cllr Cakebread

Cllr Sanger

Cllr Stammers

Mrs Bev Cornish – Clerk

Two members of the public

104.23 Public Question Time

A member of the public advised that when out walking he had noticed that a fence had been installed behind the stile on the footpath up to Godshill Wood. This meant that the route of the footpath had changed and would not accord with the definitive map. This may not be an issue for now but it may cause issues in the future if Hampshire County Council's map doesn't match with the current route of the footpath on the ground.

105.23 Business Raised During Public Question Time

Cllr Woodward said that the Clerk would raise this with the Countryside Access Team and asked the member of the public if, when they are next out walking, they could take a photograph of the re-routed footpath.

106.23 Apologies

Cllr Woodward proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the apologies be approved from Cllr Atwill due to illness and Cllr Fell due to a work commitment.

107.23 Declarations of Interest:

a. To receive Declarations of Interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda, in accordance with the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 in respect of members and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1972 in respect of officers:

No declarations of interest were received.

b. To consider any Dispensation Requests received by the Parish Clerk and not previously considered:

The Clerk confirmed that no dispensation requests had been received.

108.23 Minutes

Cllr Stammers proposed, Cllr Cakebread seconded and it was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 12th December 2023.

109.23 Clerk's Report

Clerk's Report:

Defibrillator Training: A date would be fixed in March with the Contractor and then this could be advertised in the forthcoming Newsletter which was to be delivered across the parish.

VAT reclaim: A VAT reclaim had been submitted for £558 and will take around a month to be repaid.

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110.23 Highways Matters and Issues

Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the areas to be addressed were:

- Southampton Road in the area of Street Cottage which will involve the clearing out of the drains and piping under the road which extends into Sandy Balls. Consequently, there will need to be some liaison between Hampshire Highways, the Parish Council and Sandy Balls to ensure that there is a complete solution to the problem and regular clearing and maintenance is carried out.
- The hole in the road in Newgrounds which needs regular repairs and is hazardous during freezing weather.
- The ford at the bottom Blissford Road
- The ford at the bottom of Woodgreen Road.

Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Sanger seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk should write a letter to Hampshire Highways with a copy to Cllr Edward Heron which should also be accompanied by photographs. A question should also be asked about whether any account had been to mitigate damage to the roads by additional local housing developments.

111.23 Newsletter

The following items were agreed to be included a Winter Parish Newsletter to be issued after the February meeting:

- Broadband and the forthcoming installation by Wessex Internet.
- Potholes and surface water. Advise residents what the Council is doing and how they can report issues.
- Dark skies and light pollution.

112.23 Dark Skies and Light Pollution

In the absence of Cllr Atwill, Cllr Woodward proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

113.23 Finance and Policy:

a. Payments

Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Sanger seconded and it was RESOLVED that the following payments be approved:

£172.00 Mrs S Boyd – Pinch point maintenance

£216.00 Godshill Village Hall – Annual Hire for 2024

£30.00 B Cornish – For coinage for the heating payment meter at the Village Hall

b. Budget 2024/25 - To consider and resolve to approve the draft 3-year budget submitted by the Clerk:

Following a detailed discussion, Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Sanger seconded and it was RESOLVED that a budget of £13,394 be set for 2024/25.

c. Precept 2024/25 - To resolve to agree a precept demand for submission to New Forest District Council:

Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Sanger seconded and it was RESOLVED that a Precept of £13,394 be approved which was an increase of 6.09% and a Band D figure of £59.53. Cllr Sanger offered his thanks to the Clerk for her work on the preparing the budget.

d. To consider and resolve to approve the Earmarked Reserves of the Parish Council.

Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Sanger seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Earmarked Reserves be deferred to the March meeting.

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e. To give consideration and resolve to agree on the organisations to which a grant may be awarded:

Following a discussion, Cllr Woodward proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that this item be deferred to the next meeting to enable applications to be made.

f. To resolve to approve the sum of £1,160.95 as the Accounts for payment for January.

		£
Mrs S Boyd	Pinch point maintenance	172.00
Godshill Village Hall	Annual Hall Hire	216.00
B Cornish	Coinage for Hall heating	30.00
B Cornish	January salary	400.75
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Oct-Dec 2023	342.20

Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Sanger seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Accounts for payment for January be approved. It was also agreed that a Maintenance Reserve be created and more funding be allocated for 2024/25 to communication.

g. To resolve to approve the Bank balances - Cheque and Reserve Accounts.

Balances to be Approved and Noted as at 09.01.24

Current Account: £4,370.97 Deposit Account: £10,649.39

Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Sanger seconded and it was RESOLVED that the balances be approved and noted.

h. To resolve to approve the Budget to Actual Report to 31st December 2023.

Cllr Woodward proposed, Cllr Sanger seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Budget to Actual report be approved and noted.

114.23 Outside Bodies and Representation:

NFNPA Planning Committee: The Clerk gave a detailed report on a recent meeting at which she had spoken on behalf of the Council on the planning application for Broadhill Cottage. She said that the Committee had taken on board the concerns raised by the Council about the protection needed for the site during construction and about the protection of bats on the site. Councillors also did not consider that an air source heat pump was an appropriate way of heating the building. The outcome of the lengthy discussions was to defer the application to a future meeting once the issues raised had been considered and potentially resolved.

115.23 Correspondence

Cllr Woodward proposed from the Chair and it was RESOLVED that the following items of correspondence be noted:

1. Email from Cllr Ann Sevier re offer of help and to attend the annual parish meeting, for instance.
2. Email regarding the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan - Partial Update - Regulation 19 (Proposed Submission) Consultation from 9 January 2024 to 5 March 2024.
3. Email re New Forest Volunteer Fair being held on 28th January 2024 10.30-4pm at Brockenhurst Village Hall.
4. NW Quadrant meeting on Monday 22nd January at 7 pm at Fordingbridge Town Hall.

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116.23 Any Other Business.

Speed Indicator Devices: Cllr Cakebread offered her thanks, which was supported by Cllrs Sanger and Stammers, to Cllrs Woodward and Fell for their dedication to keeping the speed cameras charged and operating on a weekly basis.

Building Control: Cllr Stammers raised concerns about the lack of building control scrutiny for planning applications. Cllr Sanger said that there was an organised disconnect between the building control companies and the local planning authorities.

117.23 Next Meeting

Cllr Woodward confirmed the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 12th March 2024 to be held at Godshill Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

With no other business, the meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

Members of the Council considered the foregoing in the matters in consideration of their duties: Equal Opportunities, (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability); Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety, and Human Rights.