



Minutes of a meeting of Hilldale Parish Council

Thursday 23rd January 2025, 7.00pm

at Hilldale Village Hall

Participants: Cllr G Ward (Chairman), Cllr S Ashcroft, Cllr I Bell, Cllr D Whittington, and Trish Grimshaw (Parish Clerk).

1. **Apologies for Absence** – None
2. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**
 - a. To receive declarations of interest from Councillors in relation to items on the agenda
 - b. To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests
 - c. To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriateNone received
3. **Public Participation: To adjourn the meeting for a period of public participation.**
4. **Minutes of the previous meeting - to resolve to approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 16.12.24.** It was resolved to approve the minutes proposed by the Chairman and unanimously ratified by all.
5. **Parish Clerks Report (previously circulated).** The Clerk's report was noted. The Clerk updated Parish Councillors with the details of the new contract cleaner who will undertake a regular clean on a Thursday early evening; additional cleans being added as bookings predict. A new broadband and phone line contract was discussed as the existing deal has expired; it was ratified the Clerk go ahead with a similar package which identified a small monthly saving. It was ratified to apply for a grant from WLBC for a new hardwood accessible picnic bench – the Clerk distributed images of sample benches.
6. **Items for information - reports from outside bodies** - None.
7. **To confirm the teams meeting with United Utilities to discuss the plans of the field drainage system (link previously circulated).** The teams meeting took place with all Parish Councillors via zoom on 10th January and a plan of the UU assets was circulated to all. A subsequent e mail from Dawn Bromley at UU stated; “the issue at 11 Springmount Drive was resolved by precision cutting and dig due to concrete in the sewer – this work I complete; Manhole 2301 (bottom corner right hand side of field) was sealed due to flooding out – this manhole has now been completely removed due to the watercourse flooding and entering the foul sewer system. The manhole was never flooding out”. Parish Councillors confirmed there is actual video footage of manhole 2301 flooding out – the Clerk to notify UU of this fact.
8. **To receive the e mail correspondence and CCTV footage from CJ Lyon.** Following discussions with CJ Lyon regarding the second invoice, the Clerk was pleased to report the second invoice has been withdrawn.
9. **To discuss progress with the installation of LED lighting in the kitchen and office.** The Clerk reported the electrician did not turn up for the appointment to replace the lighting; the Clerk has made contact with another electrician for a quotation.

10. **To receive an update on the stage curtain.** There has been a slight delay by the stage company making the curtain due to a shortage of materials. The curtain has been measured again and it is anticipated this will be completed and fitted in the next few weeks.
11. **To receive the draft wording in relation to the emergency contact sign and agree the location and installation of the sign.** It was ratified to go ahead with draft wording (previously circulated) which included what 3 words. The Clerk to order a sign.
12. **To discuss progress of the SpID.** The draft questionnaire to be included in the newsletter (28 days consultation) was agreed. It was ratified to obtain a solar panel for each post.
13. **To discuss and agree the schedule of coppicing of the hazel on the field. It was ratified to coppice the hazels every 7 years on a rolling programme.** A quotation will be obtained from Laurence to cut the second hazel. Residents to be advised when this will take place to enable them to take any hazel branches.
14. **To agree a date for publication of the spring newsletter and take suggestions of items for inclusion.** The Clerks draft newsletter was agreed, the Clerk to arrange printing and will endeavour to bring the newsletters to the HCA coffee morning for distribution.
15. **Planning Matters – to discuss and decide a response (if applicable to planning applications together with any received after the agenda is published.**
16. **To review and finalise the second draft budget proposal for the 2025/2026 financial year.** Following discussion minor amendments to utility and broadband costs and additional funding sources for projects created a balanced budget.
17. **To confirm the precept for 2025/26 financial year after receiving confirmation of the Council tax base and subsidies from WLBC. It was ratified:**

Support Grant 2025/26 Tax Base 269.43 (down 2.23 from 271.66)

Precept Required before 2025/26 Grant	£17,943.00 (5% increase)
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Less Council Tax Support Grant	495.00
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Precept to be raised from Council Tax	£17,448.00
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Precept to be raised from Council Tax £17,448.00 with a tax base of 269.43 gives a Band D equivalent Tax level of £64.76 and increase of £1.95

18. **To consider and approve the schedule of account for payment.** Approved.

19. **Financial reports – to ratify accounts and authorise payments.** Approved.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19.58

Clerk: Trish Grimshaw E mail: Clerk@hilldaleparishcouncil.gov.uk

Signed..... G Ward G WARD, CHAIRMAN, Dated 06.03.25