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DRAFT MINUTES OF THE HAYFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

Wednesday 6th November 2024 2024 at 7:15pm in The Village Hall.

**Present:** Cllrs D.Gouldthorpe (In the Chair), L.Bevins, D.Toft, M.Conway, K.Dalkin, E.Lawson & W.Mellor

**Also in Attendance:** A.Clarke DCC, G.Scott HPBC, Members of the public x 3.

**1124/01 To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr T.Ashton.

**1124/02 Variations of order of business:** Nil.

**1124/03 Declaration of members’ interest:** Nil.

**1124/04 Dispensations on matters in which members have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest:** Nil.

**1124/05 To determine which Agenda items, if any, should be taken with the public excluded:** Nil.

**1124/06 Public Speaking –**

**Anne Clarke DCC -**

The work on the gents’ toilets at the village and SVT car park has been completed.

Also lining has been refreshed on the speed bumps and parking spaces there.

Residents have expressed concerned about the lighting at the bus station and I have had

officers chasing the promised work to bring additional lighting to the bus station. I am

pleased to say that the new lampposts have now finally been installed today and should be

connected to the power tomorrow.

DCC has used BSIP money to reduce the price of daily, weekly and monthly bus tickets in the

High Peak zone covered by High Peak Buses.

The cabinet papers for next week’s meeting have been published. Despite responses to the

consultation the recommendation in them is to cease all discretionary grants, which will

affect NMVC.

The campaign to Save the Adult Day Centres and Care Homes has had some effect in that

the recommendation to close Whitestones Care Home has altered. Also, the previous

recommendation to close all three High Peak Adult Day Centres has changed with the

recommendation to now retain Ecclesfold with Queens Court Buxton and the Jubilee Centre

New Mills still recommended for closure.

**Gill Scott HPBC -** Congratulations and thank you to the Parish Council for putting together such a fantastic Bonfire Night and Fireworks display!

There have been several new senior officer appointments at the Council, including a new Executive Director, Anna Eastgate, Head of Assets, Vicki Mitchell, Interim Head of Housing, Maggie Nelson and Senior Planning Officer, Rose Dinnen. We also have a new post of Energy Officer filled by Faiqa Adeel.  Great to see more women in senior positions!

Additionally, we are working to secure matched funding to upgrade 200 of our homes across the High Peak from energy efficiency rating E to C. This will mean that these residents will have warmer homes, lower energy bills and it will reduce our carbon footprint.

The Go Green Day at New Mills Town Hall, put on by the Climate Change, Biodiversity and Energy Officers was a great success. It was good to network with network with community groups and organisations across the Borough to share ideas and support each other around climate change, energy, nature and green spaces.  The next round of Climate Grants is now open, and I am in the process of sharing details with groups in Hayfield.

The two-community managed green spaces are going well. The bog garden at Shudehill Close has been planted with bulbs, and residents have been given some tulips and allium to plant in pots. The Biodiversity Group have done an excellent job at the verge on Lea Road, including installing a new bench - which they have bought, and planting bulbs and seeds which have been paid for by my Councillor's Initiative Fund.

Apple Day was a great success, thanks to Sustainable Hayfield and it was good to be on the Active and Sustainable Travel Group's stall to promote our #takethebus campaign and the Walks from the 61 bus leaflet.

Tomorrow night, runners from the Pennine Fell Runners,  Cllr Jenni Benzer from New Mills West and I are hosting a night run to New Mills as part of the This Girl Can, Let's Lift the Curfew campaign to try to break down the barriers women and girls face over running in the dark. All of you are welcome to join us, if only for the start - 7pm in the Sett Valley car park!

1. A member of the public spoke on noticing Hayfield Parish Council have not had a newsletter since 2022 which came out in 2023 and thought it was discussed several years ago about an annual newsletter being agreed but there has been no news from the tourism and commerce group and thought they would be the group to organise this newsletter.

A second member of the public thanked HPC for the new tennis court; it is just a really good tennis court. Maybe the council could think about keeping the court open rather than locking it. Previously the member of the public has painted the court and locked the court up whilst the paint dried and then the fence was broken in to, could it be considered as an option to keep it unlocked.

