

# HARTINGTON UPPER QUARTER PARISH COUNCIL

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023 at 7:30pm

Present:

Cllrs Ray Mellor (vice chair), Simon Oliver , Michael Staden, Sterndale Moor Social Club Chairman Andrew Walker ( from STERNDALE MOOR)

T Staden (Clerk). Two members of the Public- Andrew Bennett, Sharon McSherry

10/05/2023

Apologies for absence 1.1

Linda Grooby

10/05/2023

Election of Chair and Vice Chair 2.1

Ray Mellor was elected as chair- proposed Michael Staden, seconded Simon Oliver.

Simon Oliver was proposed for vice chair position by Michael Staden, seconded by Ray Mellor.

Both were elected unanimously.

10/05/2023

Minutes of the last Parish meeting held Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2023

3.1

These were approved as a true record, proposed by Ray Mellor, seconded by Simon Oliver and signed by the Chair.

10/05/2023

Matters arising

4.1

SMSC Chairman Andrew Walker informs that a local joiner wishes to convert the old phone box at Sterndale Moor into a community book shack. The councillors confirm they are happy for this conversion to

a book shack from a phone box to be made , providing the joiner does not bill the parish council for work or time.

10/05/2023

4.2

Erection of gates at the property next door to the Parish Hall- The public meeting where locals and property owners were given the opportunity to discuss their opinions , was held on May The 9<sup>th</sup> 2023. The public await the minutes taken at the meeting.

10/05/2023

Chair's Report

5.1

The chairs' report could not be obtained due to the former chair ( John Bennets') ill health. The previous chair sent their apologies for the lack of the report.

Financial statement

10/05/2023

Sterndale Moor – playground repairs.

6.1

Chair Ray Mellor recently checked the repairs. Repairs have been made. He has also removed bolts that “ were a nuisance” . He informs the councillors and public that he is to talk to Playdale in order to see whether the Parish Council can purchase new boards to replace the current boards that are worn.

10/05/2023

Financial Statement

7.1

A financial statement could not be presented as the council continues to deal with banking problems and the changing of signatories and postal addresses.

Simon Oliver explained to the councillors and the public what himself and the clerk could understand from the accounts 2020-2021 , which the external auditors are unsatisfied with, ( see below the understandings of the accounts for that year and what the problems are and what needs to be rectified). He also confirmed The Clerk and himself completed the task which Wendy Amis from DALC recommended a councillor and The Clerk do: meet to go through the accounts.

VC S.Oliver and The Clerk had met afore the meeting in order to understand the accounts, and what required amending.

VC S. Oliver informed the public that grants were applied for in order to repair the toilets, heating , septic

tank, re-plastering and redecorating . Former cllr Andrew Bennett confirmed that he did not see any quotes for the majority of the work completed , he recalls that the heating system installation was quoted for.

It was also pointed out that some minutes for the years 2020 and 2021 were missing , Andrew Bennet believed they may be missing due the Covid Lockdown.

VC S.Oliver explained that not all monies spent from grants received could not be accounted for.

It appeared one former councillor ,who was part of the council during those years ,completed the majority of the applications for grants, correspondences show this.

Accounts for 2020-2021 need to be made available for public scrutiny.

The internal auditor( whom handled the accounts for that year 2020-2021) wishes to have no involvement with the matter .

It appears the former clerk has published the 2020-2021 audits , but without the internal auditor signing important items that require signing off.

To amend the issues with the banking , the councillors and clerk had proposed( the evening before ) a meeting date and time to visit the bank and make the changes of address, signatories and to obtain statements in order for the accounts for 2022-2023 to be completed.

10/05/2023

8.1

Items of account.

A statement from 3<sup>rd</sup> MAY 2023 was displayed to the councillors .

As of the 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2023 the bank balance stands at £20772.44

10/05/2023 9.1

Parish Hall- Maintenance plans. Provision of disabled facilities , maintenance plan . Bookings report .

Chair Ray Mellor informs he has had no correspondences from the architect regarding the provision of disabled facilities . Chair Ray Mellor agreed to looking into a ramp for the front doorway in order to make disabled access easier.

A parishioners wife struggled accessing the building due to lack of disabled facilities .

Ray agreed to take measurements of the front door and fire door way bottoms , so that the parish council can look into getting ramps for both doorways.

9.2

3

It was suggested by VC Simon O that Michael Staden is to obtain quotes for repairs in the hall; the large window , where there is a large piece of ceiling miss-

ing subsequently causing serious leakages during heavy rainfall. The ladies toilet and the leaking skylight in the kitchen.

CHR Ray Mellor seconded VC Simon Os' proposal of Cllr M Staden to obtain quotes for above work that needs to be completed.

#### Highways. 10.1

Chair Ray Mellor confirms he has had no further contact made from Derbyshire County Council regarding the refilling of grit bins on Brandside and for Brandside to be put on the snow ploughing rota during winter months.

10/05/2023

#### Any Other business 11.1

Cllr Michael Staden reports that the school bus shelter at Sterndale Moor is in poor state. The floor is rotting. Andy Walker from Sterndale Moor Social Club commented he would find out whether the said bus shelter is the property of SMSC or HUQPC and whom should complete these repairs.

#### 11.2

Eva White responded to The Clerk that SMSC wished not to take responsibility of the defibrillators' maintenance. Previously the support and funds were received from HUQPC. CHR Ray Mellor confirmed the pads do not yet require replacing as this was done recently. He did state however, that the battery will require replacing in the near future. SMSC Chairman Andy Walker commented that he will be in touch soon to discuss the battery.

#### 11.3

VC S.Oliver and The Clerk Tarrah Staden discussed they have gained access to the HUQPC website.

Agendas and minutes from this year 2023, have been updated.

The maps section of the website currently displays nothing, this requires amending.

Photos of the work and improvements made to the parish hall since the photos currently uploaded, require to be taken and uploaded.

12.1 Correspondences- Hannah Roberts, business services from DCC, emailed Cllr Staden regarding an upgrade from footpath (102) to bridleway in Goyt Valley. Simon Oliver agreed to make contact to gain an understanding what exactly and if anything, the type of involvement the Parish Council has with Goyt Valley.

#### 10/05/2023 Public comments.

Andrew Bennet enquired after the situation with the Parish Hall bookings. The Clerk assured him that there are numerous bookings throughout the year and that invoices continue to be sent out, confirmation that customers are paying the amount asked of them can be confirmed once the banking issues have been resolved.

10/05/2023 Meeting closed at 20:50pm

Date and time of next meeting, CHAIR SUGGESTS 7TH JUNE AT 7:30PM.

