

MINUTES

Meeting: Hunts Grove Parish Council Meeting
Date and time: 13th February 2023 at 6.15pm
Venue: Hunts Grove Primary Academy

Present:

Cllr Mark Ryder (Chair)
Cllr Demelza Turner-Wilkes
Cllr Kevin Thorne
Cllr Sandra Meecham (via Microsoft Teams – non-voting)

Also In Attendance:

County Cllr Stephen Davies (until 6.50pm)
Ms L Brailsford, Crest Nicholson representative (via Microsoft Teams)
One member of public (Mr T Foster).

402/23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Adam Hampson.
District Cllr Oxley.

403/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

404/23 MINUTES

- a) Council **resolved** to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 9th January 2023.
- b) Council reviewed the outstanding actions.

405/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of public was present following attendance at a House of Commons apprenticeship event where he met Siobhan Baillie MP and was interested in the progress with Crest.

406/23 DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCIL COUNCILLOR REPORTS

County Councillor Stephen Davies reported on County Council matters; full council to review the 2023/24 budget this month, no services have been cut. There is an amendment to the budget for County Council to include provision for more grit bins. Secondhand electrical appliances can be registered even if out of warranty so that any recalls can be notified. 36 highways teams each day are repairing potholes. Climate

change progress update report – 66,000 trees planted, increase in recycling, and ordered 1,000 EV chargers for installation. Gloucestershire reduced co2 emissions by 12% compared to the national average of 10%. The Clerk read out the update from Gloucestershire Highways regarding the A38 junction and forwarded the email to Cllr Davies for follow-up on timescales.

District Councillor Mark Ryder reported on District Council matters; £19.1m operating budget for SDC, with a proposed 3% increase. Community Governance Review working group are considering the responses received through the phase 1 consultation. National Highways had requested a one-month extension to consider the Symmetry project adjacent junction 12. A representative of National Highways has contacted Cllr Ryder to discuss the local area. 5g coverage is likely to improve at Hunts Grove, a new mast is to be installed on the opposite side of the M5 by the footbridge and railway.

407/23 TO ADOPT THE PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL CHARTER WITH STROUD DC

It was **resolved** to adopt the Parish and Town Council Charter with Stroud DC.

408/23 GROUPS, EVENTS & PROJECTS

- a) Council received an update from the Hunts Grove Wombles.
- b) Council received an update on the Easter Community Day, 1st April 2023. Venue may change from public open space to the school's grounds, awaiting an update from the school, this is due to the difficulty in vehicles accessing the picnic area on the public open space.
- c) Council received an update on the King's Coronation celebration on Sunday 7th May 2023. The bands and music teacher are booked. A grant application has been submitted to Awards for All.

409/23 DEVELOPMENT SITE UPDATES

- a) Update from Crest Nicholson; Lucie will follow up the A38 junction matter with Gloucestershire Highways. Several emails have been received regarding the public open space behind Bellway homes, the approved plans have been shared with the residents. The green safety surface on the main public open space has been re-laid following damage from people walking on the surface before it had hardened. Crest were also asked if they would like to donate 1kg of wildflower seeds to support the Council's "Bee-Squared" initiative, which would make 200 seed packets.

Action: Lucie.

- b) Council received an update from Cllr Ryder following the meeting with Crest Nicholson and Stroud District Council reference the management company. The legal position remains to be clarified. The next meeting with Crest and Stroud DC has been arranged for 20th March. Council to discuss further at its Policy Working Group meeting 3rd March.

410/23 PLANNING

- a) Council considered the following planning applications:
 - i. Quadrant Distribution Centre, Prospective Outline Planning presentation was received prior to the meeting and includes starter and smaller units. Councillors were concerned about impact on highways and want to improve cycle and walking links, and await the formal plans.

- ii. S.23/0199/HHOLD, 25 Hoskareslo Close, Side Extension. Council **resolved** to support the application. **Action: Clerk.**
- iii. S.23/0001/FUL, Unit 4A Gateway 12 Business Park Davy Way, Installation of extraction ductwork. Council **resolved** to support the application. **Action: Clerk.**

411/23 POLICY WORKING GROUP

- a) Council reviewed discussions from the Policy Working Group and there were no recommendations to approve.
- b) Council discussed priorities for the next working group – scheduled for Friday 3rd March at 4.30pm and the meeting will focus on CIL and Council priorities.

412/23 GLOUCESTERSHIRE CONSTABULARY UPDATES

Council received the report from the Police. The Police have offered to meet with the Parish Council

413/23 FINANCE AND PROCEDURES

- a) Council received the bank reconciliation and budget analysis for the period ending 31st January 2023.
- b) Council **resolved** to open a 30-day deposit account with Unity Trust currently paying 1.91%. **Action: Clerk.**
- c) Council **resolved** to approve the payments as below.

Invoice Date	Payee	Net	VAT	Gross
28/02/23	Salaries & Expenses February 2023	£459.30	£0	£459.30
01/02/23	Cloudy Group Ltd – February 2023	£43.00	£8.60	£51.60
20/01/23	Robinswood Trust	£599.00	£0	£599.00
30/01/23	Greenbarnes Ltd	£3449.40	£689.88	£4139.28
27/01/23	Glasdon UK Ltd	£497.02	£99.40	£596.42
	TOTALS	£5047.72	£797.88	£5845.60

414/23 COUNCIL RECEIVED THE CLERK’S REPORT

415/23 PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr Thorne is progressing the Active Travel actions.
 Councillors will start delivering the welcome leaflets on 18th February.
 Cllr Turner-Wilkes has requested a meeting with Crest to go through the RoSPA remedials.

416/23 ENERGY FROM WASTE

- a) Council received an update from the Community Liaison Group (CLG) representative (Cllr Turner-Wilkes).

417/23 SEPARATE BUSINESS

Pursuant to 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting.

The Clerk left the meeting.

- a) Council considered the Pension report and compared the Nest pension scheme with Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). Council noted that LGPS was quite costly for the employer in terms of set-up costs and financial implications if employees take early retirement. Council **resolved** to confirm Nest as the workplace pension provider and agreed 15% employer contribution rate to be reviewed in the future as Council hoped it would be able to match the same contribution rate as the Local Government Pension Scheme (24.8%).

418/23 RECURRING ITEMS TO NOTE

There were no updates to the recurring items.

NEXT MEETINGS

- a) Council noted arrangements for the next Meeting of the Parish Council taking place on Monday 13th March 2023 at 6.15pm.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm.