

SOUTH HANNINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a council meeting held on Thursday 2nd November 2023 in Ramsden Heath Village Hall.

Present: The Chairman and Councillors Marsello, Huntington, Walker, Elms, Graves, Coveley, Burgess, Thurgood, Windhorst and Vallis. Councillor Grundy and three members of the public were also in attendance and the Clerk kept the minutes.

- 1. Apologies for Absence** – Councillor Whitehead.
- 2. Disclosure of Interests** – None.
- 3. Approval of Minutes dated the 5th and 19th October 2023** – Cllr Burgess proposed the minutes were a true record, seconded Cllr Marsello.
- 4. Public Participation** – Members came to ask Cllr Grundy questions. These included speeding, traffic calming, responsibility of cutting hedges, utility poles and broadband issues. After lengthy discussion, the Clerk reported that she would contact Jon Simmons and request an automatic traffic count for Castledon Road. Members were all in favour.
- 5. Report from Councillor Grundy followed by any questions** – The Chairman welcomed Cllr Grundy to our meeting this evening. For those new members, Cllr Grundy reported that he is our representative at Essex County Council. He reported on county matters such as policing and funding for community support officers, anti-social behaviour, Quality Care Commission, health issues including hospital waiting times, the Army and Navy new road scheme and devolution. Whilst Cllr Grundy was speaking, Cllr Windhorst tried speaking over him on three occasions and the Chairman had to ask Cllr Windhorst not to interrupt several times. Within the Parish, Cllr Grundy reported that resurfacing work will be taking place in Downham Road this month, new bollards will be installed along the Causeway in Hawkswood Road, CCTV cameras are being monitored in this area also and at the request of Cllr Thurgood, he will follow up the SEPP and LHP Departments regarding additional road signage outside Downham School. Cllr Burgess asked whether he could arrange for Lee Scott to attend the Parish to take a look for himself the

state of some of the roads on Allen's Farm Estate? Cllr Grundy advised that Tom Cunningham had taken over from Lee Scott at ECC and is the new Deputy Leader. He also reported that Essex County is in a far better position than Surrey or Sussex Counties, so as a whole, Essex are doing quite well. Cllr Huntington asked how the finances were at ECC? Cllr Thurgood asked for support with bus services within the Parish, due to the threat of the 256 and 552 being discontinued. A resident was unhappy that he had not heard back from Superfast Essex regarding a broadband issue. The Clerk said she would contact Superfast Essex and get them to contact the resident. Sadly, Cllr Grundy was unable to answer all of the questions, which the Clerk had sent him previously, but he will endeavour to answer these as soon as he can. The Chairman thanked Cllr Grundy for attending this evening.

6. Planning -

6.1 23/01598/FUL – Fox Cottage, Church Road, Ramsden Heath – Proposed Lytch gate on entrance to drive – No comment.

6.2 23/01622/FUL – Dowsett Farm, Dowsett Lane, Ramsden Heath – Proposed new dwelling – No comment.

6.3 To discuss any planning applications received between the date of this notice and the 2nd November 2023 – None.

7. Finance -

7.1 Authority to issue online payments and cheques; ratification of staff salaries and notification of Direct Debit and Barclaycard payments: Proposed by Cllr Huntington, Seconded Cllr Elms. *Payment made under Section 137:

R Thomason	Salary	£
HMRC	Tax	£
M Linwood	Admin Assistance	£
A Moule	Maintenance	£
P James	Maintenance	£
J Moule	Salary	£
HMRC	Tax & NI	£
Essex Pension Fund	Pension	£
T Read	Play equipment welding repair	£ 100.00
Sue Lees	Domain renewal	£ 20.00
B Stanton	Luncheon Club Donation*	£1000.00
105353	Petty Cash	£ 87.00

Onecom	S/Pav line rental	£ 29.75
BT	Office line rental	£ 47.66
EE	Mobile	£ 14.88
Barclaycard Payments	Total	£ 357.50
Adobe	Monthly subscription	£ 16.64
Fast Keys	S/Pav Cylinder keys	£ 26.00
Amazon	S/Pav kitchen towels	£ 25.49
Amazon	S/Pav toilet rolls	£ 15.89
Asda	S/Pav cleaning products	£ 9.00
Fast Keys	S/Pav keys	£ 212.88

7.2 Update regarding Barclays Bank – The Clerk reported that the account will be reinstated within the next 10 days. Barclays Bank have offered a £600 compensation payment, which Cllr Whitehead accepted on behalf of the Allotment Trustees. Cllr Thurgood proposed a vote of thanks be given to Cllr Whitehead, all in favour.

8. Matters for Information -

8.1 Cllr Thurgood reported that the P3 Team have now finished all tasks for 2023.

8.2 Cllr Thurgood reported that the marquee at the White Horse has permanently been removed.

8.3 Cllr Marsello reported that the planning application for Ambleside has been refused by CCC.

8.4 Cllr Vallis reported he had helped a resident in South Hanningfield Road to deal with a County Broadband problem.

8.5 Cllr Graves asked whether the Parish Council would make a donation towards the South Hanningfield Coffee Morning Group? The Clerk confirmed this would be placed on the next agenda.

8.6 The Chairman was pleased to report that SHPC were presented first prize by the Essex Playing Fields Association for the Best Football Pitch in Essex. We also secured Gold awards at our play areas in Middlemead and the Recreation Ground and the best playing fields at the Sports Field, serving a population of 2500 or less. Our Grounds Staff should be congratulated.

9. Date of next meeting – Thursday 16th November 2023 commencing 7.45pm in Downham Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.19pm.

Approved as a true record.

Signed.....Dated.....