Huish Episcopi Parish Council

Clerk: Julie Ferguson

Tel: 07365 293954 **E-mail**: clerk@huishepiscopiparishcouncil.org.uk

Minutes of a Meeting of Huish Episcopi Parish Council held at Huish Episcopi Primary School on Monday 21 October 2024 at 19:00hrs

Present: Councillors (Cllrs) – Rob Crumb, Arwyn Harris, Julia Gadd (Chair), Barry Horsgood, Graham Lock, Peter Porter, Jane Redfearn, John Wood (8).
In attendance: J Ferguson – Parish Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENT (15 minutes) - 9 members of the public was present (p/t) and subject raised:

- Community Arts Event @ St Mary's Church on 21st Dec (Midwinters Night)
- Status report from Landmark Langport, positive outlook with many recent achievements. A grant application for the current year was to be submitted to HEPC, for consideration at the next meeting.
- Discontent from members of HEPC with recent social media campaign including videos and flyers in support of the HEPC/LTC merger. It was to be noted that HEPC did not instigate nor were aware or involved with these activities. Mr Dromgoole said he had paid for the flyers from personal funds.

OUTSIDE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

- **Somerset Councillors (SCllrs) –** SCllr gave an update on the imminent road closures in Langport and gave details about a SC campaign to encourage Foster Carers to come forward, as the cost of caring for a significant number of children was escalating. Anyone considering becoming a Foster Carer should contact SC in the first instance. There were other roles needed in addition, such as volunteer drivers and youth support via the Route 1 Advocacy programme.
  Cllr Harris complained about the paint on footpaths left behind by Gigaclear and the streetlights in St Mary's Close permanently on, despite being reported multiple times over the last year.

19:35 - Meeting opened

24/83 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. Cllr Val Saunders had sent apologies.

24/84 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST. None.

24/85 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 16 Sept 24.

24/86 MATTERS TO REPORT FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING. None.

24/87 CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

- Somerset Day. Noted.
- Somerset Electoral Review. Noted.

24/88 PLANNING – Decisions **REPORT**.
a. 23/01697/S73A. S73A application to vary condition 2 (approved plans) of approval 17/04048/FUL Erection of 23 dwellings and garages, formation of vehicular access and layout of roads and parking areas; to allow for amendments to the original permission. Land To The Rear Of Badger Cottage Newtown Langport. Approved. Noted.

24/89 PLANNING – Applications.

a. 24/01458/FUL. Erection of two dwellings, including access arrangements, landscaping and associated works. Land West of Portway House, Portway, Langport.
RESOLVED: To provide comments as follows:
Huish Episcopi Parish Council **SUPPORT** this application but wish to request that consideration is given to the design of the buildings to ensure they are sympathetic to the neighbouring properties and that the safety of the entrance/exit from the site is given careful consideration as vehicles are frequently travelling at speeds in excess of the 40mph limit on that stretch of road.

b. 24/01934/HOU. Reduce existing chimney heights to eaves level, erection of a new porch, and build a new side dormer to increase top floor internal area. Uplands Field Road Huish Episcopi Langport.
RESOLVED: To **SUPPORT** the application.

c. Request for engagement from Boon Brown (Architect/Town Planner) – 21/00311/OUT Outline planning application for up to 100 dwellings. Land To The North Of Somerton Road Adj The White Bungalow Somerton Road. Provisionally approved by SC.
Cllrs asked for a meeting to be requested on the 7th November 24. LTC indicated they would be able to support this meeting on this date.

ACTION: Clerk

24/90 FINANCE - To **REPORT** September 24 receipts.

Payee	Particulars	Amount
UNITY TRUST BANK	CREDIT INTEREST JUL24-SEPT24	£ 1,206.38
TOTAL		**£ 1,206.38**

Noted.

24/91 FINANCE – To **APPROVE** October 24 payment schedule.

Invoice	Payee	Particulars	Amount
1	TIMEBACK ACCOUNTS	INV 6764 (PAYROLL)	£ 6.00
2	SOMERSET LANDSCAPES LTD	RANGER SEPT 24	tba
3	HUISH EPISCOPI PRIMARY SCHOOL	HALL HIRE SEPT24-AUG25	£ 720.00
4	J WOOD	REIMBURSE DDAY FLAG	£ 23.98
5	LANGPORT TOWN COUNCIL	GRANT (LIGHTS & THROWBAG)	£ 1,140.00
	TOTAL	**Sep-24**	**£ 1,889.98**

RESOVLED: To **APPROVE** the October 24 payment schedule.

24/92 FINANCE - To **APPROVE** the Cashbook/Bank Reconciliation to 30 Sept 2024 and to NOTE the Budget Q2 review (1 Apr 24 – 30 Sept 24).

