

MINUTES of the meeting of the GRASSMOOR, HASLAND AND WINSICK PARISH COUNCIL held on 24 May 2023 at the Grassmoor Community Centre.

PRESENT

Councillor P J Hemsley (in the Chair)

Councillors A H Booker, M Durrant, J Hartshorne, L Hartshorne, V Poole and J Wood.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no matters taken in public participation.

POLICE/PARISH LIAISON

Reference was made to serious anti-social behaviour issues on Kestrel Drive and Skipper Road. The issues were being addressed as part of a multi-agency approach to the problems.

COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

Councillors Cupit and Woolley were unable to attend the meeting. Councillor Woolley had reported that both he and Councillor Cupit had agreed to provide funding for the events to celebrate the Coronation. The applications were currently being processed. Both Councillors had also agreed to support the Grassmoor Funday which was to be held on 1 July 2023.

Councillor Woolley had been working with the Grassmoor Past and Present Group to try and obtain the old pit wheel for the project to re-site it in the village. Unfortunately, Utopia Tableware had confirmed that the land on which the wheel was situated at present was not owned by them. Councillor Woolley would continue to investigate the ownership of the land.

DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

It was reported that Councillor L Hartshorne and Councillor M Durrant had been elected to the District Council in the recent elections and that Labour had regained control of the Council. Councillors Hartshorne and Durrant wished to thank the local electorate for their support in electing them. The new administration was already working on implementing the manifesto pledges to make the district greener, cleaner and safer. Councillor Hartshorne had been appointed as Chair of the Planning Committee and Councillor Durrant as Vice-Chair of the Community Improvement and Scrutiny Committee.

Funding for the Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre had been fully reinstated, and the Council would be increasing the size of the Anti-Social Behaviour Team. The new administration had inherited a financial position where there were only £800k in reserves, so it was facing a difficult financial situation going forward.

Councillor Hartshorne would be working collaboratively with telecommunications companies to try to provide better coverage in Grassmoor as well as other parts of the District where there were issues. Part of the problem was that the issues were not identified in the Council Plan for the District.

1/23 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLVED that Councillor P J Hemsley be appointed as Chair of the Parish Council for the ensuing year.

2/23. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OF CHAIR RESOLVED that in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 the Parish Council Chair, Councillor P J Hemsley read and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office before the Parish Clerk.

Councillor P J Hemsley (in the Chair)

3/23 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR

RESOLVED that Councillor A H Booker be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Parish Council for the ensuing year.

4/23. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE OF VICE-CHAIR RESOLVED that in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 the Parish Council Chair, A H Booker read and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office before the Parish Clerk.

5/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of County Councillors C Cupit and J Woolley.

6/23 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

Councillors P J Hemsley, L Hartshorne, V Poole and J Wood declared personal interests in the item relating to Grassmoor Community Centre as members of the Community Centre Management Committee (Minute no. 16/23 refers). Councillors A H Booker and J Hartshorne declared personal interests in the item relating to Grassmoor Community Pavilion as members of the Pavilion Operational Management Group (Minute no. 17/23 refers). Councillor L Hartshorne declared a personal interest in the item relating Planning Matters as Chair of the District Council Planning Committee (Minute no. 29/23 refers).

7/23 MINUTES RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 12 April 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

8/23 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The Responsible Financial Officer presented for information, details of receipts and payments to 30 April 2023 which showed an overall balance of £166,909.04. The bank reconciliation had been circulated to every member by email.

It was agreed that payments be authorised as detailed below:

Date	Details	Method	TOTAL	VAT Inputs
04.04.23	NEDDC - Dog bins to March	8BACS	£898.56	£149.76
04.04.23	Cubit Ultrasonic - Lamppost testing	9BACS	£580.50	£0.00
04.04.23	Cathedral Leasing	10BACS	£42.12	£7.02
04.04.23	NEDDC - Trade Waste	11BACS	£678.86	£0.00
06.04.23	BT - Pavilion	12DD	£98.28	£16.38
06.04.23	E-on Next - Pav Elec	13DD	£92.48	£4.40
06.04.23	Npower - Park lighting	14BACS	£56.05	£2.67
12.04.23	R Ackrill - Postage stamps	15BACS	£8.80	£0.00
27.04.23	NEDDC - Cemetery	16BACS	£15,205.94	£2,534.32
27.04.23	A Ward - Keys & Pedal Bin	17BACS	£57.00	£9.50
27.04.23	R Ackrill - Zoom Fee	18BACS	£15.59	£2.60
27.04.23	Staff Salaries - April	19BACS	£2,174.67	£0.00
27.04.23	HMRC - PAYE April	19BACS	£532.79	£0.00
30.04.23	Rural Action Derbyshire	20BACS	£297.00	£48.00
30.04.23	Lee's Garden Services - Mowing etc	21BACS	£1,118.07	£0.00
30.04.23	J Taylor - Internal Auditor	22BACS	£225.00	£0.00
03.05.23	BT Pavilion	23DD	£98.28	£16.38
09.05.23	Eon-Next - Pavilion Elect April	24DD	£41.98	£2.00
03.05.23	Cathedral Leasing - Pavilion	25BACS	£42.12	£7.02
03.05.23	Community Centre - Grant & Room	26BACS	£3,032.50	£0.00
24.05.23	Staff Salaries - May	27BACS	£2,191.11	£0.00
24.05.23	HMRC PAYE - May	27BACS	£537.19	£0.00

