

Meeting of Heytesbury, Imber and Knook Parish Council

Minutes

Tuesday 31 October 2023
Hospital of St John, Heytesbury

Councillors present:

C Barker Bennett, C Blake, B Coombes, S King, V Sturmeay (chair) , N Williams, A Wilson.

Also present:

Clerk, eight members of the public.

Public session

Four members of the public spoke, subjects included:

- i. the notice of intention to bid for the sports ground from The Heytesbury Villagers
- ii. the parish steward service
- iii. gutters in the High Street, Heytesbury
- iv. budget report
- v. draft questionnaire

It was agreed to alter the order of agenda items so item 93 was before item 92. The minutes follow the order of the published agenda.

79 Apologies for absence

Cllr Fellowes.

80 Declarations of interest

Cllr Barker Bennett declared a non-pecuniary interest item 99 and 100.

Cllr Wilson declared a non-pecuniary interest item 96, planning application PL/2023/05681.

The Clerk reminded councillors to ensure their entries on the register of interests are up to date.

81 Minutes

The minutes of 26 September 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the chair.

82 Chair's announcements

Cllr Sturmey announced the moratorium on the disposal of the sports ground as an asset of community value.

83 To note the bank statements 31 October 2023

- a. Treasurers Account £15,713.30
- b. Instant Account £5,277.94

Noted.

84 To note the bank reconciliation to 30 September 2023

Noted.

85 To note the budget report to 20 October 2023

Noted.

86 To approve payments

39/23 idverde grounds maintenance £130.50
42/23 Clerk mileage £14.85
43/23 Hospital of St John room hire 26 September 2023 £20
44/23 Amazon plaque £24.18
45/23 October payroll
46/23 Blue Diamond tree £91.99
47/23 Royal British Legion wreaths £50
48/23 idverde grounds maintenance £130.50

The above payments were approved.

87 To approve transfers to and from earmarked reserves

- i) £80 Best Kept Village Competition prize money to biodiversity reserve.
- ii) £153 from laptop reserve to general reserve.

The above changes in earmarked reserves were approved.

88 To appoint bank account signatories

It was resolved to appoint Cllr Coombes and Cllr Williams as bank account signatories.

89 To consider the draft budget 2024-2025

There was a discussion of the figures and it was agreed to create a £500 earmarked reserve for grants. Further consideration of the budget was deferred until the next meeting.

90 To consider a response to the BT proposal to remove the Heytesbury payphone

It was resolved to ask BT to adopt the phone box for £1.

91 Adjournment

There was a short adjournment at 8.38 pm to 8.39 pm.

92 To comment on the draft Wiltshire Local Plan

Councillors considered the draft Wiltshire Local Plan. It was agreed councillors would comment individually.

93 To consider a draft questionnaire

Various changes were suggested and it was agreed to defer further consideration until the next meeting.

94 Blue plaque

It was resolved to approve the following wording of a blue plaque for the lock up in Heytesbury:

Scheduled monument listed 22 Jan. 1935

BLIND HOUSE

Village lock up formerly used for the short term detention of local people.

The school children still use it for the village bonfire night celebrations.

Grade II listed building 11 Sept. 1968

95 Extension of meeting

It was resolved to extend the meeting to 9.15 pm.

96 To consider planning applications

- i. PL/2023/07308 17 Knook, to enlarge existing car parking area and the addition of a turning point. There were no objections subject to consultation with the Environment Agency due to proximity to the river.

- ii. PL/2023/08505 and PL/2023/08726 Lindens, High Street, Heytesbury, internal and external alterations, removal of existing septic tank and installation of new septic tank. There were no objections.
- iii. PL/2023/08697 1 Victoria Gardens, High Street, Heytesbury, laburnum reduce below the overhead cables. There were no objections.
- iv. PL/2023/09133 The Old Vicarage, Little London, Heytesbury, to fell lime tree and raise crown of yew tree. There were no objections.
- v. PL/2023/05681 Garstons, Park Lane, Heytesbury, creation of two ponds. It was agreed to support the application.

97 To confirm no objections to planning applications PL/2023/07883 and PL/2023/07884

- i. PL/2023/07883 33 Hospital of St John, Heytesbury, to re-pollard lime tree and height reduction for ongoing management of the tree within the courtyard
- ii. PL/2023/07884 33 Hospital of St John, Heytesbury, works to trees in a conservation area

It was confirmed there were no objections to the above applications.

98 To exclude press and public under Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to discuss confidential items (commercially sensitive)

It was resolved to exclude press and public.

99 To consider a quote for maintenance of footpaths

It was resolved to accept the quote for £850 from Neat n Tidy for maintenance of footpaths in 2024.

100 Grounds maintenance

It was resolved to accept the following quotes from idverde for grounds maintenance from April 2024 to October 2025:

- i. £1,618.12 plus VAT (2024)
- ii. £1,698.90 plus VAT (2025)

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and ended at 9.14 pm.

Signed.....

Date