

**Minutes of the Meeting of Hartshill Parish Council**  
**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021 – 10am Online remote meeting**

**Councillors:** Chairman Councillor Roberts, Councillor Lees, Councillor Sharp

**In attendance:** Parish Clerk & 1 member of the public

**Apologies:** Cllr Wood (Work Commitments), Pearson (Work Commitments), Parker (Work Commitments) – All apologies accepted by the Council.

**Absent:** Cllr Thomason

**1)- Welcome and apologies**

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

**2) Procedural items**

Councillors are reminded that they must act solely in the public interest and should never improperly confer an advantage or disadvantage on any person, or act to gain financial or other material benefits for yourself, your family, a friend, or close associate – Noted.

**3) Declarations of Interest**

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, s81 and the Parish Councils (Model code of Conduct) Order 2001, members are asked to declare any personal interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting as well as any gifts or hospitality received. This requirement applies to elected members and co-opted members – Noted.

**4) Chairman's Announcement**

In the interests of openness and transparency, Councillors and members of the public are reminded that the law permits any person to film, record, photograph or use social media to report on the proceedings of a meeting of the Council or its Committees when they are open to the public. This does not extend to live verbal commentary. Filming and photography will only be permitted from the area designated. No flash photography or additional lighting should be used without prior consent. Anyone wishing to report on the meeting should notify the Clerk or Chairman so that they can be afforded reasonable facilities. People under the age of 18 or other members of the public not wishing to be filmed or photographed should notify the Clerk or Chairman and should sit in the area designated for this purpose. Improper conduct or any disruptive behaviour could result in expulsion from the meeting – Noted.

**5) Public Question Time –** A member of the public updated the Council on a memorial bench being sighted on the church grounds in memory of Dave the Church Verger and Lollipop man who recently passed away. Planning for a local gardening competition 'Hartshill in Bloom' has started and residents are currently setting up a constituted group for Hartshill Community Events. The Council expressed their thanks for her work.

**6) Report from Parish & Borough Councillor Lees -** Cllr Lees received a report from County and Borough Cllr Bell previously which he brought to the attention of the Council:

- There has been continued activity at the Traveller site at the bottom of Atherstone Road.
- Chairperson Cllr Roberts suggested the Clerk write to Steve Maxi for a further update on the Site.
- A survey has taken place of traffic on School Hill and Coleshill Rd to enable a better flow of traffic. No plans to start any work on this until after April.
- Marcus Jones MP has announced that Hartshill is within the top 50 priority areas for rebuilding schools. Cllr Lees raised the issue that the road systems need attention before any work can start.
- A large amount of fly tipped waste has appeared at the emergency stopping point on Oldbury Rd. The waste is still there and currently being sifted through carefully to try and establish where it came from.
- The camera for Clock Bridge is imminent.
- Cemetery Lane – It is unadopted Rd. Cllr Lees has been in discussions with Clive Tobin (Monitoring Officer) who has claimed it looks like this is already Parish Council property but waiting for definite proof of this.
- The police have said they will be carrying out further car/HGV checks on Clock Bridge soon.

**7) Minutes of last meeting -** Minutes of the last meeting REM080121 were accepted as a true record and will be signed by the Chairman remotely.

- Chairperson Cllr Roberts raised an item in relation to the land on top of School Hill/Victoria Rd junction. She would like to arrange a further meeting with the owner to discuss the plans for the piece of land.

§ **Correspondence** – Correspondence received from Chapel End Surgery in relation to the piece of land they wish to purchase from the Council on Snowhill Rec Ground to improve their parking. They have requested further information on their next steps and whether they Council have considered a price for the land. The Clerk is to respond and explain that they will need to have the land valued at their own cost before the Parish Council can consider this.

- Correspondence received from Katherine Webster at NWBC in relation to Grange Road Recreation Ground. Pricing for work given. The decision will be deferred for a later meeting.
- Correspondence received from Tarmac to inform the Council that the proposed development for Hartshill (HAR3) will be coming to planning within the next few months.

§ **Accounts** - Financial report and invoices inspected remotely by the Council and signed by Chairperson Cllr Roberts and Councillor Sharp. Opening Balance: £89,790.36 – Expenditure of £7130.33 with an income of £770.00. Closing balance of £83,430.03 and reserves of £202,062.00 with an additional £698.00 burial addition.

