

PARISH COUNCIL OF HILLESLEY AND TRESHAM

Minutes of monthly Meeting

Held at Hopkins Hall, Hillesley on 9th November 2021 at 8.00 pm

Present: Cllr S Lee (chair), Cllr W Cockram, Cllr S Hayward, Cllr M Humphries, Elizabeth Oakley (clerk)

Public Participation. The clerk had made her contact details available for the meeting on agendas, websites, and noticeboards. John Dansie (Cotswold Warden) attended by invitation. Three members of the public attended part of the meeting

Parishioners attending expressed concern about the state of roads especially from the war memorial at Hillesley down Kingswood Rd and at Upper Kilcote. As the chair now had a contact at Highways these can be referred. There was concern about Lower Hawkesbury Rd as an example of motorists parking at junctions especially at the road to the new development. Cyclists coming down from Hawkesbury were seen to be speeding and at risk of serious accidents.

Parishioners said Gigaclear had failed to connect to certain properties and residents affected had received no explanation over the last eighteen month to two-year period. They had been assured of connections at the end of quarter one next year, but this was not until Easter. The lack of connection could be due to viability issues, but no explanation had been received over a long period. Ten properties in Hillesley were not connected plus some at Burton Court, Tresham. The clerk noted contacts for a Gigaclear email senior manager, Gigaclear What's App group for those locally affected and details of the same What's App administrator.

John Dansie (Cotswold Warden) advised of scope for developing walks originally devised for the Jubilee and then readvertise. It would be good to develop circular walks including around Hillesley to Alderley Road. There is a need to improve disabled access and kissing gates would help this. Councillors expressed concern some walks were not passable and not sign posted well. The council would like to support the purchase of kissing gates and triage where to put them when received.

Action points: *the clerk to refer road issues to Highways via the chair; the clerk and chair to contact Gigaclear; the clerk to pursue kissing gates options.*

1. To consider apologies for absence. Apologies had been received from Cllr R Preece, County Cllr L Cohen and District Cllr R Wilsher.

2. To consider declarations of interest in agenda items. There were no declarations.

3. To confirm the minutes of the meeting on 13th October 2021. Confirmed as a true record and signed by the chairman.

4. To review action points from the previous meeting. The clerk reported vacant plots had been allocated to prospective tenants on the waiting list. Contracts were due to be sent to new tenants shortly. Council agreed to prioritize the waiting list for those who did not have an existing plot (and lived in the parish). The clerk had updated the asset list to remove the costs of software thereby reducing the overall value of asset listing by £75. It was noted during recent asset inspections the second seat in Hillesley was not found. Cllr S Hayward agreed to conduct further investigation regarding the whereabouts of the second seat.

Action points: *the clerk to allocate new plot contracts and update policy on the waiting list and revisit the asset listing. Cllr S Hayward to investigate location of the second seat.*

5. To note a report by the Clerk. The clerk thanked Cllr S Hayward for his contribution to budget preparation. Since the recent annual finance meeting the clerk had allocated reserves on a draft basis for the new budget for 2022 to 2023. The full budget would be agenda item at the December meeting. There had been no news of the new national pay award for clerks to be backdated to 1st April 2021; the cheque for the grant award to JFMC had been written and was available to deliver; the clerk's contract did not include an element for home office/broadband use but reimbursement of sundry expenses only; there had been no new grant applications to date but there was time for receipt before the December meeting. Outstanding was updating DPIs table on the website and requesting view only access to the bank account for internal checker.

Action points: *The clerk to update DPIs listing and gain view only access to account details for internal checker. The internal checker to deliver the JFMC grant award by hand.*

6. To note a report by the Chair. The chair had been in contact with the owner of the car park and given clerk's contact details for receipt of correspondence. A former councillor who attended the County and District surgery on Saturday had raised concerns about access to affordable housing and had notified the chair of these. The Countryfile feature on Hillesley would be broadcast on 21st November. The resident with overhanging walls at their property boundary was due a letter from the chair to advise of the danger.

