

MINUTES of the meeting of the GRASSMOOR, HASLAND AND WINSICK PARISH COUNCIL held on 8 November 2023 at the Grassmoor Community Centre.

PRESENT

Councillor P J Hemsley (in the Chair)

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public reported various parking issues on Broom Drive which the Clerk agreed to report to Rykneld and the Police.

POLICE/PARISH LIAISON

Reference was made to a white Ford Focus which was creating a considerable noise as it drove through the village. The Clerk agreed to report the matter to the Police.

COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS

Unfortunately, Councillors Cupit and Woolley were unable to attend the meeting. Councillor Cupit had reported that she was pursuing the issue of the flooding in Barnes Park with the County Council and Yorkshire Water (see also Minute no. 142/23).

The Clerk reported that Councillor Cupit had suggested that the two new grit bins be located on Farmhouse Way (near no.35) and on Meadow Court near the junction with Windwhistle.

DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

Councillors Durrant and L Hartshorne reported that the District Council had approved the controversial Clay Cross Town Council car park planning application. It was hoped that the measures put in place would mitigate any traffic flow issues.

It was reported that there was currently a pre-planning consultation on the upgrading of the mobile phone mast on Avenue Farm. There were also on-going planning enforcement issues relating to Hagg Hill Farm.

It was noted that the Derbyshire Unemployed Workers Centre (DUWC) Annual Report had been published and the Clerk agreed to circulate it to members of the Parish Council. Next year marked the 40th anniversary of the miners' strike and the DUWC were planning an event to commemorate it. They also proposed to take the event "on tour" and it was agreed that this should include the Community Centre if possible.

134/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

135/23 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

Councillors L Hartshorne, P J Hemsley and J Wood declared personal interests in the item relating to Grassmoor Community Centre as members of the Community Centre Management Committee (Minute no. 140/23 refers). Councillor V Lievesley declared a personal interest in the same item as an employee of the Community Centre.

Councillors A H Booker declared pecuniary interests in the item relating to Grassmoor Community Pavilion as members of the Pavilion Operational Management Group (Minute no. 141/23 refers). Councillor A Woolven declared a personal interest in the items relating Grassmoor Community Pavilion and Barnes Park as a member of Grassmoor Cricket Club (Minute nos. 141/23 and 142/23 respectively refer).

Councillor L Hartshorne declared a personal interest in the item relating Planning Matters as Chair of the District Council Planning Committee (Minute no. 156/23 refers).

136/23 MINUTES RESOLVED that the non-exempt Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 11 October 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

137/23 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Responsible Financial Officer presented for information, details of receipts and payments to 31 October 2023 which showed an overall balance of £170,214.74. 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
01.10.23	A Ward - Work Boots	81BACS	£110.00	£18.33
01.10.23	P Gladders - Electrical Work GCC	82BACS	£1,360.00	£0.00
01.10.23	NEDDC - Trade Waste	83BACS	£678.86	£0.00
05.10.23	Npower - Park Lighting	84BACS	£90.15	£4.29
05.10.23	BT - Pavilion	85DD	£98.28	£16.38
09.10.23	Eon Next - Pavilion	86DD	£140.44	£6.69
11.10.23	Water Plus	87DD	£9.41	£0.00
11.10.23	Cathedral Leasing	88BACS	£42.12	£7.02
20.10.23	Harris Plumbing Co Ltd - Centre Boiler	89BACS	£108.00	£18.00
31.10.23	Staff Salaries - October	90BACS	£2,544.37	£0.00
31.10.23	HMRC PAYE - October	90BACS	£625.39	£0.00
31.10.23	R Ackrill - Zoom & Poppy Wreath	91BACS	£55.59	£2.60
31.10.23	Viking - Stationery	92BACS	£80.46	£13.41
08.11.23	GCC	93BACS	£3,065.00	£0.00
08.11.23	Lee's Garden Services	94BACS	£837.50	£0.00
08.11.23	BT - Pavilion	95DD	£98.28	£16.38
08.11.23	A1 Garage Doors - Pavilion	96BACS	£149.00	£24.83

08.11.23	A1 Garage Doors - Pavilion	97BACS	£516.00	£86.00
08.11.23	E-on Next - Pavilion Elec	98DD	£419.50	£69.92
08.11.23	Aspire Eco Energy - Balance due	77BACS	£4,028.86	£895.30
08.11.23	Cathedral - Pav Hygiene	99BACS	£42.12	£7.02
08.11.23	ASL - Cleaning supplies Pavilion	100BACS	£40.45	£6.73

The Responsible Financial Officer had arranged the transfer of £15,000.00 from the capital reserve account to the current account.

