

MINUTES OF HAMBRIDGE AND WESTPORT PARISH COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10th APRIL 2024
IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, HAMBRIDGE VILLAGE HALL

24/1125 PRESENT:

Cllr. S. Denley (Chairman), Cllr. P. Masters (Vice Chair), Cllr. R Maidment, Cllr. R Meecham, & Mrs. L. Brooks (Clerk). There was 1 member of the public present.

24/1126 APOLOGIES:

Cllr G. Hill

Cllr. A. Dance (Unitary Councillor)

Cllr. J. Roundell-Greene (Unitary Councillor)

24/1127 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Nothing to report.

24/1128 MINUTES:

The Minutes from the March meeting had been circulated. They were agreed as being an accurate account of the meeting and signed.

Proposed: Cllr. Masters

Seconded: Cllr. Maidment

Agreed unanimously.

24/1129 PUBLIC TIME

24/1129/a Public Time:

The MOP present informed us that the room hire will now be £30 for the community ‘drop in’ taking place on 13th April. She also requested some funding for refreshments for the community ‘drop in’ taking place on 13th April. The Parish Council agreed to donate £20 for this.

The Parish Council will pay HWRT the £20 as the Parish Council are unable to donate to an individual

Proposed: Cllr. Masters

Seconded: Cllr. Maidment

Agreed unanimously

24/1129/b Unitary Councillor report:

No report for April had been received and neither Unitary Councillor was present.

24/1129/c P.C.S.O. Report:

Nothing to report.

24/1130 MATTERS ARISING

24/1130/a Services – any updates on: provision of/ what will be statutory/costs?

The Clerk updated the Parish Council on an email she had written to the Communications Lead to Services at SC, questioning the lack of information coming from SC to Parish Councils and the waste of time and money being spent with regards to the LCNs. The Clerk had received a response to say the email had been escalated this to the Service Director, Sara Skirton, plus the development lead for LCNs for their comment. The clerk would keep the Parish Council updated.

24/1130/b Defibrillator

The defibrillator would be fitted as soon as possible and registered.

Action: Chair Cllr Denley/ Cllr Meecham

24/1130/c March LCN meeting

There was no report available following the last LCN meeting.

24/1130/d Ranger – update on costs plus work required

The Parish Council discussed the rise in the hourly rate from £23.79 to £45.67 and agreed this was unacceptable and certainly not sustainable. It was agreed to end the contract with immediate effect with SC for the Ranger scheme.

Proposed: Cllr. Meecham

Seconded: Cllr. Maidment

Agreed unanimously

The Parish Council would speak to the local odd job man in the village – Max Von Tyszka and find out his hourly rate and whether he would be interested in some general maintenance work around both villages as and when jobs occur. The Chairman will speak to him.

Action: The Chair Cllr Denley

24/1131 PLANNING:

24/1131/a Matters for report:

24/1131/b Decisions Notified:

Nothing to report.

24/1131/c Applications for consideration.

Nothing to report.

24/1132 FINANCE:

24/1132/a Matters for report

End of 4th quarter accounts

Unity Trust Bank Current account £ 21,761.07

Total as cash book £ 21,761.07

The accounts will now go to the internal auditor for final check/inspection and then be signed off as an accurate record of accounts.

The Clerk explained that due to both our expenditure and income for 2023/24 coming under £25,000, this means we can certify ourselves as exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.

24/1132/b Matters for Resolution

Nothing to report

24/1132/c Cheques Payable:

All paid via Unity Trust Bank – direct online transfer.

PAYMENTS DUE		
Louise Brooks	Salary – March 2024	£ 452.17
HMRC	NI & PAYE March 2024	£ 119.00
Louise Brooks	Expenses & home office Allowance - March 2024	£ 40.00
Somerset Council	Ranger's hours for March 2024	£ 633.77
Max Von Tyszka	2 x Mowing of recreation field – March 24	£ 280.00
HWRT	Room hire for PC meetings Sept 23-March24 (7meetings)	£ 70.00
HWRT	Room hire for PC meetings April 24-Mar25 (11 meetings)	£ 110.00

Proposed: Cllr. Masters

Seconded: Cllr. Meecham

Agreed unanimously.

24/1133 CORRESPONDENCE:

The Clerk reported that all correspondence received had been forwarded to the Parish Councillors.

24/1134 FOOTPATHS:

Clerk reported that any footpath issues to be reported straight to SCC Rights of Way Officer. The Clerk reported that she had been informed that the ROW Warden will be leaving SC at the end of this month.

24/1135 MEMBERS' REPORTS/ITEMS FOR NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

A Parish Councillor reported that the two 30mph signs near the church are very faded. Clerk to report.

Action: Clerk

24/1136 Items for next Agenda:

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th May 2023 at 7.30 pm in the village hall.

PLEASE NOTE - THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE BEFOREHAND STARTING AT 7.15PM