

**GREAT HORKESLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**HELD ON TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023**  
**IN GREAT HORKESLEY NEW VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM**

**Those present:**

Cllr C Arnold (Chairman)	Cllr G Baker
Cllr A Banks	Cllr J Burns-Langton
Cllr M Mead	Cllr P Tempest
+ 4 members of the public in attendance	

**23/073 Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**23/074 Apologies and Reasons for Absence**

No apologies were received. Cllr Sudbery's absence was noted.

**23/075 Declaration of Interests**

No member declared an interest with respect to any item on the agenda.

**23/076 Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

**23/077 Have Your Say – Public Open Forum**

One resident gave an update on the plans for the Great Horkesley Summer Fair, due to take place on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2024 from midday to 4pm. They have booked a variety of entertainment and food to attend, risk assessments are being carried out and a sponsor has been secured. The council advised that the village hall be booked as soon as possible, and that toilets and car parking be considered.

**23/078 Reports from Members and Officers of Other Authorities**

Cllr Arnold reported that the planning application for the manor land development is currently being held up with highways issues, so there is no further update yet.

Cllr Mead reported that he attended the recent CALC meeting and Colchester City Council is making many difficult decisions regarding expenditure due to its current financial position.

Cllr Baker reported that Essex County Council have completed their investigation to restore the footpath between Barnfield Road and Brick Kiln Lane into the Definitive Map and Statement as a public right of way. Notices have been posted at each end of the footpath advertising the intention to reinstate it and giving people 21 days to object.

**23/079 Finance**

(a) The Statement of Accounts as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 was noted.

(b) The payments for September 2023 were approved in accordance with the 2023/24 Budget.

- (c) The draft minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023 were noted.
- (d) **It was unanimously agreed** (proposed Cllr Arnold) to move £35,000 from the Unity bank account to the CCLA Deposit Fund.
- (e) **It was unanimously agreed** (proposed Cllr Arnold) to appoint Cllr Burns-Langton and Cllr Tempest to the membership of the Finance Committee.

### 23/080 Planning

- (a) The following planning applications were considered, and no representation will be made to the Planning Authority.
  - 232206 Lodge Farm, Boxted Road**  
*Construction of processing, packing and dispatch building*
  - 232228 The Gem, Nayland Road**  
*Conservatory to rear elevation*
  - 232304 Blue Owl, Nayland Road**  
*Addition of internal partition and doorway to entrance hall*
- (b) Councillors considered the following application, and it was proposed to object to the location of the new garage being too close to the main road. The motion was not carried (two votes for, four votes against) and it was agreed that no comment should be made.
  - 232358 Timbers, 5 Coach Road** **(expires 02/11/2023)**  
*Proposed side and rear extension and new garage*
- (c) It was noted that decisions have been made for the following planning applications:
  - 210390 Laburnums, Ivy Lodge Road** **Withdrawn**  
*Proposed single storey extension*
- (d) Planning Application 232375 was received after publication of this Agenda but prior to meeting. The Clerk will consult with councillors to determine any further action.
- (e) A resolution to form a Planning & Highways Committee and agree which members to appoint to the Committee was deferred.

### 23/081 Public Spaces

- (a) Cllr Tempest reported that the Open Spaces & Facilities Working Group has met twice this month to discuss details for the consultation taking place on the morning of Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November in the Village Hall. Cllr Arnold suggested that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group also attend the consultation and the Clerk contact the Community & Partnerships Officer at Colchester City Council to see if they could also attend.
- (b) **It was unanimously agreed** (proposed Cllr Arnold) to delegate authority to the Clerk to have 1,200 colour leaflets printed advertising the Public Spaces Consultation, up to a maximum cost of £100.
- (c) There were no reports of any other urgent matters regarding Public Spaces.

### 23/082 Highways

Cllr Baker reported that potholes had been filled on the Blackbrook Road estate but those at the junction of Kelso Close had been left. The Clerk will query this with Cllr Barber.

### 23/083 Village Hall

- (a) **It was unanimously agreed** (proposed Cllr Tempest) to purchase the external box for the defibrillator that was recommended by a First Responder, at a cost of £499 +VAT.

- (b) **It was unanimously agreed** (proposed Cllr Tempest) to accept the quote from BH Electrical Ltd to wire, connect and install the new defibrillator box, at a cost of £330 +VAT.
- (c) **It was unanimously agreed** (proposed Cllr Arnold) that the Clerk clarify the cost of replacing any broken parts of the projector in the Village Hall with SignalmanAV Ltd, and if the total cost of repairs are below £400 then to delegate authority to the Clerk to accept the quote from SignalmanAV Ltd.
- (d) **It was unanimously agreed** (proposed Cllr Arnold) to place the Village Hall broadband on an 18-month contract with Gigaclear at a cost of £17 per month.
- (e) **It was unanimously agreed** (proposed Cllr Arnold) that the Village Hall Caretaker would be paid an hourly rate to carry out redecoration of the Village Hall at the end of October.
- (f) **It was unanimously agreed** (proposed Cllr Arnold) to delegate authority to the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman, to purchase and arrange the installation of CCTV signs at the village hall, up to a maximum cost of £100.
- (g) **It was unanimously agreed** (proposed Cllr Arnold) that money be transferred from Village Hall reserves to cover the cost of items (a), (b), (c) and (f) above.
- (h) There were no reports of any other urgent matters regarding the Village Hall.

#### **23/085 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk's report for September 2023 including a list of resolutions agreed at earlier Parish Council meetings and any progress to date was noted.

#### **23/086 Village Warden**

The Village Warden's report to the end of September 2023 was noted.

The Clerk reported that the Village Warden would not be undertaking any work for a period of approximately four weeks from the beginning of November.

#### **23/087 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2023 at 7.30pm in Great Horkesley New Village Hall. Should any urgent matter require a decision by Council before that date, an Extraordinary Meeting will be called.

The meeting was closed at 8.59pm.

Signed .....

Date .....