- RESOLVED** to (a) note the report;
(b) agree the bank reconciliation and the summary of receipts and payments to 31 October 2023;
(c) approve the transfer of £15,000.00 from the capital account to the current account;
and
(d) approve the payment of accounts as detailed above.

138/23 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was reported that Remedi UK who ran a restorative programme, had agreed to attend the December meeting of the Parish Council.

The Chair reported that Grassmoor Primary School currently had vacancies on its Governing Body.

139/23 APPOINTMENT OF PARISH CLERK

The Clerk reported that ten applications had been received for the post. Of those however, only two met the criteria for interview. It was agreed that Councillors M Durrant, L Hartshorne and P J Hemsley form the interview panel. The Clerk would arrange a date for the interviews as soon as possible.

Should neither candidate prove suitable, the Clerk was authorised to re-advertise the post.

- RESOLVED** to (a) note the report;
(b) approve an interview panel comprising Councillors Durrant, L Hartshorne and Hemsley; and
(c) if necessary, readvertise the post.

140/23 GRASSMOOR COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Clerk reported that the Community Facilities Manager was currently unwell and not at work.

It was noted that the application for funding to cover the costs of the Toy Library had unfortunately been rejected. The situation about the agreement with the Toy Library was unclear, but the Management Committee would need to review the arrangement.

Various events for Halloween had been arranged but unfortunately had to be cancelled owing to a lack interest.

A provisional date of 20 November was agreed for a meeting of the Management Committee.

RESOLVED to note the report.

141/23 GRASSMOOR COMMUNITY PAVILION

The Clerk reported that the work on the new immersion heating in the Pavilion had been completed at a cost of £4,028.00. Hot water was now being heated by the spare generation from the solar panels. If there was not enough generation to cover demand, the system could be boosted manually, or a control could be installed to allow it to be done remotely.

The Responsible Financial Officer had set up an annual service agreement with A1 Garage Doors to service the Pavilion shutters.

RESOLVED to note the report.

142/23 BARNES PARK AND WINSICK PARK

The Clerk reported that a constructive and positive meeting had been held between Lee's Garden Services and the Cricket Club. Both parties had agreed a way forward for the coming season. The Cricket Club had indicated that they would be looking to take on more of the maintenance of the cricket square going forward.

The Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer had also spoken to the Cricket Club regarding the fees for the use of the Pavilion. The current arrangement was that fees would be paid based on actual usage. The Cricket Club had indicated that they would prefer to pay a fixed fee going forward and this was agreed. The Clerk had circulated details of chains for the cricket square and Councillor Woolven would look at a suitable option.

The Clerk reported that Philip Heath had attended to cut back the trees in Barnes Park which had been required by the County Council. When he arrived however, the work had already been undertaken. As he had hired traffic lights, he had taken the opportunity to cut back some trees further up the North Wingfield Road boundary which would have required being cut back next season.

It was reported that there had been further issues regarding flooding at 51 Norfolk Avenue. The Clerk had contacted Councillor Cupit to seek an update on the situation with Yorkshire Water and a response was awaited. The Clerk had looked at options for flood barriers. One price had been received in the sum of €8,250 which was unaffordable. The Clerk would look at other options.

RESOLVED to note the report.

143/23 COST OF LIVING CRISIS

There were no matters to report.

RESOLVED to note the report.

144/23 CCTV

The Clerk reported that he had still not managed to find a cctv company willing to take on the management of the Parish Council's existing system. He would however continue, to look for a new company to manage the cameras. Councillor Booker suggested a possible contact which the Clerk would investigate.

RESOLVED to note the report.

145/23 MILL LANE ALLOTMENTS

The Clerk reported that the new Committee had managed to sort out changing the signatories on one of the bank accounts. They were however, struggling to access the second account. They had thanked the Parish Council for offering to loan funding to the Committee.