1. Nil.

**1124/07 Minutes of previous meetings:**

1. It was resolved to confirm the minutes of the Council meeting of Wednesday 2nd October were approved.
2. The draft minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of Wednesday 16th October 2024 were noted.

**1124/08 Chair’s announcements:**

The final snag list corrections at the tennis court have been made. This was an amazing effort by Lisa and Mick, supported through out by Hannah and we should congratulate them in getting us to where we are. The surface treatment will be carried out when the weather improves in the Spring.

I attended Apple Day event, and it was a very well attended event and must be second only to the May Queen in terms of numbers turning out. I did think on the day that this would have been an ideal event to showcase the Council and its activities. Perhaps this is something for next year.

Sunday Times have listed the Kinder Walk as the number one walk in the whole country. Even though it is normally busy at the half term holidays the number of visitors has certainly increased since the article.

In my opinion we need to use these enhanced visitor numbers to benefit the businesses of the parish. Which brings me on to a disappointing situation where our last remaining café has now closed. The mobile refreshment unit at Bowden Bridge ceased to operate and the one at the bus station is not operating at least on a regular basis.

We held our annual Bonfire Night on Friday 2nd November – great effort by Chas, Graham and Chris. Very well attended with estimated numbers of over 400. We received many compliments on the standard of the bonfire and fireworks display. Not everyone supports our efforts in hosting this event but those attending were very appreciative and £530 was collected in donations. Thanks to all councillors who manned the event and especially Gill Scott (HPBC), Mick and Tony (HPC) on the collection buckets.

A reminder that Sunday in Armistice Day. This is a time to remember and honour those that did not make it back from the conflicts 1914 – 2023. A short parade will take place – meet at Primrose Court at 10:30. Following the formalities at the Cenotaph there will be a short service at St Matthews Church.

**1124/09 Clerk’s report:**

Firstly I would like to say a big thank you Chas, Chris & Graham and all the volunteers we had working on the bonfire and to Gill Scott and Parish Councillors for volunteering for the event – the event would not be the same without the amazing work done. Donations have been counted and we have raised £529.56 - £69.00 more than last year.

Letters have been sent out to residents at The Bear Pitts to request their bins are removed from the street view.

I spoke with Anne Clarke DCC regarding the speed monitoring device who advised me to contact Steven Alcock DCC, I have emailed Steven, and I am just awaiting a response, will chase if no reply by end of week.

I have contacted Robert Greatorex (Senior Project Engineer Highways Inspections for DCC, Network Plannings for Highways DCC) to request full information regarding any and all work approved by DCC regarding Voneus. I am awaiting a response.

Councillor training was sent out but just a reminder that if you would like to attend either the Councillor Essentials Training – Thursday 21st November 6:00pm - 8:30pm or the Code Of Conduct Training - Wednesday 13th November 6:00pm - 7:30pm please email me to book on. The training is great for any councillors, regardless of time on the council.

Via Zoom. David and I will be attending a Chairmans Training Court on Tuesday 26th November.

I have booked some annual leave for Friday 15th November; Monday 18th November and I will be on Annual leave from Thursday 20th December and will return to work on Tuesday 6th January.

**1124/10 Planning.**

* 1. **DET/2024/0035** – Rosie Lee Hayfield Ltd, 41 Kinder Road Hayfield.

The council agreed to make comment that this would be yet another loss of assett to the community.

**1124/11** **Proposal of renovation works of the Parish Council owned Telephone Kiosks.**

It was approved to do the works on the Parish owned Telephone Kiosks and that Cllr K.Dalkin would be the Project Manager alongside the Clerk.

**1124/12 Hayfield Parish Council Vacancy.**

It was approved for the clerk to advertise the second vacancy when HPBC update us on the position of the vacancy and that during the meeting on Wednesday 4th December 2024, the current first vacancy applicants would be reviewed.

