



NORTH HORSHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE NORTH HORSHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ROFFEY MILLENNIUM HALL, CRAWLEY ROAD, HORSHAM ON THURSDAY 12th JANUARY 2023 COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

Present: Councillors: A. Britten (Chairman), Mrs. K. Burgess, P. Burgess, J. Davidson, Mrs. R. Ginn, Mrs. J. Gough, R. Knight, D. Mahon (Vice Chairman)*, T. Rickett B.E.M., D. Searle, J. Smithurst, S. Torn, R. Turner, I. Wassell and Mrs. S. Wilton*

* denotes absence

In attendance: Sarah Norman - Clerk to the Council
1 Member of the public (part of meeting)
Cllr John Milne - District Councillor (part of meeting)

FC/85/23 Public Forum

At the start of the meeting there were no members of the public present.

FC/86/23 Apologies for absence

The Council **NOTED** the resignation from the Council from Cllr. Shine.

Apologies were also received from Cllr. Wilton.

Finally, Members were advised that District and County Councillor Andrew Baldwin and County Councillor Jay Mercer had both sent their apologies.

FC/87/23 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of Interests.

FC/88/23 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 3rd November 2022 were **AGREED** and were signed by the Chairman as being a correct record.

FC/89/23 Forecast for Year Ending 31st March 2023, Budget and Precept requirement for Year Ending 31st March 2024

The circulation of the Forecast, Budget, Precept and Hall Charge papers was **NOTED**, as was the restrictions on voting as referred to in the Clerk's report.

It was subsequently **RESOLVED** to **AGREE** the following as recommended by the Finance and Administration Committee at the meeting held 8th December 2022 (Min. FA/42/22 refers):-

- i. **the Forecast for year ending 31st March 2023 as circulated**

- ii. **the Budget including Hire Charges for year ending 31st March 2024 as circulated**
- iii. **the Precept requirement of £365,346 for the year ending 31st March 2024**

FC/90/23 Decisions made by delegated power since 1st September 2022 for ratification

There were no decisions taken under the scheme of delegation since the last meeting.

FC/91/23 Committees and Working Parties.

The following Committee Minutes were presented to the Council:-

- (i) Planning, Environment and Transport Committee Meetings held on 24th November and 15th December 2022
- (ii) Property Committee Meeting held 1st December 2022
- (iii) Finance and Administration Committee Meeting held 8th December 2022

It was **RESOLVED** that the Committee Minutes as listed above be received and adopted.

FC/92/23 Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies

Members **NOTED** the report from the Wealdon Works Community Liaison Group by Cllr. Searle, as circulated with the Agenda. Cllr. Searle added that the new owners, Qair Group had so far been engaging and keen to get the community involved and it was intended to hold a series of public meetings, as well as tours of the site.

FC/93/23 Reports from District or County Councillors

Cllr Milne's report updated the meeting on the progress of the new West Sussex Fire and Rescue centre at Highwood, a tour of which he had recently had. Whilst still under construction, the facility is impressive and should be fully operational by June. The centre will be a state-of-the-art facility providing a training site for not only West Sussex Fire personnel but also to other fire services around the country, thereby creating an income stream.

A report was then given, and a discussion took place, regarding the pause in the review of the Local Plan following the recent statement by Michael Gove MP. Should any forthcoming Bill successfully pass through Parliament, this could affect the not only the methodology for calculating housing numbers but also current elements such as duty to cooperate and requirement of a 5-year housing supply plus 20%.

FC/94/23 Report from the North Horsham Community Land Trust (NHCLT) link councillor

Cllr. Gough reported on behalf of the Trust and updated that in 2023, their focus would be on publicity and increasing the membership. Business cards have been

produced for the Directors and the publicity flyer has been updated. Several good connections have been made during recent weeks including St Marks Church, Sussex Greener Living and the Community Energy Horsham Group. St Marks have offered the use of the building for a community meeting and Sussex Green Living have invited the Trust to have a stand at their Sussex Green Hub event on Saturday 28th January. Members of the Trust also attended the Novartis Parish Liaison Group meeting before Christmas.

Cllr. Gough highlighted that the current cost of living crisis deepened the need for local and affordable housing and thanked the Parish Council for their support and the use of a room at Roffey Millennium Hall for their AGM.

