

*MINUTES OF MEETING OF HARDINGTON MANDEVILLE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY
16th JULY 2024 IN THE VILLAGE HALL*

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions – Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status & any disability); Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights.

Nancy Chapman, Parish Clerk

Present

Robin Carpenter (Chairperson), Joanna Szmaj, Robert Halls, Mark Pollock, Richard Beatson and Malcolm White.

In Attendance

Nancy Chapman and four members of the public.

Before the meeting commenced there was an opportunity for the public to speak:

A parishioner thanked Malcom White and Robert Halls for the work they completed on the Mandeville Arms telephone box. He has put a notice on the Hardington facebook group asking if anyone is available to help paint it.

The Neighbour-watch coordinator, David Griffiths has arranged for the local PCSO to hold a ‘Surgery’, so that parishioners can talk to the PCSO about local issues. David has booked the Village hall for the 3rd August 1.30-2.30pm, and was wondering if the Parish Council are happy to cover the Village Hall hire fees for this surgery.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Peter Higgins.

2. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18th JUNE 2024 (Already Circulated)

The minutes were approved as correct records of the meeting.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

4. MATTERS OF REPORT

None.

5. SOMERSET COUNCILLOR’S REPORTS (BY INVITATION)

The County Councillor’s chose not to circulate a June report given the recent elections, but were planning on doing a bumper-issue this month!

6. PLANNING AND PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) No planning applications were received after the publication of the agenda.

b) Notification only: Application Number: 24/01453/TPO Proposal: Application to Fell No. 6 Trees as shown with the South Somerset District Council (HAMA 1) 2018 Tree Preservation Order. Location: Orchard Cottage Moor Lane Hardington Moor. The Chairman has spoken to the Orchard Cottage owner regarding the trees to be removed, and they are non-native trees, that are blocking the light from other native trees nearby.

c) Application’: No: 23/02620/OUT Outline application for a proposed dwelling, all matters reserved. Location: Land North Of Peach Tree Cottage North Lane has now been approved.

d) The Chairman has received an email from the Enforcement Officer re the report of person(s) residing at Holtens (Somerset Council Complaint Reference: 24/00087/ENF). He reported that he had visited the field and stated that there was no mobile home located in the area that previous had planning permission for 3 years (with the previous owner). Unfortunately, he made no comment about the other mobile home which was located in the same field. The Chairman agreed to follow this up.

7. HIGHWAYS

- a) The Chairman has asked that the councilors try to help find a new PC Highways Representative.
- b) White lines for potholes have been painted on primrose hill, but there is still no sign of Wimborough lane being assessed for work. The Chairman has raised a highways report to cover this (ref: 8165430).
- c) Cllr Pollock commented that the hedge along the bottom end of the sharp corner on Pig Hill (near withybrook) is now overhanging the highway. The Chairman agreed to follow this.
- d) Cllr White commented that the verges were now very overgrown and this need to be chased up with highways. The Clerk commented that the verges will probably be cut in the next two weeks as this is the same time every-year, at nothing we say to highways will make a difference....

8. FOOTPATHS

- a) The chairman has finally been given contact details for a new footpath representative for this area. The new officer is currently being trained and has yet to visit his new area and assess recent queries. He will follow these up sometime soon.

A parishioner has contacted the PC regarding an old shed next to footpath Y10/18, as she has concerns that this may be unsafe for people who use the path. The Chairman is currently making enquiries regarding this.

9. PARISH ISSUES

- a) The Chairman thanked Cllrs Halls and Cllr White for fixing the door. Cllr Halls reported that more paint will be needed. A resolution was passed to re-imburse Cllr Halls for the paint. A resolution was also passed to keep the current 'telephone' sign rather than change it to a 'information' sign.
- b) The total cost to repair the (now fixed) broken Church clock was £3,786. St. Mary's Church have so far raised £2555 from grants and donations. A resolution was passed for the PC to donate £500 towards the repair.
- c) The Village Street Farye was very busy and was successful in raising a significant amount for the Village Hall and St Mary's Church. The Chairman thanked the organisers for a successful day. It was commented that the volunteers could have been rotated more and that there was no first aid available at certain times.
- d) A resolution was passed for the PC to pay for the Village Hall Hire for the first PCSO 'surgery' on the 3rd August. If there is much interested in attending the surgery, it was thought that the 'Surgery' could possibly be combined with the monthly coffee mornings (with the surgery being held in the reception area).

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10. COMMUNITY FIELD

- a) The Chairman has spoken to the contractors re the Community Field mowing. They have weed-kill the bike track and are now back-on-top of keeping the grass short, since there has been less rain recently. The Clerk has emailed them to ask how many times they have mowed the grass so far this year, and so far, no reply has been received. They are supposed to mow the grass twice a month in growing season. The Chairman agreed to ask them to quote for paying 'per mowing' rather than a fixed annual sum.

- b) Cllr White agreed to speak to Cllr Higgins regarding ordering the lorry load of 'fine gravel' for the bike track.

11. FINANCE

- a) Lloyds Bank have been in touch for further information for the new Lloyds Bank A/C before opening the account.
- b) A resolution was passed to approve to the following invoices:
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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| - M Edwards reimburse. for SiteGround Hosting Ltd- 1 year renewal (£167.88+VAT£33.58) | £201.46 |
| - N Chapman - Salary & expenses | £949.92 |
| - S Ogden – July Ranger Fees | £196.00 |

12. PARISH RANGER SCHEME

- a) The Ranger gave a summary of his tasks for this month which given the time of year was mainly concentrated on strimming footpaths and verges. He was unable to trim the windmill hill footpaths without having the owner's permission. Discussion took place regarding the stile on Y10/43 as the path was quite overgrown and it was uncertain whether the stile was hidden. Stewart agreed to investigate. Potential new tasks included, to consider painting the road sign for 'St James terrace' which is now difficult to read.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) None

14. VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

£147 was raised from the recent film night. The next film will now be in September. £250 was raised from the recent Coffee Morning. The next coffee morning will be the 27th July. Work has now started on updating the boiler room. The first bill from Octopus energy was £267 for the month of June.

15. MATTERS OF REPORT & ITEMS OR NEXT MEETING

Chairman: None.

Councillors: None

Clerk: The clerk reported that she has spent some time researching Gazebos online, but it is difficult to determine how good they are given the reviews which are always reliable. Cllr White has been talking to the pub landlord who has recommended the gazebo's he purchased for the pub. Cllr White has passed the manufacturer contact details to the clerk who will if follow this up.

16. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING & CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 8:36pm. The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, 20th August at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.