

MINUTES

Meeting: Hunts Grove Parish Council
Date and time: 11th October 2021 at 6:15pm
Venue: Holiday Inn Express, Waterwells Business Park

Present:

CLlr Mark Ryder (Chair)
CLlr Demelza Turner-Wilkes (Vice-Chair)
CLlr Adam Hampson
CLlr Martyn Holmes
CLlr Sandra Meecham

Also In Attendance:

Two members of public – Helen Randall, Carol Wynn.
Lucie Brailsford, Crest Nicholson via Zoom
Julie Shirley, Parish Clerk

96/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

County Cllr Stephen Davies and District Cllr Gill Oxley were unable to attend the meeting.

97/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

98/21 MINUTES

Council **resolved** to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13th September 2021.

99/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mrs Wynn addressed the meeting regarding Haresfield Lane closure; vehicles are using Mrs Wynn’s driveway to turn around and requested better positioned road closed signage. There has also been substantial fly tipping at Haresfield Lane. It was suggested that there should be a road closed sign at the roundabout otherwise there is nowhere to turn around once vehicles have driven past Costa. There is still a Haresfield road sign directing traffic up the B4088 from the roundabout which needs to be removed or covered. Cllr Ryder has discussed the matter with County Cllr Davies who was advised by Highways that signage was in place; Highways have been instructed to re-look at the situation and a site meeting requested. Signage for the Haul road mentions Haresfield Lane even though the Haul road junction is prior to Haresfield Lane junction, which can be confusing. The new junction onto the A38 has been delayed until

possibly the Spring 2022. The speed bumps are high, and vehicles are noisy going over them. Crest responded that this is the planned design, and that the vehicles are going a little faster than intended for the speed bumps. There was also discussion about security of property, neighbourhood centre plans, removal of hedges and trees.

Actions: (1) HGPC to co-ordinate with Crest on construction site signage, (2) HGPC to follow-up with GCC for Highways site meeting (3) Signage for Haresfield from roundabout to be removed.

100/21 DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL COUNCILLOR REPORTS

County Cllr Stephen Davies was unable to attend the meeting and forwarded an update by email.

- Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service is going through a Consultation process to get input into people's views on the future of the Fire
- Highways
 - A38 Flyover : Cllr Davies has agreement that there will be a joint meeting with Hardwicke Parish Council to discuss the plan for this but it has been requested that this is delayed until later in the year when the Engineering design is complete.
 - Cllr Davies is chasing GCC on the plans to address the issues at the Harrier Way Junction.
 - Cllr Davies has requested an improvement in signage on Bath Road.

District Cllr Mark Ryder circulated his report prior to the meeting; there is a bid from Berkeley and Oldbury to build the UK's first fusion reactor plant. The site is expected to be shortlisted to the final three sites. Cllr Ryder also updated on the District's Leisure and Wellbeing strategy 2021-2041. The new strategy identifies the goal to deliver a new "leisure local" fitness site including swimming pool somewhere along the A38, but likely to serve proposed new development at Sharpness that is in the draft local plan. Cllr Ryder will be participating at the Stroud District Council full council meeting on the 21st October 2021 and arguing that any investment in new provision should serve all the thousands of new residents in the north of the district at Hunts Grove and Great Oldbury.

101/21 GLOUCESTERSHIRE CONSTABULARY UPDATES

- a) Council noted the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) Roadshow report from Cllr Meecham; OPCC wants to recruit 300 more personnel, tackle anti-social behaviour, address increases in crime against women and girls, and promote dog DNA registrations amongst other items. The most effective speed solution is the vehicle activated signs that display the smile or sad face emoji depending on the speed of the vehicle. This style of sign would be useful in Hunts Grove. There was a discussion about neighbourhood watch and promoting the scheme in the village.
- b) Cllr Holmes gave updates from PCSO Rollins. There has been some low level anti social behaviour mainly youth related; the community event vehicle will be attending Hunts Grove on 14th October; Neighbourhood Watch schemes can be set-up through PCSO Rollins.
Action: Cllr Holmes will circulate information on Facebook to promote to the community.

102/21 DEVELOPMENT SITE UPDATES

- a) Council received an update from Crest Nicholson; 1st November was suggested for an in-person business meeting. Public Open Space (POS) update: they have begun to cut and stone up the footpaths, create the bund and plateau areas for the formal play equipment areas, and prepare the POS area to the rear of Bellway by spraying off the vegetation and spreading and levelling the area in preparation for the formation of footpaths and equipment. A38 road junction is awaiting technical approval from Gloucestershire County Council, once work is underway the expectation is that all construction traffic will use the haul road but if that has to close for any reason then traffic will come through Waterwells, a clear marshalling plan will be put in place if this should happen. Cllr Holmes expressed his disappointment that the missing manhole cover on Harrier Way has not been replaced as a matter of urgency. Cllr Holmes also noted that nine months ago Crest said controlling construction traffic in front of the school was a priority but now saying that it's down to the individual developers to manage the traffic through their supply chain, not Crest responsibility.

