

Hirst Courtney & West Bank Parish Council

Minutes of the Hirst Courtney & West Bank Parish Council meeting, held on 20th February 2024, at 7pm, in the restaurant area of The Sloop Inn, Temple Hirst.

Present: Cllr's Wagstaff, Forbes, & Stephenson.

Attending: H. Phillips – Clerk

84. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr's McGuigan, Harper, Barratt, and Webster. The Council considered their reasons for absence.

Resolved: That the apologies of Cllr's McGuigan, Harper, Barratt, and Webster were received, and reasons for absence approved.

85. Declarations of Interest

There were no disclosures of personal and prejudicial interests from councillors on matters to be considered at the meeting.

86. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting – 16th January 2024

The Council considered the minutes of the Parish Council held on 16th January 2024.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th January 2024 be approved.

87. Chair's Report

The Council received the Chair's report on events attended and items to note since the meeting held on 16th January 2024. No meetings or events had been attended since the January meeting.

- The replacement Owl Box has now been installed and looks good; thanks to all who assisted in the making, and installation of the box.
- The chair suggested the organisation of a community litter pick, which was agreed by the attending Cllr's.

Resolved: That

- i) the Chair's verbal report be noted.**
- ii) the persons involved in creating and installing the Owl Box be thanked.**
- iii) the community litter pick is to be arranged for 17th March 2024 at 10am, starting at the Playpark.**
- iv) Cllr Harper to arrange to collect the litter picking equipment prior to the event.**
- v) the clerk to produce and issue posters for the event; and**
- vi) the clerk to arrange with the local authority to have the litter loaded bags collected ideally on 18th March 2024.**

88. Clerk's Report

The Council received the clerk's verbal report on matters dealt with since the last Council meeting on 16th January 2024.

- i) A member of the public asked about the requirement of Planning Permission for a riding area in the Parish.

The clerk nor the Councillors had not been aware of any planning application being raised therefore the member of the public was advised to contact the local authority to query the planning issue.

- ii) The Parish Council's preferred contractor has agreed and signed the groundworks contract for 2024-25.
- iii) The Parish Council's bank account has received remittance of £84.92 from North Yorkshire Council for the grass verge cutting refund. This is given because the Parish Council choose to engage an independent contractor to complete the service and not the County Council.

Resolved: That the clerk's report be noted.

89. Questions from the Public

The Council received two questions/ concerns notified by the public through the Councillors, as follows: -

- i) It has been reported that a tree has fallen down in the Landing Lane, Hirst Courtney area.
A discussion was held, and it was agreed that a number of residents would assist with the removal and disposal of the overhanging fallen tree.
- ii) The rental of Constable Acre was questioned by a member of the Public.
This field presently has a long term tenant, and would not be available for open rental until that tenant decides to cancel the rental agreement.
- iii) It was reported that the varnish on the West Bank noticeboard is failing and needs some attention.
Cllr Stephenson has agreed to contact a known local handyman to request the noticeboard is restored to health.

90. Flood Issues 2023-24

The Council considered any actions required regarding the discussion on agenda point 78 from the Parish Council meeting held on 16th January 2024.

Cllr Forbes updated the attending Cllr's regarding the conversation held at the January 2024 Council meeting, as they were absent for that meeting.

The clerk is awaiting meeting dates from the Diary Secretary of Mr Kier Mather (MP), so that further discussion can be completed, and concerns raised to the MP.

Resolved: That Cllr Forbes's update be noted.

91. Finance Matters

- 91.1 The Council received the accounting reports and bank statements up to 31st January 2024.

Resolved: That the accounting records and statements up to 31st January 2024 be approved.

- 91.2 The Council considered the payments made by the clerk under delegated authority.

Invoice Date	Customer Inv. No.	Payee	Payment Detail	Date Paid	Amount Due/ Paid	Payment Method (Incl. Cheque No.)
30/01/2024	M10 Wk 34	H Phillips	Janaury 2024 Salary	29/01/2024	£270.44	BACS
09/01/2024	to 9th Jan '24	HSBC	Bank Charges	31/01/2024	£5.00	DD
03/02/2024	IN09612700	Npower	Streetlight Energy	14/02/2024	£278.61	BACS

Signed:

Date Approved:

Minute Ref:

Resolved: That the payments made by the clerk under delegated authority be approved.

91.3 Christmas 2024 Provision.

The Council considered the actions required relating to the provision for new Christmas lights for and fencing for the community Christmas Tree for 2024, discussed at the Parish Council meeting held on 16th January 2024.

A further discussion was held it is was agreed that the Christmas Lights for the tree should revert to the Mains Supply option. These will be sourced nearer the festive season.

It was agreed that the present fencing around the Christmas tree should be removed and disposed of, with the clerk to explore alternative options for barriers/ fencing and present to the Parish Council as soon as is possible.

Resolved: That

- i) **the clerk to source mains supply Christmas Lights in time for Christmas 2024.**
- ii) **the Cllr's arrange for the present damaged fencing to be removed and disposed of; and**
- iii) **the clerk to explore alternative options for barriers/ fencing for around the Christmas Tree, and present to the Parish Council as soon as is possible be approved.**

91.4 The Council considered the request for a donation received from Haddlesey Parochial Church Council as a one off donation for the upkeep of the churchyard.

A discussion was held, and it was confirmed that a Parish Council is not able to donate to a religious body, therefore it would not be possible to contribute to the requested project.

Resolved: That the Parish Council would not be donating to the requested project.

91.5 The Council considered the offer from NYC for 2024-25 for remuneration for the Parish Council engaging a contractor to cut the grass verges around the Parish.

A discussion was held, and it was agreed that the offer should be taken up again for 2024-25.

Resolved: That the offer of recompense for 2024-25 to the Parish Council for engaging an independent contractor to cut the grass verges around the Parish be approved.

91.6 The Council considered authorisation of the clerk's standard hours worked in February 2024.

Resolved: That the payment for standard hours worked in February 2024 by the clerk be approved.

92. Planning Matters

- i) No new Planning Applications, Consultations, or Planning Decisions have been received since the meeting held on 16th January 2024.
- ii) The Council considered the response received from local MP Keir Mather on the Helios Solar Farm Project.

A discussion was held, and it was agreed that the Parish Council should keep up to date with the progress of the Helios Solar Farm Project. No further action was to be taken at present on the matter. The battery storage units were raised as a potential issue, through noise pollution and Health & Safety, but no clear answers were available to the Parish Council. The topic can be raised as an agenda item at future meetings should there be any relevant updates or significant progress.

Resolved: That the Parish Council remain updated and aware of the progress of the Helios Solar Farm Project with no further action being required at present.

93. Playpark

The Council considered actions required after the general inspection results were provided by Cllr Harper.

A discussion was held regarding the picnic bench and the outer fencing of the playpark. The scheduled Litter Pick event on 17th March 2024 was noted as a good opportunity to attend to the outstanding tasks in the playpark.

Resolved: That

- i) the picnic bench be removed and disposed of; and**
- ii) the damaged chain link fencing be assessed and removed when the community litter pick is taking place, on 17th March 2024.**

94. Training

94.1 No training requests that have been processed since 16th January 2024.

94.2 No feedback has been received from any members of the council who have attended training courses since 16th January 2024.

95. Date of Future Parish Council Meeting: 19th March 2024.