7. To welcome County and District Councillors. Cllr R Wilsher had submitted a report which the clerk had circulated. Cllr L Cohen would submit a monthly report to the clerk shortly after the meeting.

8. Planning applications: To note decisions and consider applications

1. New applications – S.21/2493/HHOLD, Splatts Barn, Hawkesbury Upton, Badminton, Householder application, redevelopment of part of existing single storey cattle shelter range and new extension to form additional living accommodation; - the council agreed to make no comment. S.21/2494/LBC, Splatts Barn, Hawkesbury Upton, Badminton, redevelopment of part of existing single storey cattle shelter range and new extension to form additional living accommodation.- the council agreed to make no comment.

2. Applications dealt with under delegated powers -

3. Decisions –

9. Finance

9.1. To monitor performance to date. Financial reports had been received from the clerk and were satisfactory. The clerk advised the grant award for the school had not been banked. Cllr S Hayward to speak to the chair of governors.
Action points: Cllr S Hayward to follow up the grant award cheque to the school.

9.2. To approve payments (festive funds for Tresham; maps annual fee, Parish OnLine, £60; contribution to Royal British Legion Remembrance wreath). The festive funds receipts for Tresham would be collated and submitted for reimbursement up to £100 total at the December meeting; the Parish OnLine subscription was agreed at £72, (£60 plus VAT); £50 donation agreed to the Royal British Legion.

9.3. To receive update on-line banking arrangements. The clerk distributed login instructions and dongles to councillors now having access to on-line banking for the first time. The clerk had prior ordered on-line payments facility with two signatures but there was no further news.

Action points: clerk to pursue with bank for on-line signatories.

9.4. To consider quotation/s for bus shelter maintenance. One quotation had been received after a site visit with the builder. Two other quotations were needed.

Action points: the chair to follow up contacts for other quotations.

9.5. To consider issue of financial support to churches. The council had received (NALC) advice on terms of grants to churches. A general prohibition had applied since the early days of parish councils, but some later legislation allowed in limited circumstances, (notably for maintenance of closed churchyards), although some grey areas remained in the legislation. The chair would advise the grant applicant of recent advice.

Action points. chair to advise grant applicant.

10. Highways, (road safety) footpaths and waterways. The chair's recent report on Highways issues included the need for signage at Kilcott Road. Types of signs available would be requested from the County Council. Further to the discussion with Cotswold Warden in Public Participation at this meeting, council agreed to order six kissing gates at the discounted rate currently offered.

Action points: chair to send map of proposed sign locations to County Cllr L Cohen and request details of types of signage. The clerk to place an order for kissing gates through the Cotswold Warden.

11. Parish Plan development update. Council agreed to first receive the update on the original report's summary Actions. In updating the plan from this point, it was not expected some concerns would have changed as those such as affordable housing continue. However, new areas are emerging, for example carbon footprints.

Action points: the clerk to invite the former chair to December council meeting to advise on Actions carried out from the original report.

12. To consider update on car park developments. The chair had given the clerk as the contact for correspondence and any queries on transfer issues.

13. To consider arrangements for Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations 2022. Cllr W Cockram's soundings had shown local support for the idea. A paragraph was needed to describe the plan including possible use of the Jubilee Field. Cllr S Hayward advised there would need be sufficient warning of an event to include surrounding residents. It was envisaged a similar event would take place at Tresham.

Action points: Cllr Hayward to speak to the Chair of the JFMC to request that they extend an invitation to Cllr Cockram to discuss the Jubilee celebrations.

14. To consider council website update options. The clerk had received quotations from two recommended website developers. There were some queries on both quotations, including whether designs proposed would be appropriate for mobile phones.

Action points: the clerk to raise queries with developers.

15. To agree date and venue for the next Parish Council meeting. The next meeting was agreed for Tuesday 7th December at 8.00 pm.

Meeting finished at 10.00 pm.

The next meeting of Hillesley & Tresham Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 7th December 2021 at 8.00 pm at Hopkins Hall, Hillesley

I certify that the above minutes are a true record of the above meeting

Signed Date