Business meeting was agreed for 4pm on 1st November. **Action: (1) Crest to book a meeting room, (2) HGPC to put together agenda points.**

It was noted that Harrier Way will be re-surfaced when the David Wilson haul road is removed, however, if this route is used for construction traffic for A38 works then the finished surface will become damaged. The works route for the public open space works is not yet defined.

It was noted that the traffic marshal is missing HGVs waiting to access site; a councillor witnessed two HGVs that stopped and waited to see the traffic marshal but he had his back to them on his phone so they drove on into the site.

- b) PREIM due at the next council meeting to give an update. Cllr Holmes noted that management company fees have been issued via email and paper copies yet to be received. **Action: Cllr Holmes to ask PREIM about the reserve monies and information about the fee increase.** Cllr Turner-Wilkes asked about Section 106 monies: £1.9 million represents 10 years of maintenance to be paid to the management company in three payments £200k, £1.2m in 2021, then the remaining balance.
- c) Colethrop Farm Ltd (CFL) updates: Council discussed adoption of roads within the CFL parcel and felt that it was important that the whole the site was the same with all roads adopted. Council resolved that adoption was preferred. **Action: Cllr Ryder to feedback to CFL.**
- d) Council received an update from Cllr Holmes regarding site managers meeting arrangements, he hasn't been able to arrange a meeting yet and will pursue this. **Action: Cllr Holmes to arrange the meeting.**

103/21 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- a) Council reviewed the new Village Survey Report for October, with variances since the September report. **Action: Clerk to send the updated report to Bellway, Vistry and David Wilson Homes.**

- b) Health & Safety Issues: missing drain covers by the school and repairs at the park, to be actioned asap by Crest. **Action: To be followed up with Crest Nicholson.**
- c) Crest has shared a plan of remedials and maintenance – more detail needed as to what tasks are to be completed. Cllr Hampson noted that the parish has had a site walk with the Arboricultural Association and has some improvements to suggest to Crest. Cllr Hampson will seek advice regarding a specific oak tree that has been badly maintained. It was noted that a hedgerow is missing by parcel R14 where the drainage ditch was dug; plans to be checked. Council also discussed a breach of planning where a hedgerow removed near Cllr Hampson’s property. **Action: Cllr Hampson to send information to Cllr Ryder to report as a breach.**

104/21 PLANNING

- a. Council considered the planning application 21/00317/REM Land Adjoining Naas Lane, Naas Lane, Quedgeley and **resolved** to raise no objection and offered comments:
- Child safety: concern at the location of the multi-use games area (MUGA) so close to a high-speed rail line;
 - Highways and access. We share the concerns already raised by Quedgeley Town Council on 30 April 2021 regarding Naas Lane access and footpaths;
 - Parking: there appears to be no visitor parking bays;
 - Parking: vehicle tracking has been provided, however, does not consider the impact of on-street parking on the ability of refuse vehicles etc. accessing the estate roads;
 - Management of open spaces by Management Company. Based on our experience, we must state our concern at the use of a management company. “Freeholders on private estates” is a local and national concern for the last 10 years. Legislation currently provides no protection for residents that believe they are buying a freehold property, no ombudsman, no right to challenge fees. Meanwhile, these management companies secure their fees through deed covenants and can prevent the homeowner from selling their property, or ultimately have the right of entry over private property to recoup fees and costs in the event of a dispute. This council, in good conscience, cannot support this approach. We promote the role of the Town Council or City Council in managing open spaces on new developments.
- b) There were no urgent planning applications received after agenda issued for council to consider.
- c) Council noted the update on the breach of planning conditions:
- i. S.21/0585/BRCON (Crest Nicholson)
 - ii. S.21/0606/BRCON (Crest Nicholson / David Wilson Homes).

Action: Cllr Ryder to post on Facebook to highlight out of hours working in relation to the above breaches.

105/21 HIGHWAYS UPDATE

- a) Response and actions from letter to Crest re construction traffic; issues with traffic marshalling raised with Crest Nicholson earlier in the meeting. HGPC would like to know how many lorries the traffic marshal is logging as breaching the route. **Action: Clerk to request 4th-8th October inclusive log of date/time of lorries recorded using the wrong route.**
- b) Harrier Way Junction update; response received from Stagecoach which supports the parish council's concerns regarding the junction.
- c) A38 junction works & construction traffic routing; site meeting to be arranged with Highways as discussed earlier under County Cllr updates.
- d) Review "20 is plenty" campaign and agree actions; signage near the school was suggested and a couple digital speed signs. The model at Tadpole could be used for Hunts Grove.
Action: Cllr Turner-Wilkes to raise the matter with Crest Nicholson.
- e) Council received an update on "hedgehog highway" campaign and approved expenditure of £30 inc. delivery and VAT on 12 "hedgehog highway" signs from the British Hedgehog Preservation Society. These will be available to Hunts Grove residents that wish to support the local campaign by the parish council.
Action: Clerk to order the signs. Cllr Ryder will promote the scheme to residents via Facebook once the signs have been received.
- f) Harrier Way Construction Route / Lime Tree Avenue:
- i. Three councillors met with three residents at Lime Tree Avenue on 1st October 2021 to discuss disruption they have been experiencing with traffic trying to access Harrier Way which is currently fenced off. Councillors agreed to request a timeline from Crest for the final works and to seek a commitment to reinstate the residents' shared driveway.
 - ii. Council **resolved** to write to Crest Nicholson on behalf of the residents regarding damage to driveways as a result of the blocked road.
Actions: (1) Clerk to send a letter to be addressed to Fran Taylor and copy to Lucie Brailsford for information. (2) Cllr Ryder to feedback to residents.

