

MINUTES OF MEETING OF HARDINGTON MANDEVILLE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 16th MAY 2023 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.

Julie Ferguson, Locum Officer

Present

Robin Carpenter (Chairperson), Joanna Szmaj, Richard Beatson, Robert Halls, Malcolm White and Mike Hewitson (County Councillor).

In Attendance

Julie Ferguson (Locum Officer) and 2 Members of the Public.

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

Members of the public and all the Parish Councillors wished Nancy, the Parish Clerk a speedy recovery.

Cllr Carpenter read out a note of thanks from District Councillor Gina Seaton for her gift provided by the councillors (personally), for which she was very grateful.

There was a wish to retain the BT Phone Box in the parish, which had received a spring clean from the ladies in the village, thanks were passed on.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mark Pollock, Paul Humby and Peter Higgins

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND SIGNING OF DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Robin Carpenter was elected as Chairman

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

a) Election of Vice Chairman.

Joanna Szmaj was elected as Vice-Chair.

b) Election of Village Hall Representative.

Robert Halls was elected Village Hall Representative.

c) Election of Highways Representative.

Paul Humby was elected Highways Representative.

d) Election of Footpaths Representative.

Robin Carpenter was elected Footpaths Representative.

e) Election of Parish Environment Officer.

Malcolm White was elected Parish Environment Officer.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18th APRIL 2023 (Already Circulated)

The minutes were approved as correct records of the meeting.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

6. MATTERS OF REPORT

None.

7. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS (BY INVITATION)

Cllr Patrick and Cllr Hewitsons' combined report was previously circulated. Cllr Hewitson gave an update on the Chinnock Hollow closure, explaining that it was unlikely to be opened or resolved for some time, if ever, due to the extent and cost of the work detailed in the Geotechnical report that had been commissioned by Somerset County Council. The cost, approximately £3 million, of carrying out the work deemed necessary to make it safe would impact the budget allocated to all road repairs in the County. Cllr Hewitson agreed to follow up on residents concerns regarding two temporary road closures in the parish that had been notified as scheduled for the same period.

8. PLANNING AND PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- a) Any response regarding complaints reference Tall elms development. None. Cllr Carpenter agreed to follow this up.
- b) Results:
 - 23/00460/COU. Mandeville Arms change of use, awaiting a decision.
 - 22/03074/HOU Lyatts Orchard, application approved for detached garage.

9. HIGHWAYS

- a) The Highways representative was not present however a number of potholes had been reported and repaired.
- b) Response from Somerset Highways reference closure of A30 at West Coker. The works were notified as going ahead, starting the last week of July 2023, for six weeks.

10. FOOTPATHS

- a) Cllr Carpenter reported that a number of new footpath gates were in the process of being replaced.

11. PARISH ISSUES

- a) The Parish Coronation event was reported as having been an enjoyable day, with between 200-300 local residents taking part in the celebrations. Asda had provided a grant of £400 towards the party and requested photos of the event, if possible for publicity purposes. It was stressed that permission needed to be sought from anyone captured in photos provided.
- b) New webmaster. Cllr Carpenter had been discussing the website with a potential webmaster and agreed to report on progress at the next meeting.

12. COMMUNITY FIELD

- a) Mowing issue. This had been resolved.

13. FINANCE

- a) A resolution was passed to pay the following invoices:
- | | |
|--|---------|
| - SSDC Ranger scheme April & May 2023 (£320.12 + VAT£64.02) | £384.14 |
| - Daphne Creed Banqueting rolls ref Coronation Lunch | £30.00 |
| - Hardington Mandeville Village Hall – Hall & Table Hire | £57.50 |
| - Stewart Ogden Posts and Spikes ref Coronation Lunch | £223.20 |
| - Anne Lunt Bunting rev Coronation Lunch | £48.01 |

14.PARISH RANGER SCHEME

- a) The Ranger had completed all the work on her list for the month
 b) Work proposed at this time included stimming around the Hardington signs, rub down and repaint the railings by the noticeboard, clear the footpath from Moor Lane to the Community Field.

15.CORRESPONDENCE

None.

16.VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE UDATE

There was a request for the VHC to revisit the Fire Alarm System quotes and presented to the PC for agreement.

17.MATTERS OF REPORT & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Chairman: None.

Councilors: None.

Clerk: None.

18.DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING & CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 8.30pm. The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, 20th June at the Village Hall.