

Hawkesbury Parish Council



**Minutes of Hawkesbury Parish Council Meeting
Held on Monday 3rd October 2016 at 7.30pm
In the upstairs Meeting Room at the Village Hall, High Street, Hawkesbury Upton**

Present:

Cllr Hope (Chair), Cllr Bleaken, Cllr Cox, Cllr Higgs, Cllr Winbow, Cllr Ruthven, Cllr Musty and H Jones (Parish Clerk)

Apologies

Cllr Robinson and Cllr Wareham

Public Participation

Western Power Distribution (WPD)-Mr Neil James and Mr Darren Carter. Mr W Fairney Parishioner

Action

- 1 To Take apologies for absence**
Cllr Robinson and Cllr Wareham
- 2 To record declaration of interest from members in any item to be discussed.**
None
- 3 To adjourn to allow public participation**
- & Western Power Distribution – Mr James**
- 4** As a result of recent down times and low voltage, the Parish Council invited WPD to attend tonight's meeting; Cllr Wareham sent an email (see attached) stating the Parish Council's concerns regarding the electricity supply to the Parish.

Issues regarding the liability of the supply, affecting the Post Office, resetting of systems and businesses run from home after each incident. In some cases damaging some electrical items as a result.

Mr James and Mr Carter gave a short presentation, explaining various issues of why these incidents happen. From the weather to small animals/birds damaging the lines.

- Their aim is to minimise any disruption
- The protection of supply is in progress-when a fault occurs they can re-divert a supply
- Short interruptions-5-30 seconds; they acknowledge higher than normal levels - this is being monitored
- Longer loss of supply – incidents when customers are without electricity for longer periods of time, is also monitored
- WPD require customers to contact them when they are experiencing problems-**ring 105.**
- There is no device available to monitor low voltage
- Damaged electrical goods – report to WPD - they will deal with claims on an individual basis
- They have a duty/legal requirement/responsibility to ensure the supply is not interrupted by tree
- Some money is set aside for maintenance
- A plan was produced for councillors to view and ask questions

Cllr Hope thanked WPD and Mr Fairney for attending the meeting and they subsequently left the meeting.

5 Approval of Minutes

- 5th September 2016

Resolved by Cllr Hope signing the minutes as a true and accurate record; Clerk to email approved minutes to Mr Sauro to upload to the village website **Parish Clerk**

6 Update of previous Action points

6.1 Little Badminton Notice Board

Name plate to be replaced on the notice board - outstanding, this item will remain in the minutes until this has been resolved. Clerk wrote to Mr Choyce and this should be resolved very shortly. In addition the Clerk highlighted the poor condition of the notice board. Contact Mr Hornig to quote

Parish Clerk

6.2 Tied properties list-**This item remains outstanding.**

Parish Clerk

6.3 Footpaths-Email Cllr Higgs report to Nicola Chidgley-**outstanding**

Parish Clerk

6.4 Laptop to be cleaned and check to see if it can be PAT tested at the same time-**outstanding**

Parish Clerk

6.5 Allotment repairs-wooden posts to be replaced

Parish Clerk

6.6 Overgrown hedges, Cllr Higgs advised the Parish Council this has been carried out

7 Councillor's items-information only

7.1 Bushes and trees on public footpaths – Cllr Higgs

- *Footpaths are being obstructed by the overgrown bushes and trees, complaints received from Parishioners that use them; especially the path that runs from Sandpits Lane and Highfields.-notify Streetcare*
- *Footpath from Pool Farm and the Somerset Monument hedgerow is hanging over and obstructing the pavement-Clerk to contact the landowner*

Parish Clerk

Parish Clerk

- *Verges have been cut back but not high enough-**this was noted***
- *Village Hall Light not working-Village Hall are aware of this*
- *Over grown trees opposite 31-33 Birgage-responsibility is being sought-Cllr Hope*

7.2 Over grown hedge row on Starveal Lane, Back Street - Cllr Musty

Maintenance is required by Streetcare, as they are hanging over, at eyelevel affecting walkers, runners and cyclists.

Parish Clerk

7.3 Pot Hole-outside the school

Pot holes along the High Street, contact Streetcare. Cllr Hope asked all Streetcare issues to be emailed or taken to the Community Engagement Team meeting on Thursday – Cromhall Chapel. **This was noted**

Parish Clerk

8 District Councillors report information only – Cllr Hope

Policies, Sites and Places DPD

Thank you to all those who responded to the Policies, Sites and Places consultation, especially those who wrote to defend the allotments and other village amenity spaces in the village. The Plan will go before a Planning Inspectorate next spring. To recap on Local Green Space Designation-(this is like Green Belt– the land cannot be built on):