RESOLVED to (a) note the report;

(b) agree the bank reconciliation and the summary of receipts and payments to 30 April 2023; and

(c) approve the payment of accounts as detailed above.

9/23 CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLORS

The Clerk reported that as the Parish Council election had been uncontested, there were currently four vacancies on the Council. The Council should seek to fill these vacancies by co-option at the earliest opportunity.

The Clerk had produced a policy, including an application form, for the co-option of Councillors and this was approved. Notices advertising the vacancies would be displayed on notice boards as well as the Council's website and Facebook page.

RESOLVED to (a) seek to fill the vacancies on the Parish Council as soon as possible; and
(b) approve the Council's Co-option of Parish Councillors Policy.

10/23 REVIEW OF THE PARISH COUNCIL'S STANDING ORDERS, FINANCIAL REGULATIONS, RISK ASSESSMENT, GDPR POLICY, EQUALITIES POLICY AND CCTV POLICY

(a) Standing Orders

The Clerk presented the Parish Council's Standing Orders for review. No changes were proposed.

(b) Financial Regulations

The Clerk presented the Parish Council's Financial Regulations for review. No changes were proposed.

(c) Parish Council Risk Assessment

The Clerk presented a revised risk assessment for the Parish Council which had been updated in terms of the current Covid position.

(d) Equalities Policy

The Clerk presented the Parish Council's Equalities Policy for review. No changes were proposed.

(e) GDPR Policy

The Clerk presented the Parish Council's GDPR Policy for review. No changes were proposed.

(f) CCTV Policy

The Clerk presented the Parish Council's new CCTV Policy for approval.

RESOLVED to approve the Parish Council's Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Risk Assessment, Equalities Policy, GDPR Policy and CCTV Policy.

11/23 ADOPTION OF THE GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

The Clerk reported that it was a requirement that the Parish Council adopt the General Power of Competence on an annual basis should it wish to use it at any point. The Parish Council satisfied both the electoral mandate and qualified Clerk requirements.

RESOLVED to adopt the General Power of Competence.

12/23 APPOINTMENTS TO GRASSMOOR COMMUNITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE GRASSMOOR COMMUNITY PAVILION OPERATIONAL

MANAGEMENT GROUP RESOLVED to (a) appoint Councillors P J Hemsley, L Hartshorne, V Poole and J Wood to serve on the Community Centre Management Committee for the forthcoming year; and

(b) to appoint Councillors A H Booker and J Hartshorne to serve on the Grassmoor Community Pavilion Operational Management Group for the forthcoming year.

13/23 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no Chair's announcements.

14/23 GRASSMOOR, HASLAND AND WINSICK PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 2022-23 – GOVERNANCE

The Responsible Financial Officer reported on governance arrangements for the Parish Council Accounts for 2022-23. The arrangements were approved, and it was agreed that the appropriate documentation be published on the website. The period for the exercise of public rights was agreed as being between 5 June and 14 July 2023.

RESOLVED to (a) approve the governance arrangements; and
(b) publish the appropriate notices on the website.

15/23 GRASSMOOR, HASLAND AND WINSICK PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 2022-23 – STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Clerk and the Responsible Financial Officer reported on the Parish Council Accounts for 2022-23. It was agreed that the Chair and the Clerk be authorised to sign the Statement of Accounts and Annual Return for submission to the External Auditor. The Parish Council also noted and agreed the revised Asset Register.

The Parish Council wished to place on record for his continued excellent work relating to the financial affairs of the Council.

RESOLVED to (a) approve the Parish Council Accounts for 2022-23;
(b) authorise the Clerk and the Chair to sign the Annual Return and Statement of Accounts; and
(c) approve the Parish Council's asset register.

16/23 GRASSMOOR COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Clerk reported that he had investigated the funding agreements of the funders of the project to refurbish the Community Centre to ascertain if there were any clauses in the agreements that would prevent a new Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) being formed. There appeared to be no such impediments except for the ERDF funding which the Clerk was looking at in more detail. The Clerk was looking to arrange a meeting with Rural Action Derbyshire to discuss the next steps.

