

Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council

MINUTES OF MEETING	: 19 th October 2015
TIME OF MEETING	: 7.30 p m
VENUE OF MEETING	: Community Hall
TYPE OF MEETING	: ORDINARY
PRESENT	: MR JAMIE WILLIAMS (JW)
	: MRS LOUISA RUSSELL (LR)
	: MR MARK BETTERIDGE (MB)
	: MR MARK THOMAS (MT)
CHAired BY	: MR DAVID SULLIVAN (DS)
IN ATTENDANCE	: MR DAVID BAKER (DB)
ALSO PRESENT	: CLLR TIM ROLT (HCC) : CLLR PETER GIDDINGS (TVBC) : 3 PARISHIONERS

68. Apologies

68.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Dinah Murdoch and Mr Rupert Conder.

69. Public Participation

69.1 Susie Hoare on behalf of HTCC informed the meeting that a request had been received from Farleigh School regarding the potential use of the community hall car park as a pick up point for approximately a dozen pupils. The request would be considered at the next meeting of HTCC trustees and interested parties would be consulted. The initial view was that this would only add to congestion in both Church St and the community hall car park given the timing coincided with the arrival of primary school staff as well as planned hall usage. It was noted that the Royal British Legion could be approached to see if they were prepared to make their car park facility available as a Farleigh School pick up point.

69.2 Gary Edwards presented a summary of a meeting of the Bourne Valley Flood Group BVFG (consisting of representatives from Vernham Dean, Upton, HBT and St Mb) who were invited to attend the Hampshire County Council office at Winchester on Monday 19 October 2015. Simon Cramp was our contact and he informed the group of the work to date. A rep from Highways and an engineering firm were also present.

Please see appendix 1 for detailed summary of the meeting.

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70 Actions arising

70.1

It was noted that the goal mouth areas on the football pitch were in need of repair. Cllrs David Sullivan and Jamie Williams agreed to make the necessary arrangements. DS & JW to action. Carried forward
Cllr Mark Betteridge was asked to act as the parish council's link with the Hurstbourne Tarrant Community Centre. MB to action. Action in place.
The clerk asked was any parish councillor available to attend HALC AGM meeting on Saturday 10 th October 9.00-1.00 pm Sparsholt College. All Cllrs to action. No councillors were able to attend, apologies for absence were submitted.
Details of the Princes Fund proving grants up to £50k over 3 years to support projects in three areas of Thriving Rural Communities, Rural Livelihoods and Farmers of the Future had been circulated to councillors. It was agreed to place the information in the parish magazine. DB to action. Completed.
Cllr Sullivan asked Cllr Louisa Russell if she would consider becoming Hurstbourne Tarrant's Village Agent. The Clerk was asked to supply details to Cllr Russell. DB to action. Completed.
Councillors approved the renewal of the insurance policy at an annual premium of £708.26. DB to action. . Completed.
The clerk requested permission to place the annual advertisement in the parish magazine asking that all firework parties planned within the parish should be notified to the parish council. DB to action. Completed.
Councillors wanted to circulate the questionnaire electronically and make use of 'Survey Monkey' if that was possible. It was hoped that local shops, public house, church and school would all support the circulation/collection of survey forms. DB & MT to action. Completed.
Councillor Mark Thomas had asked for an agenda item at the October parish council meeting to consider a dog and footpath survey. DB to action. Completed.

71. Minutes of meeting 21st September 2015

- 71.1 The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting of 21st September 2015 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

72. Declarations of interest

- 72.1 None.

73. Community Speed Watch (CSW) report

- 73.1 Rupert Conder had presented his apologies that he was unable to attend the meeting.

74. Correspondence

- 74.1 The list of correspondence received during the month was read and passed to the relevant councillor.
- It was noted that Fields in Trust had given notice of a new grants system that was open to King George V playing fields.
 - Details on application guidelines had been issued by HCC for children starting school in September 2016. It was noted that **the application deadline was Friday 15th January 2016. Documentation was passed to Cllr Louisa Russell.**
 - An email request submitted by Rupert Conder to consider making repairs to the posts and railings in Church Street was discussed by councillors. It was agreed to register the maintenance project with TVBC under the parish council's list of S106 project requests for funding. **JW to action.** It was also noted that funding for a parish strimmer was required for maintenance of the riverbed.
 - Cllr Mark Thomas presented a summary of his environment and footpaths report. See Appendix 2 for details.