Item 14c brought forward. Cllr Hampson and Cllr Ryder met with John Parker from Arboricultural Association to survey the trees in the village including Hunts Grove Woods .

Action: Clerk to request the latest tree survey from Crest Nicholson.

Cllr Hampson noted that children are playing inside the fenced area where the old concrete drain is located, opposite Warbler Close.

Action: Clerk to advise Crest Nicholson that the fence is insecure and is a concern to the council.

Cllr Hampson left the meeting at 9.11pm.

Council suspended standing order 3x to allow the meeting to go beyond 3 hours.

106/21 POLICY WORKING GROUP

- a) Council received notes of the meeting held on 30th September 2021
- b) Council adopted the Absence Management Policy as circulated
- c) Council adopted Annual Leave Policy as circulated
- d) Council adopted the Dignity at Work Policy as circulated
- e) Council adopted the Disciplinary Policy as circulated
- f) Council adopted the Equality Diversity Policy as circulated
- g) Council adopted the Grievance Policy as circulated
- h) Council adopted the Staff Appraisal Policy as circulated
- i) Council adopted the Training Policy as circulated
- j) Council agreed Councillor Co-ordinations Responsibilities / Champions
 - i. It was agreed to encourage community and sports groups and promotion via the council’s website and social media.
 - ii. Council adopted the updated councillor responsibilities from the Policy Working Group meeting of 30th September 2021
 - iii. The next working group meeting provisionally set for Friday 5th November at 4-6pm to be held at Holiday Inn. **Action: Clerk to book meeting room 4-5pm.**

107/21 FINANCE REPORT

- a) The Clerk presented the finance report for the period ending 30th September 2021, and payment schedule for approval.

Resolved; to approve the payments. Cllrs Turner-Wilkes and Cllr Hampson to authorise the online payments.

Invoice Date	Payee	Net	VAT	Gross
07/09/21	Gloucestershire Association of Parish & Town Councils	£60	£0	£60
13/09/21	Mark Ryder	£119.90	£23.98	£143.88
01/10/21	Julie Shirley	£685.35	£0	£685.35
	TOTALS	£865.25	£23.98	£889.23

- b) Council noted that a check of the accounts and internal controls has been undertaken by Cllr Meecham and Cllr Turner-Wilkes.

108/21 ANNUAL AUDIT

- a) Council received the interim report from the external auditor for 2020/21.

109/21 PARKS & OPEN SPACES UPDATE

- a) Cllr Turner-Wilkes gave an update at the meeting and will follow up with Crest about the Lime Tree play park that has the broken piece of equipment. **Action: Cllr Turner-Wilkes.**

- b) Cllr Turner-Wilkes has an example policy for dealing with unauthorized encampments to forward to councillors for discussion at the next working group.
Action: Clerk to also source a policy from within Stroud District.
- c) Council discussed siting a military memorial at Hunts Grove, possibly at the triangle.
Action: Cllr Holmes to seek advice on style and wording from Royal British Legion and report back to Council.

110/21 ENERGY FROM WASTE

- a) Application for Hunts Grove to join the Community Liaison Group (CLG), it was discussed at the last CLG meeting and the Chair of the group will be in touch regarding the application.
Action: Clerk to follow up with the CLG Chair and to report back to Council.
- b) There was no update on the Environmental Monitoring Systems. **Action: Clerk to add to next agenda.**
- c) There was no update on CLG grant applications as yet. **Action: Clerk to add to next agenda.**

111/21 HUNTS GROVE WOMBLES

- a) Cllr Meecham gave a brief update; the next litter pick is 16th October.

112/21 WEBSITE

- a) The website has been updated with Police information and Village Maintenance.
- b) Council noted that domain and emails will be transferred into Hunts Grove PC name from Blue Tree.

113/21 PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr Ryder suggested that Council use a program called Trello to keep track of actions and tasks. **Action: Clerk to setup the structure for Council to start using for a trial period.**

Next working group meeting Friday 5th November 4-6pm.

Next council meeting to be held at 6.15pm on Monday 8th November at the Holiday Inn Express, Waterwells, agenda to be issued by 29th October due to Clerk commitments.

The meeting closed at 10.17pm