**1124/13 Budget Planning Schedule.**

Regarding the HPC Budget Planning for the year 2025 – 2026, the Clerk requested all councillors review current projects on the budget that have yet to be completed to look in to works to be done, and bring any new project proposals to the December meeting for Council consideration.

**1124/14 Proposal to Impliment a Communication Stratergy.**

The Implementation of a Communication Strategy and the Community Group Membership will be presented on the December Agenda again. Cllr D.Gouldthorpe offered to support the Clerk until a group is established.

**1124/15 Christmas Light Switch-On Update.**

Cllr L.Bevins gave an update as the Event Leader, with the Clerk. Thornsett band have been hired for the event, the Road Closure Application has been approved and we just awaiting the notices to display, and the Christmas tree lights have been tested and all are working. It was confirmed that the Hayfield May Queen would be providing refreshments in St Matthews Church. Cllr K.Dalkin, M.Conway and D.Toft plus Parishioner agreed to support the event as marshals. Clerk to purchase talkie-talkies for the event.

**1124/16 Tennis Court Update.**

A update was given on the tennis court, Cllr M.Conway and L.Bevins spoke on their satisfaction with the recent works done to support the fencing and level off the gate and what a wonderful job Sport Surfacing Solutions have done. The painting of the court will be completed in the Spring when the weather is more suitable. Clerk to organise with Maintenance Assistant implementing a timber back board around the base of the course. Clerk to bring pricings of a dual bin to the December Meeting for consideration. Cllr L.Bevins to organise a meeting to decide on the best location for the bin.

**1124/17 Office Refurbishment Update and proposal for Clerk to obtain quotes for works.**

It was approved for the Clerk to begin sourcing quotes for the required work with the office, such as the flooring, electrical, painting, etc. Clerk to contact the Civic Trust regarding historic mapping in the office to discuss possible storage with the Trust for showcasing.

**1124/18 Allotment Rent Review for the year 2025 – 2026.**

It was approved to maintain the cost of rent for all allotment plots for the year 2025-2026.

**1124/19 Proposal to hold January 2025’s full council meeting and financial committee meeting on Wednesday 15th January 2025.**

It was approved that the January Full Council Meeting would be held in conjunction with the January Financial Meeting on Wednesday 15th January 2025.

**1124/20 Group Reports:** To receive reports from:

1. **Climate Group**: Nil.
2. **Little Hayfield Advisory Group**: lights discussed.
3. **Communication Group**: Nil.

**1124/21 Reports from outside bodies:** To receive reports from:

1. **Hayfield Allotments Society**: 28th November meeting for AGM. Changing some managerial positions so council members of the group will attend the meeting and report back to see how these changers may affect the council.
2. **Educational** – Nil.
3. **Hayfield Football & Community Sports Club**: Nil.
4. **The Village Hall**: The village hall is selling Christmas Trees again this year - forms are out at the newsagents now. Cllr L.Bevins Lisa to organise with the Church the moving of the ten art pieces and Clerk to find out where the most recent two pieces are currently. It was proposed and authorised to have the art work organised by the December meeting.
5. **Hayfield Quarry Liaison Group**: Nil.
6. **Community Orchard Project**: Cllr K.Dalkin has met with many people who were at the inception of the group, to understand the origin story and is trying to track down documents, some received and some not, hoping previous Cllr has the documents. Starting to identify a group of people who are interested in being actively engaged in the project going forward, conscious that a winter pruning is required, to gain a better health stock. Has been talking to people with those skills who could volunteer their time this season before next season when hopefully a new plan and schedule will be in place. Feeling more confident on what the situation is going forward. Clerk to chase J.Wilson for the information she has and to share with Cllr K.Dalkin when received. A proper plan needs to be in place.
7. **Tourism & Commerce Advisory Group**: Tuesday 10am next meeting.
8. **Traffic Management & PROW Committee**: Just awaiting to hear back from the clerks correspondence regarding the road sign and speed monitoring.

The October 2024 Finance Report and payments made at the September 2024 Finance Committee Meeting were noted.

**Date of next meeting**: It was confirmed the next council meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th December 2024

**Meeting Ended at 8:40pm.**