

**MINUTES of the meeting of the GRASSMOOR, HASLAND AND WINSICK PARISH COUNCIL held on 13 December 2023 at the Grassmoor Community Centre.**

**PRESENT**

Councillor P J Hemsley (in the Chair)

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

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no matters raised in public participation.

**POLICE/PARISH LIAISON**

The Clerk reported that the Police and Rykneld had agreed to look into the parking issues on Broom Drive. Councillor L Hartshorne reported that he had asked the Police to look into the problem of parking on the pavements on Chapman Lane.

It was noted that two people from Grassmoor had recently been jailed for dealing in drugs.

**COUNTY COUNCIL MATTERS**

Councillor Cupit attended the meeting and updated the Parish Council on matters relating to the County Council.

There had been issues relating to the two new grit bins be located on Farmhouse Way (near no.35) and on Meadow Court near the junction with Windwhistle as the roads were currently unadopted. It was hoped that the issues would be resolved in the near future.

Councillor Cupit had agreed two grants to support Christmas activities in the Parish.

Members expressed concern that the former St John Ambulance site had been recently sold at auction without the Parish Council knowing it was up for sale until it was too late. Councillor Cupit agreed to ask Councillor Woolley to investigate and it was noted that details of the County Council's land ownership could be identified through its website.

Councillor Cupit reported that she had asked the Council's Flood Management Team to get in touch with the resident on Norfolk Avenue who was experiencing flooding problems with a view to registering them for the £5k Flood Alleviation Grant. (See also Minute no. 166/23).

Councillor Cupit also reported that she had received complaints regarding the condition of the footpaths in Barnes Park. The Clerk had advised Councillor Cupit of the Parish Council's intentions to replace the pathways (See also Minute no. 165/23).

## **DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS**

Councillors Durrant and L Hartshorne reported that the full Council had met recently and approved changes to the speaking rules at Planning Committee meetings. Rykneld had also committed to building 400 new homes over the next five years. Tighter restrictions on social house building had been introduced and it was highly likely therefore that rents would need to be increased. North East Derbyshire would still have one of the lowest rates nationally.

The District Council had shelved the majority of its plans relating to car parking, but the Broom Drive scheme remained in place.

### **157/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors V Lievesley and V Poole and County Councillor J Woolley.

### **158/23 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. 164/23 refers). Councillor V Lievesley declared a personal interest in the same item as an employee of the Community Centre. Councillor A H Booker declared a personal interest in the same item as his partner was employed at the Community Centre.

Councillors A H Booker and J Hartshorne declared pecuniary interests in the item relating to Grassmoor Community Pavilion as members of the Pavilion Operational Management Group (Minute no. 165/23 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. 165/23 and 166/23 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. 179/23 refers).

**159/23 MINUTES RESOLVED** that the non-exempt Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 8 November 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

### **160/23 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

The Responsible Financial Officer presented for information, details of receipts and payments to 30 November 2023 which showed an overall balance of £158,235.43. 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
11.11.23	Water Plus - Pavilion	101DD	£9.66	£0.00
10.11.23	Quality Bailiffs - Winsick Park	102BACS	£960.00	£160.00
16.11.23	E-on Next - Pavilion Electric (Credit Note)	103CR	£419.50	£69.92
16.11.23	E-on Next - Pavilion Electric	104DD	£115.32	£5.49
20.11.23	Business Stream	105DD	£27.46	£0.00
20.11.23	C M Electronics - PA Remembrance Sunday	106BACS	£70.00	£0.00
24.11.23	Staff Salaries - November	107BACS	£3,296.77	£0.00
24.11.23	HMRC - PAYE November	107BACS	£1,032.17	£0.00
04.12.23	GCC - Grant & Room Hire	108BACS	£3,062.50	£0.00
04.12.23	BT - Pavilion	109DD	£98.28	£16.38
05.12.23	Lee's Garden Services	110BACS	£150.00	£0.00
05.12.23	Richmond Event Hire	111BACS	£402.50	£0.00
05.12.23	Cathedral - Pavilion Hygiene	112BACS	£42.12	£7.02
06.12.23	TV Licence - Pavilion	DD	£41.00	£0.00
07.12.23	E-on Next - Pavilion	113DD	£71.91	£3.42
07.12.23	Analan Supplies - Pavilion cleaning	114BACS	£14.55	£2.42
12.12.23	Water Plus - Pavilion	115DD	£0.16	£0.00

The Responsible Financial Officer had arranged the transfer of £10,000.00 from the current account to the capital reserve account.

**RESOLVED** to (a) note the report;

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

(c) approve the transfer of £10,000.00 from the current account to the capital reserve account; and

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

### **161/23 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair reported it was Roy's last meeting after 28 years as Parish Clerk. On behalf of the Parish Council she thanked Roy for the work he had done and she wished him a happy retirement. Roy thanked the Parish Council for their support over the years and for his leaving gift.