The Toy Library had now started and was being well received. County Councillor C Cupit had been asked to provide funding to support the Library. Various activities had also been put on at the Centre for Mental Health Awareness Week.

RESOLVED to note the report.

17/23 GRASSMOOR COMMUNITY PAVILION

The Clerk reported that the problem with the boiler in the Pavilion had been identified as a problem with the immersion heaters which unfortunately needed replacing. The cost of the works was £2,145.00 and the work would be undertaken as soon as possible.

The Clerk reminded the Parish Council that there had been a significant water leak with the Pavilion supply which had now been fixed. The matter was with Water Plus and Severn Trent and it had been agreed to await a water bill before deciding what if any further action was required.

RESOLVED to note the report.

18/23 PARISH COUNCIL AND SOCIAL MEDIA

The Clerk reported that a total of nine applications had been received for the post of Assistant Parish Clerk. He proposed that four applicants be invited for interview with the interview Panel comprising Councillor P J Hemsley, the Clerk and the Responsible Financial Officer.

RESOLVED to (a) interview four candidates for the post of Assistant Parish Clerk; (b) agree an interview panel comprising Councillor P J Hemsley, the Clerk and the Responsible Financial Officer.

19/23 BARNES PARK AND WINSICK PARK

The Clerk reported that he had received very complementary comments from both the Cricket and Football Clubs regarding the service provided by Lee's Garden Services. The District Council had indicated that the cost of works between 1 April and the Parish Council cancelling the maintenance contract was £1,201.60 which included £695.00 of previously agreed non-programmed works. It was agreed that the outstanding amount be paid in full on receipt of a formal invoice.

It was normal for the football goal posts to be removed in the close season. Lee's Garden Services had indicated that he did not have the transport or storage facilities to undertake this. It was agreed that the District Council be asked to do this.

The Jubilee seat had now been installed.

There was some graffiti on the Skatepark which the Clerk agreed to arrange for it to be removed.

The Clerk reminded the Parish Council that a request had been received to hold Saturday morning "Boot Camp" sessions in Barnes Park. The Clerk had asked the organisers for more information about how much space would be required as it was not considered practical to use the football pitch or the cricket outfield. To date a response had not yet been received.

It was reported that a group called the Derbyshire Ducks US Football Group had advertised sessions in Barnes Park on Mondays between 6-8pm. They had not sought the permission of the Parish Council. The Parish Council had no objections to the use of the Park in principle, but it was agreed that the Group be invited to a Parish Council meeting or to meet with representatives of the Council to discuss the plans in more detail.

The Clerk reminded the Parish Council that it had only been allocated £10k funding from the NEDUKSPF for new play equipment in Barnes Park. The Clerk was working with Big Local to fund the project through the Valencia Communities Fund.

A request had been received from the Sunshine and Shade Bereavement Group who used the Pavilion, to use the raised beds near the Pavilion for the purposes of a memorial garden. The idea was agreed in principle subject to more detail being agreed on how the scheme would work in practice.

It was reported that three or four of the trees planted in Barnes Park last summer had unfortunately died. It was agreed that the Parish Council provide replacement trees.

The Clerk agreed to purchase plaques for the trees planted to commemorate the Jubilee and the Coronation.

RESOLVED to (a) note the report;

(b) pay the District Council for the outstanding grounds maintenance work in the Park;

(c) request the District Council to remove and replace the goal posts in Barnes Park;

(d) agree in principle to the Derbyshire Ducks US Football group using Barnes Park but to invite the group to talk about their activities with the Parish Council; proposed in Barnes Park;

(e) agree in principle to the Sunshine and Shade Group's idea of a memorial garden in Barnes Park, subject to further detail about how the scheme would operate in practice;

(f) agree to replace the trees planted in Barnes Park which had died; and

(g) agree to purchase plaques for the trees planted to commemorate the Jubilee and the Coronation.

20/23 COST OF LIVING CRISIS

It was noted that the District Council had reinstated funding to the Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre.

RESOLVED to note the report.

21/23 CCTV

The Clerk reported that Derbyshire Support and Facilities Services (DSFS) were not willing to allow a replacement camera to be in its property which covered the Doctors pathway. They had agreed however, to allow the Police to have access to footage should they require it. They had, as previously reported, agreed to pay for a replacement camera for the one that was accidentally removed. A location for a new camera would need to be identified and it was suggested that the Police be asked if

they had any suggestions. The Clerk pointed out that a lot may depend on where the camera could be located. The funding could also possibly be used to replace an existing camera and it was noted that the cameras on Hairdayz and the front of the Community Centre were old and not of the best quality in terms of picture.

