

MINUTES

Meeting: Hunts Grove Parish Council
Date and time: 8th November 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 Sandra Meecham
Cllr Martyn Holmes via Zoom (non-voting)

Also In Attendance:

County Cllr Stephen Davies
Simon New, PREIM
Lucie Brailsford, Crest Nicholson via Zoom
Julie Shirley, Parish Clerk

114/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

District Cllr Gill Oxley was unable to attend the meeting.

115/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

116/21 MINUTES

Council **resolved** to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11th October 2021.

117/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

118/21 DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL COUNCILLOR REPORTS

County Cllr Stephen Davies gave a report; Stroud District Council did not submit a bid to the Autumn Spending Review however Gloucestershire County Council did and will receive funds to improve footpath links from the canal. Cllr Davies and Cllr Ryder are in discussions with Highways about Harrier Way junction and the bridge over the A38; Highways will meet with both Hunts Grove Parish Council and Hardwicke Parish Council once a design is finalised. Cllr Ryder raised a concern with Cllr Davies that GCC Highways liaise with

the Parish Council regarding A38 access as Crest Phase 4 will be coming soon and it will be important that the second access is open rather than adding additional load to the Waterwells access.

There was discussion regarding Haresfield Lane eastern access to residents of Haresfield. This is closed at the moment, however there is a planning condition that Haresfield residents will have two-way access to a small car park at the community building site so they can access Hunts Grove facilities. This should have been delivered already and is late according to the planning condition. Cllr Ryder is following this up on behalf of Haresfield Parish Council and asks Cllr Davies to check the status from GCC Highways perspective as works seem to be being done.

Cllr Ryder also drew Cllr Davies' attention to Cross Keys roundabout signage that limits the access to 7.5T and also directs vehicles to Haresfield and Harescombe on a route which is no longer available. Cllr Ryder will send photos of the specific signs to Cllr Davies to discuss with Highways and should be marked up as a no-through road.

District Cllr Mark Ryder circulated his report prior to the meeting and confirmed that the reference to Sharpness has been removed from the Leisure & Wellness Strategy, and all efforts will be made to secure provision of a new fitness facility and pool in the north of the District, ideally located between Hunts Grove and Great Oldbury. Cllr Ryder has a meeting with the district council adoption team regarding Phase 1 Adoption reference SUDS, commuted sums and timelines. Cllr Ryder has been working with other District Councillors regarding the Redrow development on the A38, specifically regarding concerns on access as it appears to be directly opposite the Hunts Grove access. The Local Plan Review has been formally submitted to Secretary of State for Housing and will now be assessed. Emissions have started to fall across the district from environmental monitoring and are below national guidelines for air quality, Cllr Holmes to take forward for the Community Liaison Group environmental monitoring.

119/21 GLOUCESTERSHIRE CONSTABULARY UPDATES

No update has been received. **Action: Cllr Holmes will request an update prior to the next meeting.**

120/21 DEVELOPMENT SITE UPDATES

- a) Council received an update from Crest Nicholson; a number of updates have been received via email including notes of the business meeting held on 1st November. Next business meeting to be held provisionally on 20th December. Crest referred to a spreadsheet detailing the commuted sums; **Action: Lucie Brailsford to send spreadsheet to the Parish Council.**

The Parish Council is concerned to hear that works to deliver the allotments and community building may be delayed due to newts and licences. Stroud DC has a district-wide newt licence and the scheme can be subscribed. Crest believe they cannot disaggregate the licence for the allotments area from the wider area licence, **Action Lucie Brailsford to follow-up.** The tree survey will be discussed offline between Lucie and Cllr Hampson; the survey carried out by Crest only included Crest-owned trees; Crest will check who is responsible for the trees not surveyed. Cllr Hampson noted the oaks near to Shorn Brook have dead boughs and need to be followed up with an arboriculturist to ensure safe. Crest is also investigating the "orange residue" in the brook to identify

the cause. **Action: Lucie Brailsford to follow-up concerns about the oak trees and orange residue in the brook.** It was also noted that Four Seasons tidied up the work undertaken by an unknown person carrying out grass strimming.

- b) Council received an update from PREIM; information concerning the management fees and contract has been circulated to the Parish Council and can be publicised on the council’s website. PREIM has specific FAQs for Hunts Grove that can also be published on the website. **Action: Simon New to send the FAQs to the Council.** Cllr Ryder invited PREIM to have a page on the council’s website to share information with the community, it was noted that this is done at Tadpole Garden Village development and also contained within in the Hunts Grove Section 106 agreement. **Action: Simon New to follow-up on website information.**

Handover update: Crest has signed off on the costs to fund the remedial works for sections B, C and D. A schedule will be produced for the work to be completed and shared with residents. PREIM will pick up the ongoing maintenance as each area is remedied. Bellway is also commencing the handover phase to PREIM.

