

Huish Episcopi Parish Council

Clerk: Julie Ferguson

Tel: 07783 475200 E-mail: clerk@huishepiscopi-pc.gov.uk

Minutes of a Meeting of Huish Episcopi Parish Council held at Huish Episcopi Primary School on Monday 17 February 2025 at 19:00hrs.

Present: Councillors (Cllrs) – Rob Crumb, Julia Gadd (Chair), Arwyn Harris, Peter Porter, Jane Redfearn, Val Saunders, John Wood (7).

In attendance: J Ferguson – Parish Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENT (15 minutes) - 4 members of the public were present (p/t), and subjects raised: Community Governance - Whilst the Chairs of both HEPC and LTC had been personally contacted to attend the recent SC Constitution and Governance Committee meeting where the Community Governance Review was discussed, the clerk advised that the Parish Council had not been notified of the meeting. The Chair of LTC advised that Langport had agreed to be a transport hub along with £500k funding to deliver the hub.

OUTSIDE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

- **Somerset Councillors (SCllrs)** – SCllr Wilkins reported that SC were still working to deliver a balanced budget. He advised that both he and Cllr Stanton had been substituted at the recent Constitution and Governance Committee meeting due to their position as Somerset Councillors in both parishes.

19:20 - Meeting opened.

24/138 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Apologies had been received from:

Cllr Lock – Personal. Accepted

Cllr Horsgood – prior engagement. Accepted.

24/139 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. None.

24/140 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 20 Jan 25.

24/141 MATTERS TO REPORT FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

Request to SC to empty the newly installed bin at Kennel Lane.

Meeting with Wessex Water being arranged, it was suggested that Aller PC should be invited once a date had been agreed.

ACTION: Clerk

24/142 CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE. Noted.

- [Traffic Regulation Order 34 Notice.](#)
- SALC Community Health & Wellbeing Grants.
- Levels & Moors LCN meeting notes, dates and bulletins.
- Thank you from Landmark Langport.
- Langport Transport Group Progress Report.
- Email from Chair of Stoke St Mary PC regarding Planning Policy for Somerset.
- Email from resident to request a reduction in the 60mph speed limit through Pibsbury.
- Letter from Cllr Smith-Roberts asking for £5K grant for Art Engagement & Outreach Service.
- [LGBCE Consultation deadline extension.](#)

24/143 PLANNING – Decisions REPORT. Noted.

- [22/03408/FUL.](#) Land Adj North of Poolmead Poolmead Lane Huish Episcopi. TA10 9SB. The erection of 2No. detached dwellings. **Approved.**
- [22/03274/FUL.](#) Hill Farm Wood Drove Huish Episcopi TA10 0DD. Retention of a small cabin for private and holiday use and of associated vehicular access (retrospective). **Refused.**

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- c. [22/03275/FUL](#). Hill Farm Wood Drove Huish Episcopi TA10 0DD. Use of land for the siting of 5 canvas lodges / tents for holiday use & associated farm shop and the retention of associated vehicular access (retrospective). **Refused.**

24/144 PLANNING – Applications. **None.**

24/145 FINANCE - To **REPORT** January 25 receipts. Noted.

Jan 25 RECEIPTS		
Payee	Particulars	Amount
GREENSLADE TAYLOR HUNT	FBT-22.56 ACRE RENT	£ 1,300.02
TOTAL		£ 1,300.02

24/146 FINANCE – PAYMENT SCHEDULE

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** February 25 payment schedule.

Invoice	Payee	Particulars	Amount
1	TIMEBACK ACCOUNTS	INV 6931 (PAYROLL)	£ 6.00
2	SOMERSET LANDSCAPES LTD	RANGER JAN 25	£ 1,056.00
	TOTAL	Feb-25	£ 1,062.00

24/147 FINANCE – To **CONSIDER** a proposal from Huish Episcopi and Langport Flood Group to apply for grant funds from Somerset Rivers Authority.

A member of the flood group described the work that the group hoped to be able to conduct on Wagg Rhyne with grant funding. Due to the flood group not having a constitution or bank account they were unable to apply for a qualifying grant from SRA. However, the scheme allowed for Parish Councils to provide a level of administration whereby a successful grant awarded would be retained by SRA, HEPC would then draw from that fund to pay invoices for work conducted in line with the grant application. The process would be cost neutral to HEPC.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** an application made by Huish Episcopi and Langport Flood Group to Somerset Rivers Authority submitted in the name of Huish Episcopi Parish Council for the purposes of flood prevention measures in the parish.

24/148 FINANCE – Huish & Langport Cricket Club Grant Application for £500

Aims of the club are to offer top standard practice and playing surfaces to the community from ages 11 to 65 years. We have one Saturday teams and one Sunday team and would aspire to having various Youth teams subject to our membership hunt through Schools for new youth members to join the club.