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75. Planning Applications

75.1 There following planning application discussed:

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that the actions documented below would be taken:

15/02242/FULLN	22 Sep 15	Proposed single storey extension to the south with installation of roof light. Elm Dean, Hurstbourne Tarrant, Hampshire. Mr & Mrs D Danks No comment.
15/02334/TREEN	29 Sep 15	T1 Yew – Prune as shown in diagram to give clearance. T2 Pear – Fell. T3 Pear – Fell. T4 Apple – Fell. T5 Apple Fell. T6 Apple – Fell. T7 Apple – Fell. T8 Cherry – reduce by 2m as shown in diagram. Swift Cottage, Ibthorpe, Andover. Mr Edwards Cox. No comment

76. Councillors' reports:

- 76.1 Councillors Mark Thomas and Louisa Russell had nothing further to report.
- 76.2 Councillor Mark Betteridge reported he had started up his liaison link with HTCC. He reported that there had been no progress regarding the request for a clean-up of the garden area associated with 15 Dines Close. Cllr Betteridge was still progressing possible sources for a 'rope cargo net' that would be suitable for the children's play area.
- 76.3 Councillor Jamie Williams commented that a planning enforcement report issued by TVBC planning service had been very useful. He asked Cllr Giddings (TVBC) to thank officers for their contribution and their work in this important area. Cllr Williams commented on how useful the new TVBC mobile phone app was to report fly tipping on the Pill Heath road and the rapid 24 hour response that TVBC had provided to remove fly tipped rubbish.
- 76.4 Cllr David Sullivan reported that the annual inspection of the allotments had been carried and there were 3 recommendations identified for action:
- To replace the entrance gates and posts. **DS to action quote.**
 - To arrange for the roadside beech and sycamore hedge to be cut back during the winter period.
 - To asked allotment holders to clear some old wooden and scrubby rubbish from the allotment site.

77. Clerk's report

- 77.1 The Clerk asked councillors to start considering any new project plans they would like to put forward for consideration under the 2016/17 budget planning cycle that the parish council would start to review at the next parish council meeting. **All cllrs to action.**
- 77.2 The Clerk presented a report on the actual broadband improvements installed within the parish under phase 1 implementation by HCC & BT. The analysis by postcode areas of the 241 households included in Phase 1 was as follows:
- 74 % (179 households) **within the postcodes specified** have some improvement broadband speeds ranging between 15.5 and 80 Mbs;
 - 26 % (62 households) **within the postcodes specified** have no improvement over basic 7.5 Mbs ADSL service;
 - 30% (104 households) **within the parish** have no improvement as their postcodes had been excluded from this phase 1 of the programme and remain with the basic 7.5 Mbs or worse service level for **at least the next 3 years.**
- The clerk registered his disappointment in the performance of the installation of superfast broadband under the phase 1 installation. The parish fell well below the Hampshire wide

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penetration target of 90% recording just 74%. Within that 74% base, the improvement rates were extremely varied with just 32% reaching the highest 80 Mbs speed rating. The postcodes excluded from phase 1 would be next considered under Phase 2 implementation that planned to raise the penetration HCC wide from 90% to 96%. However, phase 2 had now been delayed until Jan – July 2018 and the clerk had no confidence that the parish would achieve anywhere near the general 96% penetration target by that time.

No explanation has been provided by HCC despite several requests for clarification as to why 26% of households **within the improved postcode areas** have not obtained any improvement in broadband speed. It can only be assumed that the quality of the final BT copper connections to individual households from the local exchange were below the standard required to deliver **any**, part or all of the fibre optic benefits.

There were no known plans to address this key restriction.

78 Performance Monitoring – 2Q 2014/15 Financial Report

- 78.1 The clerk presented the 2Q 2015/16 financial reports and confirmed that the bank reconciliation report and bank statements had been reviewed by the council's internal controller and had been signed off as a true record as required by the revised financial regulations. A list of variances of budget vs actual figures was presented to councillors.