PREIM is in the process of ordering Christmas trees for all its sites and asked the Parish Council for suggested locations in the village; entrance to the village and also the school were suggested. **Action: Clerk to contact the headteacher of the primary school and copy in Simon New.**

PREIM has suggested that the Parish Council visit Tadpole Garden Village with PREIM to see how they manage the maintenance of the site and work with the community.

Cllr Hampson mentioned the “orange residue” in the brook to Simon New.

- c) Colethrop Farm Ltd (CFL) updates: Cllr Ryder has discussed the potential new application with SDC Planning.
- d) Council received an update from Cllr Holmes regarding site managers meeting arrangements; Cllr Holmes has invited all the site managers to a meeting, responses received from Bellway and David Wilson Homes who are planning to leave site soon and felt little value in attending a meeting at this stage. **Action: Cllr Holmes will re-issue the invitation and highlight the relevancy of attending a meeting despite plans to finish on site.**
- e) Council received an update from Cllr Ryder regarding the Phase 1 Adoption Status Update; there is a meeting on 17th September and Councillors were invited to provide any items to Cllr Ryder for the meeting.

121/21 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

- a) Council has agreed with Crest Nicholson that Council will hold-off updating the monthly maintenance report to allow Crest time to respond to the last review. Maintenance information to be collated and held for the December report. Council can report safety issues with trees direct to Tetrattech.

- b) Health & Safety Issues: missing drain covers by the school have been replaced; Crest will assess the old farm cistern. It is understood a replacement part has been ordered for the play equipment.
- c) There were no actions and matters arising; a report will be compiled for December and grouped by location.

Simon New left the meeting.

122/21 PLANNING

- a) Council considered the planning application S21/2407/HHOLD 7 Hunts Grove Drive, Hardwicke construction of rear extension; Council **resolved** to submit No Objection. **Action: Clerk.**
- b) There were no urgent planning applications received after agenda issued for council to consider.

123/21 HIGHWAYS UPDATE

- a) Response and actions from letter to Crest re construction traffic; the situation has improved and traffic marshall under review. No further actions to consider.
- b) Harrier Way Junction update; there are recommendations from GCC Highways to address the concerns of the turning radius, safety and removal of trees to improve sight lines. A response has been received from Stagecoach supporting the concerns about the junction. Council is awaiting results of the discussion between Crest and Highways. There will be traffic lights on Harrier Way when the road is re-surfaced with concerns about how this will impact traffic. Cllr Ryder suggested to Crest that it would be beneficial to open Hunts Grove Drive to traffic the full length. The bridge across Shorn Brook by the Phase 1 play park is in place and the road is already almost complete and linked through to Harrier Way south of the school. This would provide an alternative route for residents to avoid Harrier Way during the highways works. **Action: Crest to consider and feedback.**
- c) A38 junction works & construction traffic routing; Crest have planning consent for all phase 4, concerns about increased traffic through the Waterwells access . A38 junction works are required and Crest are chasing this too. The A38 junction works may put a pause on phase 4 occupations; this will need to be monitored.
- d) Council received an update on “hedgehog highway” campaign; 12 signs have been ordered and received. Cllr Ryder has promoted the hedgehog highway on the Council’s website and social media and we have a resident willing to co-ordinate the campaign and engage with the school and residents. Cllr Turner-Wilkes volunteered to co-ordinate from the Parish Council and residents are invited to get in contact if they interested in helping with events, as an example see the Gotherington Hedgehog Trail. **Action: Cllr Turner-Wilkes to get in contact with the volunteer and take the campaign forward.**

- e) Harrier Way Construction Route / Lime Tree Avenue update: Crest has confirmed it will resurface the road include the residents' driveways; thanks were recorded for Crest Nicholson from the Parish Council.

Cllr Hampson raised that there is subsidence on Haresfield Lane. The road will be updated prior to the installation of the sports pitches and car park, an update should be available in the next few days.

Verges maintenance: planting in the verges created a nicer look and acted as a deterrent to verge side parking. Council sought assurances that the verges won't be grassed over. **Action: Clerk to write to Crest via Lucie Brailsford and request that the verges are not turfed over.**

Cllr Ryder noted that a resident requested a pedestrian crossing by the school; Highways is unlikely to adopt the road if not built to specification; **Action: Cllr Davies will check with Highways.**

Cllr Davies left the meeting.