A complaint had been made to the Parish Council that flowers were being sold from the Allotments as part of a business. The Clerk reported that the sale of excess produce from allotments was permitted but not as part of a business. The Allotment Committee were investigating the complaint.

The Clerk reported that he had taken advice from the ICO and had responded to the latest correspondence regarding the two Subject Access Review requests.

The allotment hedging had now been cut back. The Clerk would clarify the position regarding the knotweed on the site.

The Allotment Committee were in the process of gathering information to complete the accounts for the previous year. The Committee were planning a Christmas event on 16 December in the Gardeners Rest.

RESOLVED to note the report.

146/23 GILL LANE ALLOTMENTS

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

RESOLVED to note the report.

147/23 GRASSMOOR LAGOONS, AVENUE WASHLANDS AND COUNTRY PARK

The Clerk reported that the wording on the plaque had been agreed and delivery was expected soon.

The Friends Group were unfortunately folding owing to a lack of volunteers. It was also noted that the County Council Rangers Service staffing levels were being cut by half.

RESOLVED to note the report.

148/23 BIG LOCAL

There were no matters relating to Big Local to report.

RESOLVED to note the report.

149/23 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

There were no matters relating to Environmental Matters to report.

RESOLVED to note the report.

150/23 ADDITIONAL LIGHTING – DOCTOR’S PATH

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council would be required to enter into a lease or licence with the District Council to allow the installation of the new light on its land. Further detail was awaited.

RESOLVED to note the report.

151/23 CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Clerk reported that there remained two vacancies on the Parish Council which should be filled if possible. It was agreed that an open-ended advert for the vacancies be placed on the Parish Council noticeboards, Facebook page and website.

RESOLVED to approve open ended adverts being placed on the Parish Council noticeboards, Facebook page and website.

152/23 BUDGET 2024-25

The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) reminded the Parish Council that the budget for 2024-25 would be set at the December Parish Council meeting. Any members with any suggestions for items to be included in the budget were asked to contact the Clerk or the RFO as soon as possible.

RESOLVED to note the report.

153/23 FORMER ST JOHN AMBULANCE SITE – CHAPMAN LANE

It was reported that the former St John Ambulance site on Chapman Lane was being put up for auction by the County Council. It was suggested that the land could be put to community use rather than housing development and that it could be a possible location for the mining memorial (see Minute no. 154/23 below). The Clerk agreed to investigate

the possibility of nominating the site as land of community interest although he felt that this may not be possible as it was already up for auction.

RESOLVED to investigate the possibility of nominating the former St John Ambulance site as land of community interest.

154/23 GRASSMOOR MINING MEMORIAL

The Clerk reported that Big Local were looking at funding to site a mining memorial in Grassmoor. The initial funding deadline was too tight, so it was considered more feasible to look at options prior to submitting a funding bid in January.

Big Local's preferred location for the memorial was on land at the southern side of the entrance to the Golf Club. The Parish Council felt that a better location would be in Barnes Park or on the site of the former St John Ambulance site on Chapman Lane (see Minute no.153/23 above).

Big Local had also sent out some images of potential styles of memorial. The Parish Council felt that some form of artwork memorial would be preferred to a more traditional pit wheel or coal tub memorial.

It was noted that there were other matters that would need to be clarified such as who would own, maintain and insure the memorial going forward.

RESOLVED to liaise with Big Local the above issues in relation to the mining memorial.

155/23 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Clerk reported that all the arrangements for the Service were in hand except for the arrangements with the School and the "younger" and "older" person parts. These would however be sorted.

RESOLVED to note the report.

156/23 PLANNING MATTERS

The Clerk reported on the following planning applications:

Application No.	Description	Comments/objections/material considerations
23/00790/LDC 151 Mansfield Road Mr R Davenport	Proposed steel structure and demolition of single garage	The Parish Council expressed concerns over the size and scale of the new building and the potential impact on neighbouring properties. It was also unclear as to what the use of the new building would be.

RESOLVED to (a) note the report; and
(b) comment on the above application as detailed.

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Chair

Meeting closed at 8.25pm.