



HODNET PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Of the ANNUAL MEETING of Hodnet Parish Council held at the Lyon Hall, Hodnet on Thursday 9th May 2024.

Present: Cllrs Alan Cope, Steven Freeman (Chair), John Matthews, John Parker, John Powell, Maryjayne Rees, Lin Sherwin, Ross Underwood, Jason Watts, Jayne Charman (Clerk)

Members of the public: 3

24/54 Welcome, Apologies and reasons for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Spenser, Cllr Crump and Cllr Gill– Reasons accepted.

24/55 Appointments

- a) Following nomination by Cllr Powell, seconded by Cllr Sherwin, it was RESOLVED to APPOINT Cllr Freeman as Chair of Hodnet Parish Council for the year 2024-2025. An Acceptance of Office form was duly signed.
- b) Following nomination by Cllr Powell, seconded by Cllr Sherwin, it was RESOLVED to APPOINT Cllr Rees as Vice Chair of Hodnet Parish Council for the year 2024-2025. An Acceptance of Office form was duly signed.
- c) Following nomination by Cllr Powell, Seconded by Cllr Parker, it was RESOLVED to APPOINT Cllr Freeman, Cllr Cope and Cllr Rees to the Finance Committee of Hodnet Parish Council for the year 2024-2025.

It was unanimously RESOLVED to APPOINT the representatives as follows:

- d) Cllr Parker as Representative for the Lyon Hall Committee.
- e) Cllr Powell as Representative for Charity Trustees – Hodnet Charities.
- f) Cllr Underwood as representative for Hodnet 2000 Education Trust.
- g) Cllr Rees as Representative for Shropshire Council Local Joint Committee/Town & Parish Forum

24/56 Declaration of Interest

Cllr Powell disclosed a pecuniary interest in item 24/60d regarding the permissive path payment.

24/57 Public Session (3 members of the public present)

Concerns were raised regarding the speed of vehicles travelling through the Avenue, Peplow. They would like to put forward through a community led concern that the Avenue be made into a 30mph zone.

24/58 Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes from the parish council meeting on 21st March 2024 were considered for approval. It was proposed by Cllr Cope, seconded by Cllr Sherwin and RESOLVED to APPROVE the minutes which were then signed by the Chairman.

24/59 Reports

a) Clerks Report – Verbal report given - To Note.

b) Unitary councillor report –

Finance update from Council leader-

At the end of February, the spending reductions that we have identified total £41.1m, 80% of our £51.4m target by the end of the 2023/24 financial year. This is the highest amount of savings we have ever achieved. There is a considerable challenge ahead, as the demand and cost for our essential services continue to grow, just as they do for councils all over the country.

We have started to make progress on our plans to make savings of £62m in 2024/25 financial year, consulting with our communities on significant service changes, such as the proposed charges for garden waste.

Consultation -

We are listening to all the feedback we receive and are encouraging as many people as possible to sign up to take part in future consultations

Consultation on Local Plan is now open to the public. Then it will go back to Inspectors. Decision later this year.

School Library Service and concerns it will end in September – Significant discussion at Council today and agreed change of process. Consultation now taking place on it's future. No announcement before that is complete.

Diary – Stanton PC meeting earlier this week., Stoke on Tern PC meeting 15th May and Weston PC meeting on 23rd May.

c) Reports from councillors attending meetings or training - None

24/60 Finance

a) Payments to note against March/April bank statements

March

PAYEE	AMOUNT	METHOD	AUTHORITY
O2	£15.48	DD	LG(FP)A 1963 s5
Npower	£423.77	DD	PCA 1957 s112 (1)
Staff Salary <small>(12/3)</small>	£919.59	BACS	LGA 1972 s112(2)
Shropshire council	£689.81	BACS	LA 1983 S5