124/21 POLICY WORKING GROUP

- a) Council received notes of the meeting held on 5th November 2021;
1. Hunts Grove Parish Council resolved to explore all options for adoption of the common areas and amenities (current and future) at Hunts Grove;
 2. Hunts Grove Parish Council resolved to formally notify all stakeholders that it wishes to enter into negotiation for adoption of the common areas and amenities (current and future) and state that no assets, commuted sums or reserve fund payments should be transferred to the Hunts Grove Management Company Limited (HGMCL) until such time the negotiation is concluded;
- b) Next meeting of the Working Group via Zoom on Friday 19th November at 5pm to conduct blog training and review communications strategy on Friday 3rd December at 4pm.

125/21 FINANCE REPORT

- a) The Clerk presented the finance report for the period ending 27th October 2021, and payments for approval.

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

Invoice Date	Payee	Net	VAT	Gross
30/11/21	Salaries & Expenses	£422.70	£0	£422.70
08/11/21	Sandra Meecham - Hi Vis and Litter Picking equipment	£143.04	£20.71	£163.75
	TOTALS	£565.74	£0.00	£586.45

- b) Council **resolved** to purchase webcam and tripod for meetings at a cost of £132.28.

- c) Council considered the first draft of the budget for 2022/23 and increased the maintenance and professional fees budget headings and added in a budget heading for IT. Budget to be finalised once Stroud District Council confirm the tax base in December 2021. **Action: Clerk to add to next agenda.**
- d) Council **resolved** that council meets the eligibility criteria for the General Power of Competence as set out in the Localism Act 2011 and Council adopted the power.

126/21 PARKS & OPEN SPACES UPDATE

- a) Cllr Turner-Wilkes gave an update at the meeting; as at 7th November the repair to the Lime Tree play area had not been undertaken. Cllr Turner-Wilkes will follow-up with Crest and Tetrattech if the item has not been repaired, and report to HSE if no repair within 48 hours. Council is monitoring the path that runs past Pine Marten as it is becoming slippery where the grit is washing onto the block paving. Adoption of play areas appears to be progressing and the parish council will need to make sure play areas are acceptable prior to SDC adoption.
- b) The updated unauthorised encampments policy draft to be circulated by Cllr Turner-Wilkes to Council for consideration; the policy is to contain a map identifying the known major land owners and reviewed annually so that council can advise the correct landowner if unauthorised encampments take place. **Action: Cllr Turner-Wilkes.**

127/21 ENERGY FROM WASTE

- a) Application for Hunts Grove to join the Community Liaison Group (CLG); the terms of reference for the group is currently being updated and Hunts Grove Parish Council will be included.
- b) There was no update on the Environmental Monitoring Systems; the system is currently offline and due to be removed at the end of the year. The figures haven't raised any concerns to date; any financial contributions to continue the monitoring is likely to be pro-rata'd based on the number of households in the parish.
- c) There was no update on CLG grant applications as yet; **Action: Cllr Holmes to follow-up the application.**

128/21 GROUPS, EVENTS AND PROJECTS

- a) Cllr Meecham gave a brief update on the Hunts Grove Wombles; the group now have volunteers that litter pick on other days. The hi-vis vests have arrived, paid for from the County Council grant. The next litter pick is Saturday 13th November. The entrance to Hunts Grove has been tidied up and new plants planted, thanks have been passed on to Crest Nicholson. Redrow has approached Cllr Ryder to see if there are any activities their staff can volunteer to do in the community, eg litter picking.
- b) Military Memorial Project, to receive an update from Cllr Holmes; Royal British Legion do not get involved with new memorials however Cllr Holmes has been in touch with War Graves Commission who will support the project. It was noted that there is section 106 funding for public art that may

be suitable for a memorial. **Action: Cllr Holmes to put together some suggestions of a memorial for the next meeting.**

- c) "20 is plenty" Project, to receive an update from Cllr Turner-Wilkes; prices have been requested for the flash-up signs. A further update to be given when the information has been received.
- d) Cllr Meecham gave an update on Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022, 70 years of service. Cllr Meecham posted on social media a request for volunteers and has had two come forward so far, at least two more volunteers will be needed to help with arrangements.

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

129/21 WEBSITE AND COMMUNICATIONS

Council will prioritise communications and work on the strategy at the working group meeting on 19th November. Council will also start to look at a newsletter, however priority will be on the website blog initially.

130/21 PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS (INFORMATION ONLY)

No further updates.

Next working group meetings 19th November and 3rd December.

Next council meeting to be held at 6.15pm on Monday 13th December at the Holiday Inn Express, Waterwells.

The meeting closed at 9.21pm.