RESOLVED: Councillors agreed that no remedial action was required.

Overall spending during Q1 and Q2 was in line with budget plans.

79 Annual review of Health & Safety – Risk assessments

- 79.1 The clerk presented the risk assessment report to the meeting. The report's recommendations were discussed and accepted.

RESOLVED: Councillors reviewed the risk assessment report on the allotments and noted the action required.

80 Annual review - Risk register

- 80.1 The clerk presented the risk register report to the meeting.

RESOLVED: Councillors discussed and accepted the report.

81 Annual review - Standing Orders & Financial regulations

- 81.1 The clerk reported that both the Parish Council Standing Orders and Financial Regulations had been reviewed, revised and adopted within the last 12 months. It was agreed that no further update was necessary in 2015.

82 To consider a parish dog and footpath survey

- 82.1 Councillor Mark Thomas presented his proposal as follows:
Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council encourages people to actively enjoy access to our local countryside and welcomes responsible dog owners. Whilst most owners clear-up after their dogs and we don't have a major problem with dog waste around the villages, the children's play area in the recreation ground is a regularly quoted 'hot-spot'.

This proposal recommends some simple measures to improve hygiene and safety in and around the play area within the recreation ground, linked to encouraging responsible access to surrounding footpaths and rights of way.

Outline of proposal:

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- Conduct informal survey with recreation ground users for use as benchmark
 - Consult local stakeholders on the possible promotion of Riverside Cottage footpath which would help keep dogs away from Children's play area. This would include:
 - Improve signage from the road bridge and by the hedge gate on the boundary of the 'Doles Wood circuit' and the playing field
 - Install two gates to provide easier access through paddock at rear of Riverside Cottage
 - Install new signage at main entrance to recreation ground – dogs must be on leads when in vicinity of children's play area and dog mess must always be collected and binned in playing field. Also to encourage dog walkers to use alternative path.
 - Install smaller signs on corner of tennis court and on edge of playing field adjacent to tennis court
 - Relocate red and brown bins outside gate and away from children's play area
 - Create a village walk map and leaflet
 - Install a village walk map next to existing noticeboard by recreation ground
- See appendix 3 for full details of the report
Councillors discussed the proposal and agreed that that further investigation should be carried out. **MT & DS to action.**

83 Next meetings and forward plan update

83.1 The next ordinary Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 16th November 2015 in **the Community Hall** at 7.30 p.m.

Forward plan agenda items:

- Budget setting for 2016/17;
- To review the Clerk's salary for 2016/17;
- To review annual subscriptions for 2016/17.

84. Disbursements – 19th October 2015.

84.1 The following cheques were presented for signature:

Number	Payee	Expenditure	Amount
1158	D R Baker	Salary Aug	£ 131.38
1159	HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE	£ 87.60
1160	HALC	Pension course	£ 42.00
1161	ICO	Data Protection Registration	£ 35.00
1162	Murdoch Farms Ltd	October maintenance	£ 84.00

Total authorised £ 379.98

Meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

Signed.....
Chairman

Date:.....

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Appendix 1

The BVGF has been collating information over the last year that identifies the areas most effected by the floods of 2014 and the possible works that could take place to alleviate/prevent a further flood scenario. Although St Mb have slightly different problems to us they have been included in the group. They have a wealth of information that covers their 20 year battle with the agencies and any water we move down the valley is going to add to their problems!

The HCC and Environment agency thought we have more chance of finding funding if we treat the valley as the problem rather than each part in isolation. That advice appears to be correct so far.

The HCC are the lead in all of this and their work to date has been slow but methodical. (They submitted an application for initial funding and were successful in obtaining a grant of around £78000. This money is being spent on gathering evidence in order to produce a further submission to DEFRA in the hope that they will fund some of the works necessary. I understand they are trying to raise £500k.

DEFRA have a 6 year plan at the current time. The Bourne Valley is not part of that plan. We may fit into year 7. However this does not mean we have to tread water till then.

HCC are awaiting the results of the Environment Agency study of "levels" in the valley. This is basically trying to establish the levels of the stream and river beds so that any flow is managed correctly. That study apparently started in September and is due to finish shortly. There has also been a study re- sediment capture and that has been completed.