- Both the Recreation field and the Cricket & Tennis Club have been given Local Green Space Designation (LGSD) (Space has been left around the Village Hall for a possible extension).
- Hawkesbury Upton Pound – LGSD
- The site of the Somerset Monument – LGSD
- The land opposite the Somerset Monument is highway land; the parish council has asked for a licence to manage this land.
- The Plain has not been granted LSGD; this is adopted highway land and very unlikely to be built on.
- Hawkesbury Pound (by Pound Farm, near the church) is adopted highway land and very unlikely to be built on, but not given LGSD designation.
- The amenity areas around the village; land at Sandpits Lane (the well-used play space), land opposite the Allotments and land adjacent to 15 Highfields have had the objection removed for becoming LGSD and the outcome is awaited.
- The allotment area is allocated as housing land and the objection to this being a LGS has not been removed, although this has been contested by the Parish Council. The Council say that as long as the allotments are viable they will remain as allotments
- The Council received an objection from the landowner for Hawkesbury and Inglestone Commons to have Local Green Space Designation (LGSD). Part of the area is covered by Site for Special Scientific Interest, but not all the Commons.

There will be a consultation in October on the Joint Spatial Strategy covering the wider area of South Gloucestershire, Bristol, Bath & North East Somerset and North Somerset. The initial papers are being considered at Wednesday's P&R meeting. A prediction of over 100,000 houses for the area until 2036 – nearly 40,000 more than already planned for. The areas for growth in S Glos are Thornbury, a new Garden

Village at Buckover (A38), a further 2,600 in the Yate/Sodbury area and 1000 in Charfield. Major transport routes are suggested including a new M4 link from the Ring Road. Some parishes councils have been invited to discuss the developments and all parish councils have been invited to an event on the Transport Links. Cllr Hope is aware how complicated planning seems to becoming, especially responding to such consultations (thank you to all those that persevered) and Cllr Hope voiced these concerns to officers. However, coming down the line are further changes to the planning process in the shape of the Housing & Planning Act, however there is little information on the detail on these changes.

There is local interest in **self and Custom Build House**. South Gloucestershire Council holds a register for those interested; for further information; check out the Council website to register your interest.

The Library Consultation was discussed at the recent South Gloucestershire Council meeting, where the decision was made to close the mobile library. **It is hoped that there could be a community centre based library in Hawkesbury Upton. If you are interested** – please get in touch. Other headlines:

- The service will introduce a technology (commonly known as Open Plus) to enable libraries to open without staff, extending opening times by up to 100% on current hours
- The mobile library service will be replaced with community centre based libraries
- South Gloucestershire Council will fund the building costs of Chipping Sodbury Library with the service being delivered by volunteers

Metro Mayor –Of the approximately 2000 people that responded to the on-line consultation there was a slight majority in favour of a Metro Mayor.

The area will become a Mayoral Combined Authority (South Gloucestershire/Bristol/Bath & North East Somerset). If all goes ahead as planned election for the new Metro Mayor will take place on the 4th May 2017.

Boundary Review - We are living in a time of change – there are proposals to change the constituency boundaries –this is the area served by the Members of Parliament. There are plans to increase the size of the Thornbury & Yate constituency to include Wotton under Edge, Cam and Dursley.

We have also been informed that the council will be moving towards a digital council – could be interesting with gaps in the mobile phone coverage!
Thursday’s Safer Stronger Community Meeting at Cromhall.

9 9.1 Planning Decisions received from South Gloucestershire Council

PK16/4649/TCA	Stoke Cottage High Street Hawkesbury Upton	Works to remove 1no. Juniper tree and 1no. Whitebeam tree situated within Hawkesbury	No Objection
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		Upton Conservation Area	
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10 Councillors to discuss the de-cluttering of existing “Give-Way” Signage near the junction with Back Street/Starveal Lane.

This was discussed in full and the following was agreed; Councillors opposed the proposal to remove signs on Back street; Clerk to email SGC the following points

- **DO NOT** Remove the Give Way sign
- Happy with the white lines being refreshed
- Request the hedge is cut back
- **DO NOT** remove the advanced warning sign, requested a new sign (as the warning markers have eroded). Again cut back the hedge in this area.
- Happy with the replacement of the damaged marker posts.

Parish Clerk

11 Finance

11.1 Bank Reconciliation as of 30th September 2016.

Resolved-Cllr Higgs checked the bank reconciliation and signed accordingly. No comments made.

11.2 Expenditure update as of 31st August 2016

This was shown to all Councillors-no concerns raised – email a copy to all Councillors

Parish Clerk

11.3 Payments approved for payment

A	Clerks Wages – September Standing order/cheque	£
B	Clerks Expenses-September	£ 38.70
C	South Gloucestershire Council Ground Maintenance Localism Q2	£110.92
D	CPRE (Campaign to Protect Rural England) membership	£ 36.00
E	Grant Thornton – External Audit	£120.00
F	Garden Manicures Cuts 2/8, 9/8 and 23/8	£245.31

Resolved by Cllr Higgs proposing the payments, seconded by Cllr Hope, all in favour. Cheques signed in accordance with the bank mandate.

