

HUNTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Huntley Parish Council held at the Village Hall, North Road, Huntley on Tuesday 7th January 2025 at 7.30pm.

1. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
2. **COUNCIL RECORDED ATTENDANCE** as Parish Councillors Jenny Green, Mark Evans, Irene Walker, Robert Watkins, Alan Wood and District Councillor John Francis
3. **APOLOGIES for absence and acceptance of reasons for absences recorded.** Received from County Councillor Philip Robinson, District Councillor Dave Tradgett, Councillors Jill Croxall and Tim Hill
4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS** Councillor Watkins declared an interest in Item 10 and Councillor Wood declared an interest in Item 9. Red Book was signed.
5. **PUBLIC SESSION** There were no members of the public present.

District Councillor John Francis reported that 12,000 new homes need to be built in the Forest of Dean within the next 5 years. The draft Local Plan is being revised, and the FoDDC have been given 3 months to plan where the additional houses will be built. It is very likely that development will take place within Huntley and nearby parishes such as Churcham. This is happening whilst the District Council plans the transition to an Unitary Authority. The FoDDC is likely to be abolished but this leaves many questions to be resolved such as how the UA will be structured, the impact on existing FoDDC workplans, staff distribution, the future of the offices at Coleford and the tenure of existing Councillors as the next elections may be delayed or brought forward. District Councillor Francis is trying to create a forum for parish councils to be able to talk to one another regarding devolution.
6. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS** – Council resolved that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 3rd December form an accurate record.
7. **CLERK’S REPORT** – was noted.
8. **ACTIONS LOG** – Council updated the log. Following a review of the effectiveness and uptake of the newsletter, Council voted to cease the production of HUNTLEY HEADLINES with immediate effect. Council want to change the way that the council communicates with parishioners and move towards a parish council focused newsletter titled HUNTLEY PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE. Topics for inclusion will be taken from the agenda every month, and a copy of the newsletter will be placed in The Fen, on the parish council noticeboard, on the parish council website, on the parish council and Huntley Hub Facebook pages, village hall noticeboard and in the village bus shelter.
9. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS** – To agree responses to recent applications, to ratify comments made between meetings and to note decisions.

- A. **Received – P1541/24/FUL** Installation of a dropped kerb and permeable bound and gravel parking space. 1 North Road Huntley. No objection raised.
- B. **Dealt with Between Meetings – None**
- C. **Decided Since Last Meeting – P1353/24/LBC** Listed Building Consent for repairs and renovation of War Memorial Main Road Huntley. Granted 24 December 2024. Council noted the conditions attached to the permission.
- D. **Withdrawn Since Last Meeting – None.**
- E. **Appeals – None.**
- F. **Enforcement Issues – No updates.**
- G. **NDP – No report.**
- H. **Council resolved to disband the planning sub-committee.**
- 10. **FINANCE - To receive the parish accounts, authorise payments as detailed and to note income.**

(a)	Statement of Accounts as at 2nd January 2025		
	Deposit Account	£	25,722.57
	Treasurers Account	£	750.00
	Defibrillator Account	£	1,128.52
	Play Area Ringfenced Funds Account	£	18,815.31
(b)	Grant Applications - Section 137 of Local Government Act 1972		
(c)	Adverse variance to budget (>£10)		No Report
(d)	BACS Payments Approved		
	Huntley Village Hall (Room Hire)	£	20.00
	Robert Watkins – Handyman (Oct-Dec)	£	260.00
	Mark Evans expenses	£	42.00
	Pet Waste Solution	£	86.40
	Quedgeley Computer Solutions - website	£	143.00
	Matthews Landscape (swing)	£	4080.00
	Perputa Press	£	34.56
	E Tustin – Clerk expenses	£	191.27
(e)	Payments made between meetings		
	GAPTC training - A Browning	£	45.00
	Quedgeley Computer Solutions - website	£	90.00
	Huntley Village Hall (Room Hire)	£	20.00
	Pet Waste Solution	£	86.40
	Robert Watkins - Handyman	£	200.00
	Ultra-Vision	£	72.60
(f)	Income Received – Since 1st December 2024		
	Bank Interest	£	49.39

The former Clerk (Leo Williams) and Councillor Robert Watkins will be removed from the bank authorisation.

11. **PLAY AREA** – Postponed until next meeting as only two quotations for the roundabout have been received. Councillor Evans to apply for a grant from the National Lottery of £15,000 for play equipment.
12. **WEBSITE** – The quotation that was received has been withdrawn. Council resolved to use Parish Online. Clerk to obtain quote.
13. **ALLOTMENTS** – All vacant plots have now been allocated. Councillor Evans will renumber the plots and a plan showing the new numbers will be issued with the renewal letters in early March 2025.
14. **HEDGE CUTTING** – Council discussed the scope of the hedge cutting service. Clerk to draft a tender for approval.
15. **BUDGET and PRECEPT** – Council resolved to accept the budget for 25/26. RFO recommended 5% increase in Precept which was noted. Council resolved not to increase the Precept for 2025/26.
16. **AUTOSPEEDWATCH CAMERA** – Council resolved to adopt the policy.
17. **SPONSORSHIP** – Council resolved to adopt the policy. Clerk to issue expressions of interest to local businesses.
18. **HUNTERS COPSE** – FoDDC planning to be contacted regarding the condition of the scarfe. Cllr Evans to check the green area that was to be created as part of the planning permission. PROW office to be contacted regarding Footpath 17 – replacement sign and exact allocation of the footpath.
19. **ENVIRONMENT PROJECT** – Council reviewed quotes and specifications and resolved to purchase a bench from Glasdon.
20. **AUDITS** – Council resolved to engage the GAPTC Internal Audit Service and PKF Littlejohn for the external audit. Council resolved to fund additional hours for the Clerk whilst preparing for the audits.
21. **MEETINGS/TRAINING/SEMINARS/CONSULTATIONS** – None
22. **CORRESPONDENCE** – Parish Council Central Cluster. The next meeting is on Wednesday 8th January at 5.30pm – 7.30pm (online). Clerk and Councillor Walker to attend.
23. **ITEMS FOR NEXT OR FUTURE MEETINGS** – Method for gathering parishioners views regarding new housing developments in Huntley.
24. **NEXT MEETING** – Confirmed as 7.30pm on Tuesday 4th February 2025 at Huntley Village Hall.
25. **MEETING closed at 9.23 pm**