HUISH EPISCOPI PARISH COUNCIL

Receipts and Payments Summary for the year ending 31st March 2025

	Last Year	This Year	This Year	This Year	This Year
RECEIPTS	**2023/24**	**2024-25**	**Allocated budget**	**Budget remaining**	**Budget remaining (%)**
Precept	£ 73,325.00	£ 88,200.00			
Deposit Interest	£ 3,851.11	£ 2,349.00	£ 2,000.00		
Allotment Rent	£ 1,736.00	£ 152.00	£ 1,728.00		
FBTA/Wayleave/Academy	£ 3,097.92	£ 2,431.67	£ 4,245.77		
VAT refund	£ 1,686.10	£ -			
Other receipts	£ 48.00	£ -			
Donations	£ -	£ -	£ -		
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**£ 83,744.13**	£ 93,132.67	**£ 7,973.77**		
PAYMENTS					
Emoluments	£ 11,243.01	£ 6,150.95	£ 12,500.00	£ 6,349.05	51%
Admin Expenses	£ 2,050.03	£ 963.10	£ 2,500.00	£ 1,536.90	61%
Audit	£ 455.00	£ 465.00	£ 800.00	£ 335.00	42%
Parish maint	£ -	£ 455.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 545.00	55%
Allotments	£ 607.96	£ 340.74	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,159.26	77%
Ranger	£ 8,812.61	£ 3,520.00	£ 12,000.00	£ 8,480.00	71%
Insurance	£ 707.83	£ 758.09	£ 1,000.00	£ 241.91	24%
Car park	£ 555.00	£ 555.28	£ 2,000.00	£ 1,444.72	72%
Subs	£ 913.49	£ 921.43	£ 500.00	-£ 421.43	-84%
Training	£ -	£ 30.00	£ 500.00	£ 470.00	94%
Community Projects	£ 1,320.00	£ 1,915.00	£ 5,000.00	£ 3,085.00	62%
Grants and donations	£ 14,087.10	£ 1,750.00	£ 15,000.00	£ 13,250.00	88%
Grant (Youth Club)	£ 8,000.00	£ 9,000.00	£ 8,800.00	-£ 200.00	-2%
Grant (Memorial Field)	£ 8,500.00	£ 8,500.00	£ 9,350.00	£ 850.00	9%
Trees (Memorial Field)	£ 3,640.00	£ -	£ 2,500.00	£ 2,500.00	100%
Grant (Landmark Langport)		£ -	£ 10,000.00	£ 10,000.00	100%
H-c-L PCC	£ 1,750.00	£ -	£ 2,000.00	£ 2,000.00	100%
War memorial	£ -	£ -	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	100%
Bus Shelter cleaning	£ 135.00	£ -	£ 250.00	£ 250.00	100%
VAT incurred on payments in	£ 1,891.75	£ 1,152.68			
TOTAL PAYMENTS	**£ 64,668.78**	**£ 36,477.27**	**£ 88,200.00**	**£51,722.73**	
Excess of Receipts over Payments		£ 56,655.40			
plus balances b/fwd		£ 183,719.38			
Balances c/fwd	£183,719.38	£ 240,374.78	**CASHBOOK TOTAL**		
RECONCILIATION					
Date: 30 Sept 2024					
Unity Trust Instant Access		**£ 172,803.70**			
Unity Trust Current Account		**£ 16,227.77**			
Nationwide Business Saver		**£ 51,343.31**			
Total balances at bank	-	£ 240,374.78	**BANK TOTAL FROM STATEMENTS**		

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** the Cashbook/Bank Reconciliation to 30 Sept 2024. The Q2 Budget review (1 Apr 24 – 30 Sept 24) was **NOTED**.

24/93 FINANCE – To **CONSIDER** a grant request from Langport Church Community Trust for £1500.
Aims, objectives or activities of the organisation: To provide short term food bank support for those referred to us by official agencies. We have a restricted Food Bank fund within our charity no 1106686. Our current costs are – Rent of two store rooms (paid internally to our charity) £2000, 3 Non trustee Staff part paid/ part volunteers £3000, Purchases - £6,000.
Please state how the funding will benefit residents of Huish Episcopi?
Providing short term relief for those in need, referred to us by GP's, schools, Village Agent (who attends weekly), Citizens Advice, etc. We do not provide a walk in service. Enquirers are signposted to the above agencies before we provide support.
Do you currently receive funding from other sources, from where and how much?
We have survived on grants obtained during covid and public donations since then. We obtain supplies from Inkind Direct at 10-20% of RRP, and purchase protein/ meat foods, locally where possible and occasionally direct to clients home if unable to collect. We collect dry food donations from Tesco, OneStop, the Vets and others. A number of trustee volunteers deliver to homes as required. No trustees are paid.
Are you applying to other funding organisations for support and, if yes, who are they?
Yes, national, and Langport Town Council. Our restricted Food bank fund has declined from £7k to £3k in 8 months, due to increased demand for support and reduced public & company cash donations. We anticipate further increased demand due to the impending abolition of the winter fuel payment
RESOLVED: To APPROVE a grant request from Langport Church Community Trust for £1500.

24/94 FINANCE – To **CONSIDER** a request to sponsor the Portcullis 10k Trail portaloos costing £400.
RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** a grant of £400 for the Portcullis 10K Trail.

24/95 FLOODING – To **CONSIDER** a PC response to recent incidents of flooding in the parish.
Reports of garden and basement flooding in properties on The Avenue had been received via email and a resident spoke in detail about the frequent incidents she had experienced. The PC agreed to arrange a meeting with Wessex Water (LTC to be involved) to understand what was going to be done to fix this problem.

ACTION: Clerk

24/96 REPORTS – To receive reports:

a. Allotments. Quotes for new fence would be on the next agenda. SLL had been instructed to replace the gate, Cllr Crumb was unaware if this had been carried out.
b. Committees. JCC meeting was being arranged for 30th Oct 24.
c. Working Parties
d. Parish Councillors. Cllr Porter explained that the Memorial Field Committee were still experiencing issues with unauthorised parking in their car park. A wider issue with lack of parking in and around Langport was brewing and no solutions were apparent at this time. Cllr Redfearn was meeting with the school head after half term and Cllrs asked that congestion caused by school buses be discussed.
Cllr Wood reported that the Speedwatch Team needed additional volunteers, willing to undertake Chapter 8 training to facilitate moving the SID around the parish, undertaken on a Sunday.

24/97 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- Quotes for Allotment Fence
- Quotes for Noticeboard

24/98 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – Monday 18 November 2024 at 7.00pm, Huish Epsicopi Primary School, Langport, TA10 9RW. All agenda items to be notified by Fri 8 Nov 2024.

20:49 – Meeting closed.