

HOPE with ASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: M Sorensen, 20 Broughton Road, Sheffield S6 2AS; 07766 629419
clerk@hopewithastonparishcouncil.co.uk www.hopewithastonparishcouncil.co.uk

Hope with Aston Parish Council meeting on Monday 13 March 2023, 7.30pm, Old School, School Lane MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Chris Perkins (meeting Chair), Stephen Barr, David Garwes, Gordon Hopewell, Richard Henson, Chris Ord

In attendance: Mark Chapman, Happy Tree Company (*part*); HPBC Cllr Charlotte Farrell (*part*); Pip Gilbert (Locum Clerk); Maura Sorensen (Clerk)

ACTIONS

160/22	<p>Apologies for absence – Cllrs Dominic Swords, Stephen Price, Susan Worsey.</p>	
161/22	<p>Any variation in the order of business – agenda item 174/22.3 (tree felling on land at Hope Cement Works) was taken first.</p> <p>A tree felling proposal from the Forestry Commission, for trees on land at Hope Cement Works, had been shared by PDNPA. Cllrs had noted the lack of clarity, and detail, in the application making it difficult to consider a clear response. Further clarification had been sought from PDNPA.</p> <p>Mark Chapman (MC), Happy Tree Company spoke to this item and referenced his attendance at the February 2022 Parish Council meeting where he noted he had been engaged by Breedon to coordinate a tree management plan, and he had shared a plan outline.</p> <p>MC expanded on plan details (as per the proposals shared by PDNPA) for the selective thinning of woodlands planted around Hope Cement Works to reduce the proportion of ash and support regeneration of other mixed broadleaved species, and coppice regrowth of non-ash species.</p> <p>MC expanded on the size of woodlands at Hope Cement Works, numbers of ash trees, and the impact of ash dieback. He shared criteria on management of ash dieback and identifying and selecting trees for felling. Flagged the extent to which original ash plantings had spread. MC noted dense planting meant trees would have to be cut back/down manually. MC also referenced ash trees on Eccles Road and Pindale Road which will have to be cut down.</p> <p>MC confirmed the felling application includes the proposed tree maintenance programme for all Hope Cement Works woodland for the next 10-15 years. MC also addressed Cllr queries about coppicing decisions. Noted the overall rationale was to create a more diverse and healthy woodland. Suggested hornbeams would be the most appropriate trees to replace ash. MC also referenced a PDNPA-defined tree zone suggesting there had been some errors in calculations and it may need to be revised.</p> <p>The Chair and Cllrs noted MC’s explanation had been very helpful and was consistent with the initial report MC had shared with the Council in February 2022. <i>MC left the meeting.</i></p>	
162/22	<p>Declarations of interests relevant to agenda items – none.</p>	
163/22	<p>Public participation: a period of 10 minutes for members of the public to address items on the agenda or raise items for consideration at a future meeting. There were no members of the public in attendance.</p>	

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	<p>Noted members of the public had expressed interested in the UDVRE item in relation to Severn Trent representation. Suggested as this is an item potentially impacting and of interest to residents across the Hope Valley, a larger, open meeting should be facilitated <i>HPBC Cllr Farrell to take this forward with Hope Valley Parishes Forum.</i></p>	HPBC Cllr Farrell
164/22	<p>Minutes of the meeting of 13 February 2023: approved the minutes and noted actions arising. The Chair noted it had subsequently been agreed not to respond to the High Peak Local Consultation as it applied to areas of the High Peak outside the National Park its policy proposals did not directly relate to Hope with Aston Parish. Noted responses had been made to planning applications. Pinder Meadows Charity page on the HwAPC website – Cllr Barr referenced liaison with Andy Kirkland about technical support with making changes to the website and whether technical support should be sought elsewhere.</p>	
165/22	<p>Upper Derwent Valley Reservoir Expansion Scheme: noted late apologies from the Severn Trent Stakeholder Engagement Lead. An update had been shared. Cllrs commented on the lack of any new information, or detail. Cllr Ord referenced a Derwent with Hope Woodlands Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 15 March which the PDNPA was due to attend and at which the UVDRE would be discussed. <i>Cllr Ord to liaise with Derwent with Hope Woodlands PC about HwAPC Cllrs attending that meeting. Cllr Ord also to ask a Derwent with Hope Woodlands PC Cllr with greater knowledge of the scheme to attend an HwAPC meeting.</i> Cllrs queried whether silt clearance would make any significant difference to reservoir capacity. Referenced the original Severn Trent options report; noted tackling water leaks had not been referenced.</p>	Cllr Ord
166/22	<p>HPBC; DCC; PDNPA; Police; other community groups: reports / updates</p>	
1	<p>HPBC – funding for Hathersage Swimming Pool: referencing discussions at the February Parish Council meeting, HPBC Cllr Charlotte Farrell spoke about HPBC funding for Hathersage pool. She suggested there had been some confusion and lack of clarity in discussions between HPBC and Hathersage Parish Council. Noted the HPBC assessment that pool funding was not value for money as it only benefited a small number of residents. Further note HPBC were looking to focus provision (and associated funding) more widely on sports and wellbeing initiatives across the borough.</p> <p>HPBC – council tax on second homes: Cllr Farrell referenced a HPBC decision to increase council tax on second homes by up to 100% - percentage increase to be agreed – noted the increase could be implemented next year. Cllrs flagged anomalies and discrepancies in taxing second homes occupied for short intervals through the year, and holiday lets.</p>	