Simba IT	£56.95	BACS	LGA 1972 S142
ICO	£35.00	DD	LGA 1972 S111
Staff Expenses (to20/3)	£48.60	BACS	LGA 1972 S112
HMRC	£238.71	BACS	LGA1972 s112
HMRC	£38.26	BACS	LGA 1972 S112
HMRC	£38.46	BACS	LGA 1972 S112
RM Edwards	£920.40	BACS	LGA 1894 S8(1)(l)
TOTAL	£3425.03		

April

PAYEE	AMOUNT	METHOD	AUTHORITY
O2	£15.48	DD	LG(FP)A 1963 s5
Npower	£1317.35	DD	PCA 1957 s112 (1)
Staff Salary (12/4)	£933.79	BACS	LGA 1972 s112(2)
PNET	£26.96	BACS	LG(FP)A 1963 S5
PNET	£24.99	BACS	LG(FP)A 1963 S5
Hodnet senior lunch club	£75.00	CHQ	LGA 1972 s137
TOTAL	£2393.57		

b) Receipts to note against March/April bank statements

March

RECEIPTS	AMOUNT
Interest to 31 st March– 2250	£0.00
Interest to 31 st March - 9243	£20.41
TOTAL	£20.41

April

RECEIPTS	AMOUNT
Shropshire Council	£28237.00
HWMC	£56.50
Interest to 30 th April – 2250	£0.00
Interest to 30 th April - 9243	£22.88
TOTAL	£28316.38

c.) Bank reconciliation March/April – To Approve

March

Balance brought forward from year end 31 st March 2023	£21717.94
Add: Receipts to date	£52236.43
Less: Payments to date	£42690.24
Closing balance at 31 st March 2024	£31264.13

Bank balances as at 31st March 2024	
Current Account (6712)	£13811.76
Business Reserve Account (2250)	£0.00
CIL Deposit Account (9243)	£17452.37
Less unpresented cheques	£0.00
TOTAL	£31264.13

April

Balance brought forward from year end 31 st March 2024	£31264.13
Add: Receipts to date	£28316.38
Less: Payments to date	£2393.57
Closing balance at 30 th April 2024	£57186.94
Bank balances as at 30th April 2024	
Current Account (6712)	£39711.69
Business Reserve Account (2250)	£0.00
CIL Deposit Account (9243)	£17475.25
Less unpresented cheques	£0.00
TOTAL	£57186.94

Councillors considered for approval the bank reconciliations up to the 30th April 2024. It was proposed by Cllr Cope, seconded by Cllr Watts and RESOLVED that the bank reconciliation up to the 30th April 2024 be APPROVED.

d.) Payments for authorisation and Payment in May 2024

PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Staff Salary	Due 12/5/24	£919.59
Staff expenses to (1/5/24)	Expenses/reimbursements	£48.60
O2	Sim only phone contract (May)	£16.84
Npower	Electricity (variable DD) (May)	£1180.31
HMRC	Month 12 paye	£38.58
HMRC	Month 1 paye	£38vari
PlusNet	Broadband	£26.96
SALC	SALC affiliation fees	£695.75
K&S Landscapes	Ground maintenance	£600.00
John Powell	Permissive path	£400.00
Highline	Light repairs	1238.40
Highline	Light installs	2220.00
TOTAL		£7423.03

Councillors considered for Approval the payments for May 2024. It was proposed by Cllr Cope, seconded by Cllr Sherwin and RESOLVED that the payments for May 2024 be APPROVED.

e.) DD/Regular Payments - for Approval

ICO - £35 yearly
O2 - £16.84 monthly
Pnet - £26.96 monthly
Npower – variable monthly
HMRC PAYE – Variable DD to be set up

It was proposed by Cllr Freeman, seconded by Cllr Powell and APPROVED to continue the 5 Direct Debits set up and to set up a new variable Direct Debit for HMRC paye.

f.) Appointment of auditor – for Approval

It was proposed by Cllr Watts, and Seconded by Cllr Cope and APPROVED to instruct Bernard Townson as internal auditor.

