

**Minutes of a meeting of High Stoy Parish Council  
Held in the Hermitage Village Hall  
At 6:00pm on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

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**PRESENT**

**Council Members:**

Cllr Colin Summerell (CS) (Chair)  
Cllr Peter Rowland (PR)  
Cllr Dawn Griffin (DGr)  
Cllr Derek Gordge (DGo)  
Cllr Caroline Smith (CS)  
Cllr Phil Damen (PD)

**Clerk to the Parish Council**

Amy Sellick (AS)

**High Stoy Parishioner & Member of the public:**

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District Councillor Mary Penfold

Item Number	Item	Actioned By
1	<b>Register of Interest:</b> There were no new declarations of interest.	
2	<b>Apologies for Absence:</b> None	
3	<b>Public Discussion Period:</b> None	
4	<b>Review of minutes from previous meeting:</b> The minutes which had been circulated following the meeting held on 5 <sup>th</sup> December were reviewed. Chairman proposed that they should be accepted as true to record of the proceedings and his proposal was unanimously supported. The minutes were duly approved and signed.	Clerk to upload signed minutes to website.
5	<b>Matters arising from the meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> December 2023:</b> 5.1 Grit Boxes: Slabs are in place in 2 locations in Hermitage and at the bottom on Great Head Lane in Batcombe. Clerk requested grit boxes 2 <sup>nd</sup> December and regular reminder emails have been sent by Clerk and Chairman. However, we still await DC to visit the location and check suitability. The group expressed displeasure at lack of response from DC. It was agreed to postpone delivery until October 2024. 5.2 Bailey Drove DMMO and Statement Modification Order 3308921: David Ackerley (DC), inspected the site w/c 27 <sup>th</sup> November. It's reported that works required to make the Drove accessible to vehicles would be very expensive and it's likely that DC will recommend to impose an order restrict this. We await confirmation of details. 5.3 Hermitage Flooding: DC completed works on the site 24 <sup>th</sup> August. It was reported that the site is still flooding. Hartley Lane awaits works from Kevin House. Hermitage Lane is still flooding. This was reported to DC on 5 <sup>th</sup> November. Mr Skeats responded: <i>The works to the gully were done (...), however we are going to revisit the site to check on the connection to the main drain as we think there may be an issue.</i> <i>The bund that isn't working correctly will be extended slightly into the verge, this should then direct the flow of surface water correctly.</i> He confirmed that the works are not a priority but will be completed this financial year. 5.4 Audit of finger posts: Audit of all posts across 3 villages complete.	District Councillor to take matter up with DC. Clerk to notify Roland Skeats of wish to postpone. Chairman to pen note to DC.  Clerk to remind DC that Hermitage Lane is still flooding – requiring works before end of financial year.

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	<p>Repair of finger post at Hermitage and Sandy Lane – missing finger. Repair to sign opposite Church Farm was prioritised.</p>	<p>Councillor Rowland agreed to repair. Clerk to request quote from Roger Bond for repair/replacement</p>
6	<p><b>Highway Matters:</b> 6.1 Potholes reported to Clerk by Councillors Griffin and Rowland at Manor Farm Hilfield.</p> <p>6.2 2 Potholes Hermitage Lane – case number 1237897 Pothole Hermitage, 500m north of Business centre: 1239184 6.3 Planned Road Closure to Bakers Moor Lane, Batcombe, 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> April for OpenReach to replace a pole.</p> <p>Councillor Clough informed that there have been complaints from residents regarding the state of verges in Hermitage. Chairman outlined the history of this issue and that DC had confirmed that it is illegal to cultivate or obstruct the verge which is usually interpreted as the first 500mm beyond the asphalt carriageway edge.</p>	<p>Councillor Griffin to email photos to Clerk. Clerk to report to DC.</p>
7	<p><b>Footpath Matters:</b> 7.1 Report of condition of footpaths gratefully received from Dave Whiteoak and John Damon: - One of David Ackerley's colleagues delivered a number of Public Footpath and Public Bridleway signs. David Whiteoak holds a small stock of these (about half a dozen of each), should anyone need any. -The posts and signs in Hilfield that were taken autumn last year have been replaced and up until a few days ago were still in place. - David Whiteoak and Lyn Cooch plan to walk some of the paths in Hilfield April/May time to identify any additional issues that have occurred over the winter. 7.2 DMMO case 779: Batcombe – Case notified in March '23. Footpath from just below Dyers Farm to Pleck. Formal consultation has still not begun. 7.3 Communication from Mr Sam Vincent (land- owner at Dyers, Batcombe), regarding FIBL AONB grant application to include some footpath gates on his land, specifically the stile entering his land close to Oak Tree Cottage. Mr Vincent ask if the Council are happy to support this application. This was unanimously agreed.</p>	<p>Clerk to email Mr Vincent.</p>
8	<p><b>Planning Matters:</b> 8.1 <b>WD/D/19/002710</b>- Change of use of land and erection of luxury holiday lodges at The George Albert Hotel. PC: Objected DC: Under Consideration 8.2 <b>P/FUL/2023/05225</b> – Agricultural workers dwelling at Knapp Farm. DC: Under Consideration Councillor noted that the application has been reduced in size, 8.3 <b>P/LBC/2023/06996</b> - Alterations to convert outbuildings to ancillary residential accommodation, including creation of 2no. annexes, a studio gym &amp; garage. Construction of swimming pool &amp; glazed link extension. Church Farm, Hilfield. PC:</p>	

