

HORNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting Held on **Monday, February 2024** in the Pavilion

Present: **Councillors:**
John Offord (Chair) - **JO**
Paul Burden – **PB**
Philip Holt - **PH**
Andrew Overton - **AO**
Chris White – **CW**
Steve Woodcock - **SW**

Clerk: Al Mills - **AM**

1. Apologies for absence

Callum Harris (Vice Chair) – **CH**
RFO: Kirsty Buttle – **KB**

2. Members’ declarations of interest for items on the agenda – none received.

3. JO signed and approved the accuracy of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday, 13 November 2023 and the Special Budget meeting held on Monday, 15 January 2024.

4. Outstanding matters/actions from previous meeting

Action	Status
Clr White to be added to bank mandate	In Progress
Investigate traffic access at the Varney’s Garage development site	No further action required

5. Finance

5.1 Payments and Receipts:

5.1.1 To following payments made using delegated powers were approved:

Date	Payee	Description	Amount	Account
19.01.24	PPL PRS	Music Licence for Pavilion	£154.80	Pavilion
19.01.24	Castle Water	Pavilion water	£15.31	Pavilion
26.01.24	Alistair Mills	Salary, office, and reimbursement Jan	£419.59	PC
26.01.24	Kirsty Buttle	Salary and office Jan	£209.32	PC
26.01.24	HMRC	Tax Jan	£46.00	PC
26.01.24	Monika Cleaning Services	Pavilion cleaning January - 4 visits	£152.00	Pavilion
26.01.24	Fir Tree Falconry	Mole removal - verges	£100.00	PC

5.1.2 To following receipts were noted:

Date	Payment submitted by	Description	Amount	Account
12.01.24	Post office cash deposit	Hall hire	£140.00	Pavilion
17.01.24	The Warriner Multi Academy Trust	Pavilion	£450.00	Pavilion
17.01.24	The Warriner Multi Academy Trust	Tennis court use	£500.00	JUMPA
19.01.24	Credit 107	Gardening club hall hire	£350.00	Pavilion
31.01.24	Triforia	Keep fit	£60.00	Pavilion
02.02.24	CCLA	Interest	£134.25	Playground

5.1.3 The bank balances as at 6th February 2024 were noted:

PC Current	£3,303.19
PC Savings	£36,030.35
CCLA fund (playground)	£30,000.00
Total	£69,333.54

5.1.4 The committee balances as at 6th February 2024 were noted:

	HPC	JUMPA	Pavilion	Playground	Grand Total
Balance b/f to 04/09/2023	£21,231.45	£7,642.90	£6,752.25	£33,169.71	£68,796.31
Total Payments	£774.91	£0.00	£322.11	£0.00	£1,097.02
Total Receipts	£0.00	£500.00	£1,000.00	£134.25	£1,634.25
Balance to 06/02/2024	£20,456.54	£8,142.90	£7,430.14	£33,303.96	£69,333.54

6. Planning Report:

6.1 New planning applications received since last meeting:

Reference	Location	Proposal/ Description	Validated	Status
23/03220/F	Formerly Varneys Garage Quarry Road Hornton OX15 6DF	Removal of existing 1.2m high metal estate style fencing to front boundary and replace this with 1.8m high natural stone wall with new timber gates	28/11/2023	Application Permitted – <i>no objections from HPC</i>

7. Motocross update. Whilst the council welcomes the news that it appears the track owner has not appealed against the planning permission refusal or the enforcement order, it seems they may still be seeking a way of holding meetings at the site. The council remains vigilant.

8. Pavilion Report

8.1 Acoustic treatment update – Grants for this have been successfully obtained and it is hoped the work can be completed in the not-too-distant future. David Martin's work in securing the grants was commended.

8.2 Repairs to fencing – the fencing between the main car park and the field/pitch appears to be rotting away. Further investigation required to assess the best way forward.

9. Allotments Report. New, and many existing, tenants continue to make the allotments a much-valued village asset.

10. Roads & Highways Report including Speedwatch

- 10.1 **Muddy water in Millers Lane.** This continues to be an issue that there appears to be no funding available for within Oxfordshire CC. Further discussion with the farm owner and a possible 'do-it-yourself' fix are being pursued.
 - 10.2 **Mirror at the junction of Millers Lane and Townend.** This is currently being pursued with the relevant bodies.
 - 10.3 **20-mph limit progress + signage/traffic calming.** A request is being circulated to parishioners to ascertain whether they are in favour of having speed indicator signage at the entry points into the village. We are on the list for the 20-mph limit, and this will hopefully be implemented before the end of this year.
 - 10.4 **The tree at Thorn Cottage.** We are told the work has been agreed and will be completed soon.
11. **JUMPA Report.** The flooding at the westerly end of the pitch is still a concern – although the water has not spilled onto the playing surface. It was thought planting some water-loving foliage may be a good idea.
 12. **Playground Report** – The mower's used for the playground and the allotments require some maintenance, and it has been reported that the mower used for the village greens has reached the end of its useful life.
 13. **Clerk's Report.** We are eligible for a free portrait of King Charles, we need to get photos of the new council members onto the website and we need to check the latest version of the Electoral Roll against the mailing list to ensure emails are not being sent to those no longer resident in the village. It was also agreed that the address for the parish council will be changed to the Pavilion to help ensure future smooth handovers and avoid employees having to use their own address.
 14. Councilor's areas of responsibility were agreed and will be published soon.
 15. **HPC website and IT provision review.** It was decided to stick with the current IT providers at least for the near future. The website will now be branded as the 'Hornton Parish Council website' – not as a village website – although it is intended to include details of the various clubs, societies and amenities in the village. All councilors need to ensure they can receive and send email using their official HPC email addresses.
 16. A Nature Networks survey has been completed and submitted – we wait to see if there are any further developments as a result. And it seems Hornton is not a good place for hedgehogs due to the local badger population – so sorry hedgehogs, there's not a lot we can do for you!
 17. The council would like to extend thanks to Kevin Wain for organizing the Litter Pick on Saturday 24th February.
 18. It was noted that there are still issues with parking at school pick-up and drop-off times. It was also noted that the school has made real efforts to address this. Although parking offences are primarily a matter for other institutions, the council is willing to assist where it can.

Meeting closed at 9:17 pm