24/61 Planning Matters

a) To discuss/note planning applications where representation period has passed:

i). Application Reference: 24/01219/FUL

Address: The Bowling Fields, The Avenue, Peplow

Proposed: Erection of agricultural building and extension of vehicular access and Hardstanding (retrospective)

ii). Application Reference: 24/01198/VAR

Address: The Bowling Fields, The Avenue, Peplow

Proposed: Variation of condition 2 attached to planning permission 18/05892/FUL dated 14 March 2019

iii). Application Reference: 24/01261/FUL

Address: Weobley Farm, Hodnet, TF9 3JJ

Proposed: Erection of agricultural building

Noted that all three planning applications have been granted prior to the meeting.

b) Planning Decisions for information:

i). Application Reference: 24/00350/FUL

Address: Lodge Cottage, 21 Peplow, TF9 3JP

Proposed: Modify existing rear lean-to and erection of new 2 storey side/rear extension

Decision: Grant permission

ii). Application Reference: 24/00958/FUL

Address: Bench Mark Cottage, Rookery Lane, Marchamley, SY4 5LQ

Proposed: Installation of solar photovoltaic panels in the rear garden

Decision: Grant Permission

c) Planning enforcement – for information – 1 Noted

24/62 Policies – for Approval

The following policies had been distributed to councillors prior to the meeting:

- Scheme of Delegation
- Model Publication Scheme
- Information under the Model Publication Scheme
- Communications Protocol
- Media Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- Equality & Diversity Policy
- Vexatious Complaints Procedure
- Risk Management Scheme
- Grant Awarding Policy & Application Form

After discussion, the amounts in the Scheme of Delegation were increased to £300.

Cllr Powell proposed, Cllr Sherwin seconded and all unanimously agreed to ADOPT the above policies.

24/63 Hodnet Recreation Ground

- Use of the recreation ground was discussed. Cllr Rees is preparing a set of written rules for hirers.
- Clerk to obtain additional quotes for work to be carried out.
- Clerk to email Cllr Parker a blank inspection form to allow him to complete an inspection.

24/64 Defibrillators

- Fire station Defibrillator – Discussed updating the defibrillator when the battery needs replacing. Clerk to order 1 set of adult and 1 set of paediatric pads. Cllr Underwood to complete monthly inspections.
- Marchamley Defibrillator – Has been removed as was in service mode. Await update as to if it can be repaired. Possible location to be moved.

24/65 Highways and Environmental

- Road safety concern at the Avenue, Peplow. Clerk to contact Shropshire Council to establish procedure for a community led concern.
- ICO complaint – Clerk to respond as the information is not held by the parish council.
- Cllr Sherwin raised the issue of grass cutting at junctions, especially in Wollerton. To be reported to Fix my Street.

24/66 Street Lighting

- Clerk updated councillors on the current complaint with Npower and their sudden increase in tariff. Clerk to present alternative supplier options at the next meeting.
- W1,2,15 update – Clerk awaiting formal response from insurers to be able to reply. Holding email to be sent.
- Lights reported – H35 & 13 off, H9, 15, 56 intermittent

24/67 Correspondence

- a) SALC and NALC Bulletins
- b) Planning enforcement case
- c) Hospital transformation programme
- d) Garden waste consultation
- e) Freedom Fund
- f) Environmental maintenance grants
- g) Electric vehicle charging points
- h) Shropshire Local Plan Examination
- i) Future of school library service
- j) Safer Neighbourhood team newsletter
- k) Correspondence from Prees PC- clerk to respond
- l) Road closures x 2
- m) Road safety concern on the Avenue Peplow -
- n) Details of Complaint with Npower

24/68 Parish Matters – An opportunity for councillors to bring to the council's attention Matters of interest or concern

- Station Rd, Speed concern raised

24/69 Items for future agendas – An opportunity for Councillors to bring items forward for The next agenda (no discussion or decisions to be made) for the next parish council meeting on Thursday 20th June 2024

There being no other business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.20pm