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	<p>Approved plans provided retain integrity of listed building. DC: Under Consideration. Chairman noted that 12<sup>th</sup> February there was a submission by Historic England suggesting the application should be refused as the alterations would alter the historic value of the building.</p> <p>8.4 <b>P/FUL/2024/00365</b> – erection of 1 bedroom wooden holiday let at Greengate, Hermitage. Deadline for comment 19<sup>th</sup> March.</p>	<p>Clerk to email Councillors the details and Councillors to notify Chairman of any observations by 5<sup>th</sup> March.</p>																																			
9	<p><b>Financial Matters:</b></p> <p>9.1 Clerk reported that the account balance as of 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024: £9578.44</p> <p>9.2</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;"><b>Closing Balance Lloyds Treasurers Acc 26.02.24</b></td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: right;"><b>£9578.44</b></td> <td style="width: 40%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Less any unrepresented/uncleared payments</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Less payments due:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£713.96</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£8864.48</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b>Cash Book (receipts and payments)</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Opening Balance 05.12.23</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£9927.66</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Add Receipts</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Less Payments</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£20.00+£167.96+ £161.26 = £349.22</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Hilfield Friary, Clerk Pay back adjustment, VisionICT website hosting</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£9578.44</b></td> </tr> </table> <p>Retrospective items for approval:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%;">Na</td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> <td style="width: 25%;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<b>Closing Balance Lloyds Treasurers Acc 26.02.24</b>	<b>£9578.44</b>		Less any unrepresented/uncleared payments	£0		Less payments due:	£713.96		<b>Total</b>		<b>£8864.48</b>	<b>Cash Book (receipts and payments)</b>			Opening Balance 05.12.23	£9927.66		Add Receipts	£0		Less Payments	£20.00+£167.96+ £161.26 = £349.22	Hilfield Friary, Clerk Pay back adjustment, VisionICT website hosting			<b>£9578.44</b>	Na								
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10	<p><b>Correspondence:</b></p> <p>10.1 DAPTC Councillors Networking Event 7<sup>th</sup> March 9am - 3.30pm, at Kingston Maurward. Maximum 2 delegates per council, cost of £79 per delegate. Agenda include Networking opportunities, presentations on Dorset Local Plan, Transport Plan, Develoution Deal for Dorset, NHS Dorset, Dorset National Park and Dorset Nature Recovery.</p>	<p>Councillor Clough expressed interest. Clerk to book a place.</p>																																			
11	<p><b>Other information for report only:</b></p> <p>11.1 Chairman reported at meeting of Full Council for Dorset Council that community charge was set at 4.997% (just below maximum allowed 5%).</p>																																				

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	11.2 Councillor Clough reported that there is a public meeting on 14 <sup>th</sup> March at Hilfield Friary, looking at Natural Flood Management. 11.3 Councillor Gorge noted that DC used to clear gullies and drains every 12 months. This no longer the case. It was requested to know the policy of gully and drain clearance.	District Councillor Mary Penfold agreed to follow this up with the Council.
12	<b>Next Meeting of the Parish Council:</b> The next meeting of the High Stoy Parish Council will be the Annual Meeting of Full Council, to be held on 14 <sup>th</sup> May at 7pm at Hermitage Village Hall 2023.	Clerk to request hall from Wendy Hounsell.
	Meeting closed at 7.43pm	

These minutes are to be signed by the Chair, following approval, at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

Signed:.....

DRAFT