It was noted that Remedi UK who ran a restorative programme, would be attending the January meeting of the Parish Council.

The Chair reported that the District Council were setting up a Town and Parish Council Annual Conference. The first meeting was to be held on 23 March 2024 and all were invited to attend. There would also be quarterly Town and Parish Council Liaison meetings.

Details of two initiatives organised by the Feeling Connected Project which aimed to reduce loneliness and isolation had been circulated.

**162/23 APPOINTMENT OF PARISH CLERK**

The Chair introduced Eve Martin who was attending her first meeting as the new Parish Clerk.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

**163/23 PARISH COUNCIL PRECEPT AND BUDGET 2024/25**

The Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer reported on the Parish Council budget and precept for 2024-25.

The proposed budget made allowances where appropriate, for increases to allow for inflation and other known adjustments.

Provision for salaries had been increased to allow for the additional hours the new Clerk would be working. The position regarding utilities at the Pavilion remained uncertain but provision had been kept at £6k. Pavilion maintenance had been allocated £9k to cover for future works required. Grounds maintenance had again been kept at £15k, although it was hoped that the actual expenditure would be less following the engagement of Lee's Garden Services to undertake the grounds maintenance work.

The position regarding the CCTV was unclear as to date it had not been possible to identify a provider willing to take on the existing system. Provision of £10k had been made with £15k being held in reserves.

It was proposed to increase financial support for the Community Centre to £42,500 to cover additional staffing costs and increased utility costs. The full amount would not however, be automatically available as it was hoped that use of the Centre would increase and it would therefore not be required. A key priority going forward was to increase usage and income from both the Pavilion and the Community Centre. The Clerk and Assistant Clerk agreed to look at producing a marketing strategy for both.

The training budget for staff had been increased as the new Clerk would be undertaking the CILCA Clerks training course. The grit bin provision had been increased as the Council had agreed to take on an additional two bins.

It was agreed that the budget heading for hanging baskets be changed to include provision for Christmas decorations. The total budget would be £10k. It was also agreed to delete the School/Youth Activities budget heading and reallocate the budget to Donations, giving a total of £4k.

In terms of income, it was not proposed to increase rents on either Mill Lane or Gill Lane Allotments. The fees for the Cricket and Football Clubs would remain unchanged for the use of the new Pavilion.

It was proposed and seconded, that the Parish Council set a precept of £142,500.00 for 2024-25 which represented a 1.93% increase on the previous year.

The Clerk reported that it was a legal requirement for a recorded vote to be taken on budget resolutions. A recorded vote was taken as follows;

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

Against: None

Abstentions: None

A copy of the budget was attached as an Appendix to the minutes.

#### **164/23 GRASSMOOR COMMUNITY CENTRE**

The Clerk reported that the Community Facilities Manager had resigned from her role. Her notice period ended on 10 January 2024 and the necessary arrangements for the handover of equipment and keys etc would be made.

The Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer had put interim arrangements in place to run the Centre and these would be kept under review going forward.

The Responsible Financial Officer had arranged for all the kitchen appliances to be checked for safety. He had also arranged to switch broadband providers to Daisy.

The Reaching Out Group had requested that the Parish Council make a donation to help support their Christmas and Easter activities. It was agreed that a donation of £500 be made.

**RESOLVED** to (a) note the report;

(b) agree a donation of £500 to the Reaching Out Group to support their Christmas and Easter activities.

#### **165/23 GRASSMOOR COMMUNITY PAVILION**

The Responsible Financial Officer reported that he had been unable to make any progress in sorting out the water billing situation.

It was reported that there were several minor repair and maintenance issues which needed to be addressed. The Responsible Financial Officer agreed to look at getting these undertaken.

The Clerk agreed to arrange a meeting with the Chair and Councillor Lievesley to discuss the arrangements for the proposed memorial garden.

**RESOLVED** to (a) note the report;

(b) agree that the minor repairs and maintenance issues be undertaken; and  
(c) arrange a meeting with the Chair and Councillor Lievesley to discuss the arrangements for the proposed memorial garden.

### **166/23 BARNES PARK AND WINSICK PARK**

As reported in "Public Participation", County Councillor Cupit had asked the Flood Management Team to look at a Flood Alleviation Grant to assist with the flooding at 51 Norfolk Avenue. The Clerk reported that he had looked at alternative and cheaper flood barriers and had found the Osmo Flood Barrier which cost £19 for three metre lengths. The only issue was that these barriers were single use. It was agreed that six lengths of the barriers or an equivalent be purchased and kept in storage.

The Clerk reported that complaints had been received about the condition of the war memorial and surrounding block paving at this years' Remembrance Sunday Service. It was agreed that the Clerk arrange for the memorial and the paving to be cleaned over the summer in readiness for next years' service.

