



# Highnam Parish Council



Lassington Oak

Highnam ~ Linton ~ Over ~ Lassington

## Minutes of the Virtual Meeting of Highnam Parish Council

held on Tuesday 9 February 2021

Present: Cllrs: M Welch, V Tustin Smith, C Coats, K Emmerson, W Badham, W Nicol, R Keene and J Smith

In Attendance: R Hicks (Clerk), Cllrs P Awford, P McLain 36 members of the public

Presentation by M7Planning re Land West of Highnam

This item was dealt with after the Public Forum as the presenter, Mr M Regan had yet to log in. Matt Regan and Alex Bullock showed images of plans for land adjacent to Lassington Reach, with up to 95 dwellings either side of B4215; 11 acres of developable land with an access point close to The Green. TBC are not delivering a sufficient number of houses, and cannot show the required amount of land supply. Plans would include an expansion of the Business Park. An engagement with the Parish is sought in order to provide a development that would meet local aspirations; details and a link will be provided in due course for consultation purposes.

### Public Forum:

The matter of land below Lassington Wood having 'Private Land' notices put up was reported, which the Parish Council were aware of and had discussed with the landowner with a view to an arrangement being agreed. Question was asked whether there are other measures that might be available to enable continued use.

1. To receive apologies for absence  
None
2. To approve Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 January 2021  
The minutes have been circulated to all Councillors, and were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting. They will be signed by Chairman in due course
3. Members of the Council are invited to declare any interest they may have in the business set out below  
None
4. To allow dispensations  
None requested or required
5. To receive County Councillor's Report – Cllr P Awford  
Obviously the recent floods have dominated my day to day work , and has meant close working with Highways around road closures and diversions  
I have asked for safety inspections of both Two Mile Lane and the diversion route used by many to access the B4215  
Some extreme potholes have been reported to me for emergency repair and of course Two Mile Lane is in the coming years programme for resurfacing  
I have highlighted the beanie block concerns at the junction of A40/B4215 to GCC to take up again with Highways England  
Your Council will be aware of the open letter sent to Government and Authorities in regard to the flood ing frequency of the A417 and the impact on the diversion route , we await responses to that and if there is any potential for partnership funding to revisit a project given the failed bid in 2015  
This will feature when the Local Transport Plan goes to the County Council shortly for adoption

You are also aware of the County Council Scrutiny Panel that is looking into flood impacts on infrastructure and the travelling Public. Districts and Parishes are to be included in that data gathering so your Parish work can feed in to that Panel. Q was asked whether the works in Two Mile Lane would be a 'proper' job or patching; A was a proper job. Further Q was asked whether proper passing places could be established.

6. To receive District Councillor's Report – Cllrs J Smith & P McLain

Unfortunately the Ward has experienced a lot more flooding. In Highnam it seems to have remained in Two Mile Lane. Tirley, Haw Bridge, Forthampton and Chaceley have not been so lucky.

The Planning Department is understaffed and is one Enforcement Officer short. Staff have been re deployed to help with Covid related issues. There is also no control over the number of Planning Applications the Council receive, so dealing with these may be slower than would be liked.

Next years budget for the Borough has been approved. It is well balanced and there will be no redundancies. This puts the Borough in a good place to meet future challenges. Council tax has gone up £5 a year on a Band D property.

Both Consultations on the New Forest of Dean Hospital and Fit for the Future, addressing the current Hospitals Trust, have produced some good papers that can be read on the GCC website. Worth a read if anyone is interested.

Cllr McLain further reported that development resulting from JCS had seen what might be considered to be inappropriate development which could be blamed for some of the recent flooding.

7. To receive Clerks Report and Correspondence

The Clerks membership to SLCC has been renewed.

As requested, letters to residents regarding overgrown hedges have been written and delivered; it is pleasing to see that two of the three hedges have been attended to.

A further letter regarding the grass verge at 5 Peters Field has produced an irate response from the resident, who feels that Council should have made a personal approach. Apparently, they still have work to complete which could result in further verge damage, but the intention is to make good and turf the area when works are complete. The resident feels that Council should apologise for the upset; We did point out that if Council had been made aware (as opposed to posting on Highnam Notice board) of the plans, a letter would not have been necessary.

You will be aware that the licence for EWG works has been agreed, and we have now placed the order for the three wooden sculptures.