12 External Audit Grant Thornton - report

Resolved-the Parish Council passed the external audit for 2015/16.

Parish Clerk

13 To update the Parish Council on setting up a website – Parish Clerk

- **New Email Addresses**-Note all Councillors have set up their new email address. **To be actioned**
- **Short presentation from Adrian Creeper**-Mr Creeper was unable to attend the meeting
- **Outstanding items**-Clerk updated the Parish Council with items that remain outstanding
- **Nominate Councillors for Website Training**-date to be set-Cllr Ruthven is

happy to attend the training. Email Cllr Wareham & Cllr Robinson to see if they would like to complete the training-Clerk to attend

14 Reminder Community Engagement Meeting Thursday 6th October 2016 from 7.30pm – Cromhall Chapel, Townwell

If a Councillor is able to attend the meeting to put forward HPC Streetcare Issues. **This was noted**

15 Christmas Light Switch on December

- **Christmas lights required**-10m length rope lights £30-£40-proposed by Cllr Musty, second by Cllr Ruthven-all in favour-Cllr Higgs to obtain new lights
- **Carol Singers**-PA system would be beneficial, consult with the carol singers and ask the school-Cllr S Bleaken. Clerk to email Hall Committee regarding Lee Lights to confirm the date.
- **Ran through checklist-Agenda item for November**

Parish Clerk

16 ALCA request Councillors respond to the Precept Consultation

The Parish Council discussed this and agreed not to respond to the consultation. **This was noted**

17 Tree planting by South Gloucestershire Council update-Cllr Hope

- The Plain-Hawthorn tree needs to come down and replaced-either with a similar tree or White beam/Rowan. Due to the time of year this needs to be actioned next year. Diary entry August 2017
- Pool House-Jubilee trees-need pruning and tidying up-South Glos lead-Cllr Bleaken several branches to come out, its lost its shape; Cllr Hope will refer back to SGC and update the Parish Council
- Tythe Barn-Chestnut tree-SGC to remove in the future

Parish Clerk

Cllr Hope

TPO application is in the process of being prepared.

Cllr Hope

18 Councillors to discuss the incident on Wednesday 14th September – Horses bolting through the High street

This was discussed fully by all councillors-Two horses bolted through the village at 8.20am-concerns raised - someone could have been seriously injured or killed.

- Stakeholders do not attend parish council meetings – no engagement with stakeholders
- Full circumstances of the incident not known-Cllr Bleaken will take this forward and report back at the next full Council meeting
- Reinforce in the parish news – to close gate's on farm land
- Safety issues were pointed out-the consequences could have been awful

**Cllr Bleaken
Parish Clerk**

19 Cemetery update-Cllr Hope

- Trees to be removed have been marked with paint
- A piece has been put in the Parish News for comments as to the way forward
- Growth against the wall needs removing-volunteers or workforce-the growth should be cut back not removed from the wall. This was proposed and approved to use volunteers-Ask Mr B Watts
- **Approve TRO planning application**-form not completed in full – plan to be drawn up-all in favour for the planning application to be processed
- **Lych Gate** – wood rotten this section can be removed and back filled – Cllr

Hope to take this forward to obtain a quote. Too late for this year, work to commence next year-no risk assessment required

20 Date of the next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 7th November 2016 in the upstairs Meeting Room of the Village Hall, High Street, Hawkesbury Upton at 7.30pm

Minutes Approved as a true record
At the 7th November 2016 Meeting

Item 3 & 4 page 901 copy email from Cllr Wareham to Neil James-WPD

Neil,

I'm one of the parish councillors on Hawkesbury Parish Council; we're very much looking forward to meeting you on Monday next week - 3rd October - to talk about our concerns regarding electrical supplies to Hawkesbury Upton.

I know you've already spoken with Hazel Jones, the parish Clerk, but I agreed to get in touch with you to give you a better understanding of what we'd like to understand.

- 1. Do you have an accurate record of failures/issues?*
- 2. Our main concern regards the reliability of supply to the village. Put simply, is the supply/distribution system adequately resilient and is capacity adequate to support demand? If the answer to either of those questions is 'no', we'd like to understand what plans are in place/being developed to improve/upgrade the system. If the system does meet the technical requirement, then we'd like to understand why supplies appear to be so problematic and what you believe can be done to reduce the frequency of failures and/or their potential consequence.*
- 3. If there is a forward programme of work/upgrades, we'd like to understand it so we can communicate it to parishioners.*
- 4. Is there any further advice we can give to parishioners - other than to report failures when they occur?*

I hope that gives you an idea of our main concerns. There is a growing level of concern about this throughout the village, particularly given that several people have reported damaged equipment as a result of power failures/surges. So we're keen to understand what we can do to get some improvement.

We look forward to meeting with you on Monday.

Regards

Mike Wareham