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	2	DCC: Cllrs flagged the lack of regular communication and representation from DCC Cllr Nigel Gourlay <i>agreed to flag concerns with Cllr Gourlay</i>	
	3	Police: a report had been shared. Cllrs noted the recent spate of burglaries at unoccupied properties on Edale Road and queried appropriate communications with residents. Agreed to seek advice from PC Carl Davies and post appropriate advice on community social media. Noted residents could access general advice on the Neighbourhood Watch website.	
	2	Threatened closure of Peak District visitor centres and Castleton’s Museum: to consider a Parish Council response. Cllrs noted Castleton Museum had launched a petition. Noted some other Hope Valley parish councils were considering a response. Acknowledged the financial challenges for PDNPA. HPBC Cllr Farrell referenced the cost of provision of the centres, and low visitor numbers. Cllrs queried whether PDNPA had considered initiatives to attract visitors to the centres e.g. making them activity hubs with led walks and activities. Cllr Farrell noted she intended to support Castleton Museum to find another venue. Agreed to make representations to PDNPA about considering retention of the Castleton Visitor Centre including investigating whether income-generating activities could be sited there.	Cllrs Perkins/Swords
167/22		Chair’s announcements, Clerk’s correspondence and items circulated since the February meeting DALC newsletter – suggested Cllrs read the article on the forthcoming May elections and recruitment of new Cllrs. EASA bothy request – suggest they be advised to liaise with PDNPA.	Clerk
168/22		Elections – updates on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May Parish and District Council Elections – procedural details had been shared with Cllrs. Noted Cllrs David Garwes and Susan Worsey had indicated they did not intend to stand again. Noted Cllr nominations to be submitted between 21 March and 4 April. Referenced seeking new nominees and noted a couple of individuals who had expressed interest. Regarding further publicity, agreed to post notices on the noticeboards and on community Facebook pages. Referenced setting a date for the Annual Parish Council meeting - suggested holding it (and the regular monthly meeting) on Tuesday 15 May (allowing sufficient time post-elections, should the election be contested). • PDNPA Members Election – to be considered in May, after the local elections. 	
169/22		Clerk recruitment: the appointment of Locum Clerk Pip Gilbert, for an initial period of up to six months, was confirmed and her contract was signed by Cllr Chris Perkins in his capacity as Parish Council Vice-Chair. Noted recruitment of a permanent Clerk was ongoing.	

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		Noted this was the final meeting for Maura Sorensen. Cllrs thanked her for her contributions in her time as Clerk; she, in turn, thanked Cllrs for all their support.	
170/22		DALC subscription 2023-24: agreed to pay the enhanced level of subscription – including some training provision (£506.06).	
	1	Peak Park Parishes Forum (PPPF): agreed to pay the invoice (£24.00) which had been received after circulation of the agenda.	
171/22		Breedon - increase in heavy vehicle traffic in the early hours to/from Breedon. Cllr Henson expanded, noting he had raised this with Breedon and had shared the Breedon response. Cllr Perkins referenced a forthcoming Breedon Liaison Group meeting at which questions about increased traffic – including accurate data – vehicles entering and exiting the site - would be raised/addressed.	
172/22		Bus shelter, Castleton Road: damage and undertaking repairs. The Clerk shared a quote. Cllr Garwes noted he would pursue further quotes; the Locum Clerk referenced other contractors. Ref Scott Quinn quotes.	
173/22		Highways and Rights of Way	
	1	Footpath 1: noted work recently completed by PDNPA on a section of FP1 – an invoice for materials had been shared – the Council to meet the costs and look to reclaim some of the costs through RoWMMMA.	
	2	Parsons Lane/Station Road Right of Way application: there was no update.	
174/22		Planning – to consider responses to applications	
	1	NP/HPK/0223/0165 – Top Croft, Aston Lane – reconstruction and extension of existing outbuilding. Cllr Perkins expanded on the detail of the application – there were no objections.	
	2	Derbyshire and Derby Minerals Local Plan – consultation on Pre-Submission Draft Plan: to consider a Parish Council response (by 2 May). Cllr Perkins noted it related only to exploitation of minerals outside the Peak Park. Cllrs noted support for the plan.	
	3	Proposed tree felling on land at Hope Cement Works: addressed under minute 161/22.	
175/22		Finance	
	1	Parish Council accounts: to received/noted recent bank statements and the accounts spreadsheet.	
	2	Accounts for payment – noted additional payments (2.5, 2.6 and 2.7) additional to those noted on the agenda:	
		2.1 M Sorensen, Clerk wages and expenses	£147.36
		2.2 HMRC (Clerk's PAYE)	£36.84

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	2.3 Old School room hire	£20.00	
	2.4 DALC 2023-24 subscription	£506.06	
	2.5 PPPF 2023-24 subscription	£24.00	
	2.6 Peak Advertiser (advertising Clerk vacancy)	£148.20	
	2.7 PDNPA (related to work on FP1)	£594.00	
	TOTAL	£1,476.46	
176/22	Next meeting – Tuesday 11 April 2023, 7.30pm ; apologies noted from Cllrs Hopewell, Ord and Perkins.		
177/22	Items for the April meeting – consideration of appointment of the Internal Auditor to audit the 2022-23 accounts.		

Meeting ended 9.30pm