Petty Cash book signed and inspected by Cllr Sharp; +current balance £ 251.13  
Web reference: Hartshill-pc.org.uk – financial reports, Jan 2021

**Resolved.**

9.a) **Budget** – Chairperson Cllr Roberts would like to suggest a budget item ‘Community Fund’. The fund would be open for Community members to suggest items they would like purchased/repaired/replaced in the village which the Parish Council can fund. An opportunity for residents to come forward with their requests will be the Annual Assembly of Parishioners. Proposed by Chairperson Cllr Roberts, seconded by Cllr Lees – Resolved.

¶ **Annual Assembly of Parishioners** – Due to the Annual Assembly in 2020 being cancelled due to the Coronavirus the Parish Council will be holding the Annual Assembly of Parishioners 2020 on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March via zoom at 10am. The meeting will give a brief insight into last year along with a financial report and give the Community an opportunity to address the Council with public matters.

¶ **Steps** – Resolved to defer the decision for expenditure on Grange Rd Rec for a later meeting.

¶ **Cemetery** – Proposed by Cllr Roberts, seconded by Cllr Lees – resolved to replace the window of the Groundskeepers shed.

- Councillors expressed their gratitude to the Groundskeeper for his hard work over the Winter months, it has been a very wet winter, but he has continued to keep the Cemetery at its best while carrying out further maintenance work at the Community Centre.
- Cllr Roberts meeting contractor on Monday to discuss the cutting back of conifers in the bottom corner.
- A request was made by an individual outside of the village boundaries was made to purchase a grave space at Hartshill Cemetery. It was explained to the applicant that Hartshill Parish Council have closed the Cemetery to ‘Non-Parishioners’ due to the limited burial space available while also taking into consideration the North Warks local plan and the increasing population of Hartshill village. The Council voted and at this time resolved to deny the request on the grounds that the deceased was not a resident of the village and the need for them to maintain Cemetery space for residents of the village. - **Resolved**

¶ **Rec Ground** – Committee is still not meeting in person.

- A footpath closure will take place on the footpath into the Rec ground from church rd. due to electrical work taking place at the Scout Hut.

¶ **Hartshill Parish Plan** – It was resolved by the Parish Council that the Chair of the Parish Council will also always be the Chair of the Parish Plan Project. Resolved.

¶ **Quarry/Ball Trucking update** – There has been no response from the traffic commissioner following the letter sent in relation to the license for the operations taking place on the site. Clerk to write to planning dept to find out if permission has been granted to rent out the land for its use under the current license.

¶ **Councillor Training** – Councillors are encouraged to take part in training to gain knowledge of their roles as Councillors. The Clerk to forward information on all Councillor training and Cllrs are encouraged to use the WALC website to see what is available to them.

- Chairperson Cllr Roberts suggested the purchase of tablet for use by Councillors who do not have equipment to take part in online training.

¶ **Social Media** – It was reminded that the Parish Councils response to anything must come through the Clerk. Any responses over social media **MUST** come from them as an individual and **NOT** as a Parish Councillor. Councillors are reminded of the Social Media policy which they have adopted. Hartshill Parish Council will post via the Parish Council Facebook page only.

§ **Food Vouchers** – The Clerk has received a further £500 funding to add to the food voucher scheme. Vouchers have started to go out and feedback has been positive from local shops taking them.

**AOB) Cllr Pearson** has requested some additional dog bins for the village. It was agreed that this will be raised again at the Annual Assembly so locations can be discussed.

- Clerk asked to write to Katherine Webster at NWBC in relation to a piece of land next to Saria which according to the neighbourhood plan is to be reserved for recreational use. The Council do not want to see this piece of land scoured as other pieces of land on the road have.
- Cllr Sharp - suggests some recognition in the form of a plaque for residents of the village who have passed away from Covid-19. To be discussed at a later date.
- Cllr Lees – Marcus Jones has mentioned that Saria has changed hands and they may be dampening down the current business.

**Confidential Item**

*The Council discussed an item of confidentiality.*

- End of Meeting – 11.45am
- Date and Time of Next Meeting – Online Remote Zoom – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021, 10am.
- Annual Assembly – Online Remote Zoom – Wednesday March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 10am.

Signed .....