8. Finance –

i. To approve invoices for payment

28 January 2021	Admin Costs	S/o	17	£	547.95
28 January 2021	Lucy Grove	Online	19	£	108.98
28 January 2021	R D Hicks (Zoom)	Online	17	£	14.39
10 February 2021	SLCC	Online	31	£	112.00
10 February 2021	Evo Design (HHG-S106)	Online	19	£	154.00
10 February 2021	Hugh James	Online	19	£	720.00
10 February 2021	TBC	Online	19	£	400.00

ii. To approve appointment of GAPTC Internal Auditor for 202/21 Audit  
Proposed Cllr Coats, seconded Cllr Smith, all in favour

9. To receive and comment on Planning Applications

1 .20/01263/PDAFU	Over Farm, GL2 8DB	Change of use of agricultural building to commercial use
2. 21/00013/FUL	18 Park Brake, GL2 8EJ	Erection of single storey rear extension
3. 21/00042/FUL	141 Maidenhall, GL2 8DJ	Removal of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension, with associated works
4. 21/00041/FUL	7 Cams Ground, GL2 8LZ	Erection of single storey side extension
5. 21/00053/FUL	1 Poppy Field, GL2 8LU	Erection of two storey side extension
6. 21/00095/FUL	18 Stoney Field, GL2 8LY	Erection of summerhouse
7. 21/00107/FUL	1 Farthing Croft, GL2 8EQ	Erection of single storey rear extension

Items 1,2,3,4,6 – no objection

Item 5 – concern that extension means a loss of parking spaces, which can only increase on-road parking

Item 7 – concern regarding overdevelopment. This property has previously been extended

10. To discuss NDP Review

NDP Planning Group were meeting on 10 February to consider presentation, and then report to PC.

Next to move forward with public consultation and an update to TBC. Objections have been submitted on the proposed Churcham development, with reference also to A417 flooding.

11.. To receive update on Parish Plan Refresh

TBC are making progress and will soon be going out to tender, and reporting back to PC by late March. It is hoped that construction will start by end of May , with completion late June. Details of Recreation Park improvements are being worked on; EWG have a lot going on, and are considering taking out a licence for Butterfly Cresnet which was not renewed.

12. To discuss overgrown hedges/footpaths

Some progress has been achieved, and other sites where action may need to be taken are now being considered

13. To discuss HCCT

Suggestion was made that we ask HCCT to provide PC with an annual report, and an update on Old School improvements. Q was asked as to what would happen if Trust was dissolved and responsibilities fell back on PC

14. Communications

Comment made that Parish Council could benefit from the introduction of some Councillors

15. Bank Reconciliation

## Bank Reconciliation December 2020

### Lloyds Bank Account

<i>Bank Balance at 1 December</i>	<i>63,815.97</i>	<i>Payments December</i>	<i>11,442.54</i>
		<i>Outstanding Payments</i>	<i>0.00</i>
<i>Receipts November</i>	<i>721.00</i>	<i>Restricted Funds</i>	<i>16,524.55</i>
<i>(on behalf of HGNS)</i>		<i>Available Balance</i>	<i>36,463.85</i>
		<i>Bank Balance at 31 December</i>	<i>52,984.84</i>
		<i>Petty Cash</i>	<i>3.56</i>
		<i>Total Balance</i>	<i>52,988.40</i>
<u><i>Restricted Funds</i></u>			
<i>Council Reserves</i>	<i>4,496.07</i>		
<i>Project Reserves</i>	<i>7,555.21</i>		
<i>NDP Reserves</i>	<i>4378.21</i>		
<i>Fun Day Proceeds</i>	<i>95.06</i>		
	<i>16,524.55</i>		

16. Residual Items

- 1 Flooding has been reported around Brimsome Meadow area
- 2 Concern was expressed about tipping above Over Farm Market – this had been reported to TBC today
- 3 Q was asked why A40 was to be closed, and why some street lights were not functioning
- 4 Concern was raised regarding lane merging problems at Highnam roundabout
- 5 Cllr Keene was thanked for his endeavours regarding A40 flooding problems
- 6 TBC were thanked regarding their swift action in dealing with the ditch adjacent to Recreation ground
- 7 Reference was made to problems being experienced with Lassington Reach land management company

Meeting closed at 8.23pm

Next Meeting 9 March 2021 at 7.30pm by Zoom

Signed .....

Date .....