RESOLVED to note the report.

22/23 MILL LANE ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk reported that there were on-going issues on the Allotments which needed to be resolved. However, the matters were of such a nature that they could not be considered in public. They would therefore be dealt with as an exempt matter in closed session.

RESOLVED to note the report.

23/23 GILL LANE ALLOTMENTS

There were no matters relating to Gill Lane Allotments to report.

RESOLVED to note the report.

24/23 GRASSMOOR LAGOONS, AVENUE WASHLANDS AND COUNTRY PARK

Councillor L Hartshorne reported that the Friends of Grassmoor Country Park were struggling to attract new volunteers to undertake their activities in the Country Park. They were looking to complete the works to the section of pathway from the Lagoons to main field.

The Chesterfield Area Walking Festival which was organised by the Don Valley Catchment Rivers Trust between 13 and 21 May, included organised walks in the Country Park.

Following the flood alleviation works carried out by the Trust, it was estimated that 2.6m pints of water was being retained in the Park.

The Coal Authority had identified and mapped filled in pit shafts in the Chesterfield area and this information had been passed to the Past and Present Group.

It was noted that a plaque was required for the new bench in the viewing area. It was suggested that the bench should be in recognition of the work on the Parish Council of former Councillors Betty Hill and Ian Barlow.

RESOLVED to note the report.

25/23 BIG LOCAL

Councillor L Hartshorne reported that Big Local had provided £1,500.00 to support the work of the Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre in the area.

It was agreed that no charge be made for the use of the Pavilion for the Grassmoor Funday to be held on 1 July.

RESOLVED to agree that no charge be made for the use of the Pavilion for the Grassmoor Funday on 1 July.

26/23 CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY

There were no matters relating to the climate change emergency to report.

RESOLVED to note the report.

27/23 ADDITIONAL LIGHTING - DOCTORS PATH

The Clerk reported that the District Council did not have an approved tender list for lighting works. They had confirmed that they struggled to find contractors to do such works, other than Fletch Electrical.

This being the case, the Clerk suggested that Financial Regulation 1.99 which relates to best value and obtaining three quotes for work, be waived in this instance and that an order for the work be placed with Fletch Electrical.

RESOLVED to waive Financial Regulation 1.99 and to place an order with Fletch Electrical for the provision of an additional lighting column on the Doctors pathway.

28/23 COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH

Councillor Durrant reported that several local residents had expressed an interest in volunteering for a community speed watch scheme. The Clerk agreed to investigate such schemes in more detail and to advertise for volunteers as a first step.

RESOLVED to agree in principle to establish a Community Speed Watch Scheme and to advertise for volunteers to participate in it.

29/23 PLANNING MATTERS

The Clerk reported on the following planning applications:

Application No.	Description	Comments/objections/material considerations
23/00429/FL Manor house Farm, Mansfield Road Mr B Wright	Change of use of detached garage to form single storey granny annex.	The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

22/01071/FL The Coal Yard, North Wingfield Road Mr D Atkinson	Varying of conditions	This application had been conditionally approved by the District Council.
20/01290/RM The Coal Yard, North Wingfield Road Mr D Atkinson	Reserved matters relating to 17/00646/OL.	This application had been conditionally approved by the District Council.
20/01291/RM The Coal Yard, North Wingfield Road Mr D Atkinson	Reserved matters relating to 17/00646/OL.	This application had been conditionally approved by the District Council.
20/01292/RM The Coal Yard, North Wingfield Road Mr D Atkinson	Reserved matters relating to 17/00646/OL.	This application had been conditionally approved by the District Council.
20/01293/RM The Coal Yard, North Wingfield Road Mr D Atkinson	Reserved matters relating to 17/00646/OL.	The Parish Council had no objections to this application.
23/00111/FLH Mile Hill House, Mansfield Road Mr C Naylor	Two storey rear and single storey side extension.	This application had been conditionally approved by the District Council.
23/00387/FLH 286 North Wingfield Road Mr C Ratcliffe	Rear first floor extension.	The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

23/00391/FLH 1 Oakland Close, Hasland Mr S Hill	Erection of detached garage.	The Parish Council had no objections to this application.
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RESOLVED to (a) note the report; and
(b) submit objections to application 23/00189/FL as detailed above.

30/23 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC RESOLVED that under Regulation 4 (2)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that in view of the nature of the items of business, that if members of the public were present, exempt information as defined in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 would be disclosed to them.

Summary of proceedings conducted after the public had been excluded from the meeting

1. Big Local (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)).
2. Mill Lane Allotments (information relating to any individual and information likely to reveal the identity of an individual).

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Chair

Meeting closed at 9.00pm.