The Club is run by unpaid volunteers who give many hours of their time making this club simply superb. We look forward to the 2025 season and a full playing season for the enjoyment of all members and visiting teams, and the valued spectators and hopeful new joining members. We certainly encourage disabled to play the great summer game we all enjoy.

Funding to support the club's costs and aims to encourage more players to join the club and the regenerating of the club along with youth development and ensure youth teams are formed of course this is dependent on youth numbers joining. We have and will continue to liaise with local Schools advising of our intentions.

Funding will go towards obtaining equipment, ensuring the ground, and playing areas are kept in their superb condition by the club volunteers. coaches.

Alos receive funding from Members Subscriptions Payments & Match Fees

Also applying to Langport Town Council, Sport England, Groundwork UK (via Tesco Langport)

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** a grant application from Huish & Langport Cricket Club for **£500**

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24/149 PARISH – To CONSIDER a proposal (Cllr Wood):

To agree to elect a team to establish the cost for future purchasing, or otherwise, part or all the Glebe land south of the War Memorial and HEPC car park from the Diocese of Bath and Wells for HEPC & LTC community uses.

Proposed for consideration but not limited to:

- possible extension to the HEPC car park, including a bus area.
- use of part for various community buildings
- outdoor community facilities, such as a bowling green.
- an area for a marquee for use at weddings, birthdays, and funerals
- toilet facility
- community allotment
- start-up business units

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** Cllrs Wood, Gadd and Redfearn approaching the Diocese of Bath and Wells to establish the cost for future purchase of all or part of the Glebe land south of the War Memorial.

24/150 SKATEPARK – To APPROVE a skatepark on land jointly owned with Langport Town Council.

Skate Langport request that each of The Grantors (Huish Episcopi Parish Council, Langport Town Council & Huish Episcopi and Langport Memorial Field Management Committee) provides evidence of a formal agreement allowing them the confidence to seek quotes, obtain funding and continue to deliver a skatepark. It is probable that external contractors will be awarded the contract to undertake this work, which may include an organisation called Maverick Skateparks Ltd. They in turn, may subcontract some elements of the project and construction to other contractors. In return Skate Langport will provide regular updates to The Grantors, which will include design, construction detail, funding and general progress reports. If for any reason, the curtilage of the skatepark extends beyond the previously agreed area (Grid reference ST 42266 26844 or lat/long: 51.038038, -2.8248113) then Skate Langport will seek the permission of The Grantors prior to any extended works taking place.

Funding for this facility has already been identified and secured through Section 106 developer's contributions. Consent to use this funding for the provision of a skatepark has already been approved. There are no known additional funding implications associated to this project.

RESOLVED: To **SUPPORT** a skatepark being installed at Huish Episcopi and Langport Memorial Field. It was to be noted that HEPC, as Custodian Trustees were not able to grant permission from a legal viewpoint.

24/151 REPORTS – To receive reports and consider any future agenda items¹:

- a. Allotments. Annual rents were being collected. The waiting list was currently 9.
- b. Committees
- c. Working Parties

E&AWP – Cllr Saunders had circulated their 1st draft report and was investigating methods of promotion in surrounding villages.

- d. Parish Councillors

Cllr Gadd gave a report from attending the Constitution and Governance Committee meeting, where she was permitted to speak for 3 minutes. She explained that there may be a further public meeting however a referendum was unlikely, probably due to the cost to SC. There was

¹ The agenda specifies the business that it is proposed to transact (Local Government Act 1972 Sch.12 para 10 (2)(b)) and the Council cannot lawfully decide any matter which is not specified in the agenda (Longfield Parish Council v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119) a

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some discussion regarding the legality of taking this forward without a referendum, it was suggested that the 2007 & 2015 LGA would detail any requirement.

Cllr Gadd also reported that she had attended the 2 recent Somerset Local Plan meetings, with the Chair of Langport Town Council.

Cllr Saunders reported from an ABP meeting where noise from HGV refrigeration units running throughout the night had been raised, being an issue to residents as far away as St Mary's Park and Pibsbury. The cost to the Parish Council of emptying the additional bins requested was noted by ABP.

Cllr Redfearn had met with both Huish Academy Business Manager and Head of Physical Education who were invited to attend a future PC meeting to present future project and plans for the Sports Centre. The grant application would be re-submitted at a future meeting with the details requested.

Cllr Porter reported SC had stated they were too busy to look at the S106 application for funds for the Memorial Field Changing Room project, which was now going to be held up. This was very disappointing, and Cllr Wilkins agreed to investigate and assist.

24/152 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- Speed limit reduction through Pibsbury.
- Social Media Strategy

24/153 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – Monday 17 March 2025 at 7.00pm, Huish Episcopi Primary School, Langport, TA10 9RW. All agenda items to be notified to the clerk by Fri 7 Mar 25.

20:40 – Meeting Closed