An engineering firm has already completed a study of the flow rates from Vernham down the valley. They have produced a nice satellite view map of the valley showing what route they think any stream or river should follow. I have a copy of that. This firm would like the villages to gather any local knowledge and opinions so that when the EA produce their findings it can all be collated and presented to DEFRA with the agencies recommendations. We have that in hand.

The next step in the work is reliant on the EA study. They hope to be able to identify where any immediate works on the stream and river bed need to take place. They hope to be able to pass some of these works onto the land owners through riparian duty. We aim to have a meeting with the land owners where the EA will explain the legislation and responsibilities that some of the land owners may have. It has been made clear that although the EA have authority over the stream and river, they do not necessarily have to pay for works to maintain it.

HCC have explained that to successfully obtain any monies from DEFRA we need to show that our communities are willing to shoulder their responsibilities.

At this stage as a group we feel that progress is being made. Any dealings with the larger agencies are going to take time. However it looks promising in that with the studies undertaken so far, and the possible green light from the EA for communities/land owners to undertake some works on the stream and river, we may improve the valley position fairly soon. However any major works look like they will have to wait for funding.

Reference HBT; Highways acknowledged that they need to look at why there is a difference in pipe sizes at Dean Rise. However they also accepted my observation that if funding from DEFRA was a possibility they would probably wait until there was money in the pot rather than use their own! We will continue to correspond with them in an effort to speed things up as we believe the constriction does not support all our good work on The Green.

The addition of a further pipe at The Square is apparently part of the long term plan and is unlikely at this stage. That will be considered under the DEFRA plan I assume.

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Appendix 2

Environment & Footpaths Report October 2015

Reported In Month	0
Total	25
Resolved	8
In hand	2
Pending	15

Activity

Litter picking on A343

Reported overflowing green bins in recreation ground and lay by to north of village

Drafted proposal and questionnaire re Responsible Dog Ownership pilot and recreation ground

Organised meeting with TVBC re above (subsequently cancelled)

Amended Community Survey in line with September Parish Council Meeting. Created Survey Monkey version online. Liaised with Clerk, pub, Londis and school.

MCT 19/10/2015

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Appendix 3

Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council Monday 19th October 2015 – Item No 15

Responsible countryside access and dog ownership in Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish:

To consider a draft proposal relating to children's play area in the recreation ground

Background:

Hurstbourne Tarrant Parish Council encourages people to actively enjoy access to our local countryside and welcomes responsible dog owners. Whilst most owners clear-up after their dogs and we don't have a major problem with dog waste around the villages, the children's play area in the recreation ground is a regularly quoted 'hot-spot'.

This proposal recommends some simple measures to improve hygiene and safety in and around the play area within the recreation ground, linked to encouraging responsible access to surrounding footpaths and rights of way.

Outline of proposal:

- Conduct informal survey with recreation ground users for use as benchmark
- Consult local stakeholders on the possible promotion of Riverside Cottage footpath which would help keep dogs away from Children's play area. This would include:
 - Improve signage from the road bridge and by the hedge gate on the boundary of the 'Doles Wood circuit' and the playing field
 - Install two gates to provide easier access through paddock at rear of Riverside Cottage
- Install new signage at main entrance to recreation ground – dogs must be on leads when in vicinity of children's play area and dog mess must always be collected and binned in playing field. Also to encourage dog walkers to use alternative path.
- Install smaller signs on corner of tennis court and on edge of playing field adjacent to tennis court
- Relocate red and brown bins outside gate and away from children's play area
- Create a village walk map and leaflet
- Install a village walk map next to existing noticeboard by recreation ground
(It is hoped that new gates, signage and footpath leaflet may attract some third party funding.)

Timetable:

Present to Parish Council Meeting for consideration	19 th October 2015	MT/HL/DB
Conduct informal survey	November 2015	MT/HL
Consult with stakeholders	November 2015	MT
Proposal in Parish Magazine and noticeboards for feedback	December 2015	MT/DB
Investigate grants	December 2015	MT/DB
Commence work	January 2016	TBC