As also reported in "Public Participation", complaints had been received regarding the condition of the footpaths in Barnes Park. The Parish Council had made provision for the funding of the paths in the budget but alternative means of funding the paths, including Big Local, would be explored.

The Clerk reported that Bailiffs had been engaged to remove the illegal camper from Winsick Park. It was noted that Shelter operated a scheme whereby they engaged with the campers in such cases which provided support to the camper and avoided the need to engage Bailiffs.

**RESOLVED** to (a) note the report;  
(b) purchase six Osmo flood barriers or an alternative barrier.

### **167/23 COST OF LIVING CRISIS**

There were no matters to report on the cost of living to report and it was agreed that it should no longer be a standing item on future agendas.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

### **168/23 CCTV**

The Clerk reported that he had tried to contact The Kirby Group but had not received a reply to date. Councillor Booker suggested that the new Clerk contact Richard Kirby directly.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

### **169/23 MILL LANE ALLOTMENTS**

The Clerk reported that the previous account signatories had agreed to provide the new Committee with a cheque for the amount in the previously inaccessible bank account.

The reported on the receipt of further correspondence regarding the earlier Subject Access Review, which claimed that the Parish Council had not dealt with the matter properly. It was agreed the Clerk respond indicating that as far as the Parish Council

were concerned, the matter was closed and that they would not respond further on the matter.

The Allotments were holding the annual Christmas event on 16 December and had received funding from Rykneld to support it.

**RESOLVED** to (a) note the report; and  
(b) agree not to correspond further on the complaint relating to the Subject Access Review.

**170/23 GILL LANE ALLOTMENTS**

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

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

**171/23 GRASSMOOR LAGOONS, AVENUE WASHLANDS AND COUNTRY PARK**

The Clerk reported that the plaque for the seat at the viewing area had been delivered.

Councillor L Hartshorne reported that the Friends Group would in future only be meeting every three months owing to cutbacks in support in the Country Park by the County Council Countryside Service. The Group would however, still be funding the interpretation board for the viewing area. The Group were also looking at some art work to commemorate the work of Peter Myers in the Park over many years.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

**172/23 BIG LOCAL**

There were no matters relating to Big Local to report.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

**173/23 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

There were no matters relating to Environmental Matters to report.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

**174/23 ADDITIONAL LIGHTING – DOCTOR’S PATH**

The Clerk reported that there was no progress to report in respect of the lease or licence with the District Council to allow the installation of the new light on its land.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

**175/23 CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR**

The Clerk reported that an open-ended advert for the two vacancies on the Parish Council remained in place.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

### **176/23 FORMER ST JOHN AMBULANCE SITE – CHAPMAN LANE**

As reported in “Public Participation”, it was not possible for the Parish Council’s interest in the land to be registered as community interest as the land had already been put up for auction. If there were any other pieces of land that were of interest to the Parish Council, it was important that the interest was identified earlier as the process for registering the interest was quite lengthy and complex.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

### **177/23 GRASSMOOR MINING MEMORIAL**

The Clerk reported that he had passed on the Parish Council’s views on the mining memorial as expressed at the last meeting to Big Local. Big Local had indicated that they did not wish to rush in to a decision and that they would consider the Council’s views.

**RESOLVED** to note the report.

### **178/23 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

The Clerk reported that this year’s Service had been well attended. It was agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to xxxx and xxx Durrant for the part they played in the Service. A total of £44.15 had been raised in the collection which the Clerk would forward to the British Legion.

There had again been some issues with the audio equipment during the Service and it was agreed that the Clerk look at options for purchasing sound equipment for use at this and other events.

**RESOLVED** to (a) note the report;  
(b) look at options for purchasing audio equipment.

### **179/23 PLANNING MATTERS**

The Clerk reported on the following planning applications:

<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Comments/objections/material considerations</b>
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.
23/00963/FL Bennett Ferguson Coal Yard, North Wingfield Road  Ms E Smith	Section 73 application to vary condition 2 of planning application 22/01153/FL.	The Parish Council had no objections to this application.
23/00732/OL  Land north west of Mile Hill House, Mansfield Road  Mr C Brown	Outline application with all matters reserved except access for proposed self/custom built homes.	The Parish Council had no objections to this application.
23/00830/FLH  111 Mansfield Road  Mr D Newton	Ground floor extension to front elevation.	This application had been conditionally approved.

The Clerk had received correspondence from Cornerstone who was seeking the Parish Council's views on a proposed installation upgrade to Cornerstone 11519401 at Avenue Farm. It was agreed that the Clerk should respond indicating the Parish Council's support for the proposal.

**RESOLVED** to (a) note the report; and  
(b) support the Cornerstone installation upgrade at Avenue Farm.

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**Chair**

Meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Copy of the Budget to be inserted!!!