The Council thanked Cllr. Gough for her report and all the work that the Trust is continuing with in these difficult times.

FC/95/23 Chairman's Announcements

The Parish Council's application to nominate land at Lambs Farm Road/Lambs Crescent Green/Laughton Road as an Asset of Community Value (ACV) had been accepted by HDC and would be added to the Register.

Cllr. Burgess suggested another open space near to Durfold Road that may benefit from being added to the ACV register and it was therefore **AGREED** that this item would be added to the next Council Agenda for consideration.

The Parish Council Elections would be taking place on Thursday 4th May 2023. Further information regarding timetables and nomination packs would be available on the Horsham District Council website in due course. It was anticipated that the deadline for nominations will be Tuesday 4th April 2023.

FC/96/23 Financial Matters

- (i) The Council **NOTED** the Financial Report to 30th November 2022.
- (ii) The Council **AGREED** the expenditure lists for October 2022 (£37,058.43), and November 2022 (£46,078.11) as circulated with the Agenda and as published on the website.

FC/97/23 Co-option for Vacancy in the Roffey North Ward

An application for Co-option from Dr P. Hillier had been circulated to Members by email prior to the meeting together with the Co-option Procedure.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8.05pm

Dr Hillier was invited to make a brief presentation and Members given the opportunity to ask any questions.

The meeting was reconvened at 8.10pm

Members **RESOLVED** to enter into Confidential Business to discuss the application.

Following discussion, the meeting was reopened to the public and then before moving a vote, Cllr. P Burgess proposed that the vote be by way of a signed ballot. Having been seconded it was **AGREED** to proceed with the signed ballot.

After the ballots were counted by the Clerk, the application by Dr Hillier was **REJECTED**.

FC/98/23 Calendar of Meetings 2023 to 2024

Members **NOTED** the draft Calendar of meetings for the 2023/24 municipal year as circulated with the Agenda.

Following discussion, it was **AGREED** to **APPROVE** the Calendar as circulated with no amendments.

FC/99/23 WSALC and NALC Subscriptions

Members **NOTED** that WSALC had advised that the forthcoming years subscriptions were to be calculated as follows :-

WSALC Subscription	£1,750.00
NALC Subscription	£1,293.43
Total Due	£3,043.43

Following discussion, the subscriptions to WSALC and NALC were **AGREED**.

FC/100/23 Climate Change

Members **NOTED** that Cllr. Gough had attended the recent Climate Change Workshops organised by HDC, a report on which had been made to the Planning, Environment and Transport Committee, and as a result, the recommendation to Council was to appoint a Climate Change Working Group.

Following discussion, it was **AGREED** to defer any appointment of a Working Group until after the May 2023 Elections.

FC/101/23 Horsham District Dementia Action Alliance Action Plan

Members **NOTED** the Clerk's report regarding the relaunching of the initiative by the Alzheimer's Society, together with the draft Pledge Form as circulated with the Agenda.

Following discussion, it was **AGREED** to continue to support Dementia Action through the Dementia Friendly Communities and furthermore, **AGREED** to approve and adopt the Horsham District Dementia Friendly Communities Action Plan as circulated with the Agenda.

Members also noted that Dementia Friend awareness sessions were to be held by the team at Swan Walk on various dates in January and February and Members were asked to let the Clerk know as soon as possible if they could attend any of the events.

FC/102/23 Coronation of HM King Charles III

Members considered the forthcoming coronation for HM King Charles III and after discussion, **AGREED** not to hold activities to mark this event but that the Union Flag should be flown.

FC/103/23 Request for support of Girls Only Community Football Day at MUGA

Members **NOTED** the request from South Coast Sports for the use of the MUGA at Holbrook Tythe Barn for one day free of charge for a Girls Only Community Football Day.

Following discussion, it was **AGREED** to approve the use on a free of charge basis on 3rd April 2023.

FC/104/23 Correspondence

The Council **NOTED** correspondence list 1, as circulated with the Agenda, and list 2 issued immediately prior to the meeting, covering the period 3rd November 2022 to 11th January 2023.

FC/105/23 Date of next meeting

The next Meeting would take place on Thursday 2nd March 2023 (Scheduled). Cllr. Wassell gave his apologies in advance as he would be unable to attend the meeting.

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.38pm.

Signed

Date