

Minutes of the Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday
30th of January 2025 in the Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall at 6.30pm.

Present: Cllr Mrs C Read – Chair
Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby – Vice Chair
Cllr Mr P Smail
Cllr Mrs L MacGregor
Cllr Mr P Lockett
Cllr Mr A Milne
Borough Councillor Mr S Carr
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk

Apologies: Cllr Mr T Crutchfield, Mrs K Chapman and County Councillor Mr T Thacker.

WELCOME.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting especially Phil as the newest Councillor.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY.

Mr Phillip Lockett signed the Declaration of Office and was co-opted onto the Parish Council. The Chair formally welcomed Cllr Mr P Lockett onto the Parish Council.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MR SAM CARR.

Cllr Mr S Carr spoke on the following subjects:

- LOCAL PLAN – The enormous demand for additional housing by the Government is having an effect on the Borough Councils Housing Land Bank program. Many of the Borough Councils policies are also in the balance – Reg 18 will go out for further consultation in the summer of 2025. It is hoped that Reg 19 will be adopted in the Winter of 2027.

Cllr Mr S Carr noted and agreed with the comments from Hurstbourne Priors Parish Council on the proposed development at Apsley and the outline planning application for the new barn.

- ST MARY’S HILL – There is a lack of movement from the Developer on the issues identified at St Mary’s Hill. Landscaping concerns have been forwarded to the Planning Officer dealing with the case. An in-depth review of the background to where we are now on the development is to be undertaken. The Parish Council will write to the Planning Officer asking why there is such a delay in sorting out the issues that need urgently addressing.
- DEVOLUTION – Cllr Mr S Carr spoke at length on the information he has been given on Devolution. A proposal by the Government to abolish the Borough and County Councils current format to be replaced by a unitary authority that will be overseen by an elected Mayor.

- How Hampshire will be spilt up is under discussion. Hampshire County Council have put forward a solution to the Government proposing that Hampshire being a large geographical area be split into three areas. Discussions are on-going as to which current Borough Councils will be grouped together. Proposals must be submitted by the end of September this year.

There is risk for Rural Planning as it is proposed that Strategic Planning will come under the control of the Elected Mayor, who will have the power to call in a Planning Application. It is not sure at this moment what part Neighbourhood Plans will have in future development.

The role of the Parish Council is unlikely to change. There is a possibility that more responsibility may be passed to Parish Council which may require additional funding through the Precept, but this has not been confirmed.

The Parish Council need to be vocal and take part in all consultations to ensure their voice is heard on local issues.

The new Unitary Authority will come into being in May 2028.

- S106 MONEY – Correspondence has been received from Sara-Jayne Eustace the Project Assistant Landscape Team at Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, regarding S106 Money. Several contributions received from developers have yet to be allocated:

Open Space Improvements £7,007.84
Play Area Improvements £1,892.82

Open Space Improvements £ 533.06
Play Area Improvements £1,464.86

A site meeting with Sara-Jayne Eustace has been arranged to discuss this issue as a matter of Urgency. Cllr Mr S Carr offered to help to secure this money so that it did not go out of the Parish.

The Chair thanked Cllr Mr S Carr for bringing this matter to the Council's attention.

TUFFTON.

Cllr Mrs L MacGregor reported:

- The issues at Rivers Edge Barn are in hand.
- Reports of a muddy footpath on the Testbourne Estate and a suggestion that chippings are put down is in hand.
- There was no news to report on the suggested new permissive footpath.
- Wi-Fi. Broadband coverage is not very good in Tufton. Mr Ian Bradley is investigating similar issues within Hurstbourne Priors village and the Chair will forward his details.

HARROWAY

Cllr Mr P Lockett reported that he now has the 'SLOW' Pedestrians signs and will arrange for them to be installed.

Cllr Mr P Lockett is liaising with Hampshire Highways to improve safer pedestrian access. Hampshire Highways have agreed to carry out work including refreshing the signage and road markings. Hampshire are not keen to pursue the lowering of the speed limit. Cllr Mr P Lockett reported that he will be attending a Hampshire County Council meeting and has booked a 10-minute slot to speak on this dangerous stretch of road. He will report back on this at the next meeting.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

The Chair signed the minutes of the November Meeting as a true record.

FINANCE.

December 2024 and January 2025

INCOME.

	£
Apple Juice	120.00
	<u>£120.00</u>

EXPENDITURE.

		£
Eon Electricity	Pavilion	141.28
R.N. Waterman	Wages	600.00
TVBC	Grass and Hedge Cutting	389.68
Hiscox	Insurance	215.36
Eclipse Pest Control	Moles	250.00
Brandon Tool Hire	CC Equipment Hire	86.64
		<u>£1,682.96</u>

Bank Account Balance after above movements = £15,767.64

Working Capital = £2,293.37
General Reserves = £5,000.00
Play Area = £1,193.75
Pavilion = £7,280.52
= **£15,767.64**

PLANNING.

Cllr Mrs S Wyatt-Tilby gave an up-date on recent planning applications and discussed the outline planning permission application for a new barn at Apsley.

The Clerk reported that Planning Enforcement have confirmed that the issue with Mobile Homes reported last year is under investigation and on-going.

FOOTPATHS.

The Chair reported that most of the footpaths are muddy due to the extreme winter weather we have experienced.

VILLAGE HALL.

Cllr Mr a Milne reported that work on the new shed has started and will be finished ready for the storage of the May Fair equipment after this year's event.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS 2025.

The Chair spoke about fund raising events in 2025.

- Cllr Mr T Crutchfield has confirmed that his friend from the County Archives will host a presentation talk on the history of Hurstbourne Priors. A date in March was suggested and as soon as it is confirmed advertising the event will begin.
- A fund-raising event for the pavilion also needs to be discussed first the Autumn.
- The May Fair will be held on the 5th of May 2025.
- The sale of Apple Juice has been slow, a conscious effort will be made to sell the stock held - any not sold by May will be sold at the May Fair

VILLAGE CLEAN-UP.

The Village Clean-up will take place on the 22nd of March 2025.

PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS.

Cllr Mr P Smail reported that there is a fallen tree by the Bridge on the B3400. This was noted and will be reported.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING.

The Chair thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

Thursday 27th of March 2025 at 6.30pm in the Hurstbourne Priors Village Hall.

DATES FOR THE 2025 MEETINGS.

29th of May

31st of July

25th of September

27th of November