**Minutes of Meeting held at 6.15 m on Monday 12th February 2024**

**in Hart Village Hall**

**Present:** Councillors John Littlefair (Chair), Keith Brown, Keith Park, Stuart Brookes, Joanne Quarmby

**In Attendance:** Fiona Ford - Clerk, Ward Councillors Rob Darby and Tom Cassidy, one member of the public.

1. **Public Forum**

Concerns were raised about the overgrown hedge on the public footpath at Butts Lane. Cllr Littlefair to approach the residents again.

A discussion then took place regarding flooding from the fields at Burns Close/Butts Lane spilling onto the path and the potential to undertake improvement works in the future.

1. **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Tom Britcliffe and John Wilson.

1. **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest

1. **Police Report**

There was no Police Report available.

1. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 8th January 2024**

It was noted Tom Cassidy was in attendance at the meeting. The Minutes of the Meeting were then agreed as a true record and the Chairman signed the minutes.

1. **Matters Arising**
2. **Car Park Gate Planning Application** – Councillor Park advised he is awaiting a quote following a site meeting on 9th January 2024.
3. **South View Parking Design** – Action – Clerk to ask Peter Frost for an update and ask about other options for improving accessibility.
4. **Defibrillator** – Clerk to order following the signature of the cheque.
5. **Gullies** – Clerk to email HBC (Kieran Bostock) re the process of HPC undertaking gully clearance works – cc Tom Cassidy and Rob Darby

1. **Chairman’s Report**

Councillor Littlefair attended the Parish Liaison Meeting on Monday 5th February 2024. One of the main concerns of all the Parish Councils is the volume of houses being built and the lack of new road infrastructure planned. Whilst the proposed Elwick Fly Over is meant to take the pressure off the current roads it is several years away. Cllr Littlefair asked for the HBC Road Strategy, however to date it had not been provided.

A discussion then took place regarding flooding across fields and spilling across roads.

1. **Ward Councillor’s Report**

The Councillors have raised the ongoing issues of the filling of the Reservoir, mud/debris on the road, chipped windscreens, and flooding again with Kieran Bostock. A discussion then took place regarding speeding on the A179. It was agreed to write to Cleveland Police asking if the speed on the road can be reduced or speed cameras provided.

Fly tipping was discussed and Councillor Darby advised HBC have identified a suspect (for one incident), which is being dealt with by the Enforcement Team.

1. **Maintenance Committee Report**

A discussion took place regarding the items on the report. Clerk to undertake the following:

* Order defibrillator pads.
* Speak to HBC (Kieran Bostock) regarding HBCs requirements and process for undertaking gully/drainages works.
* Formally contact Forsa Energy to request the Environmental and Emission Reports including frequency of testing
1. **Financial Report**

The Clerk advised she had made a formal complaint to HSBC as the address had still not been updated. Councillor Littlefair (as an authorised signatory) to speak to HSBC; Clerk to forward information on an email. A discussion took place regarding pruning works to the trees in the Darlings/Raby Arms car park area. Clerk to look into further. The following cheques were then signed:

100892 Clerk wages (January 2024 and backdated increase) £327.20

100893 HMRC (PAYE January 2024 and backdated increase) £81.80

100894 Defi Shop (replacement pads) £92.94

 **Total £501.94**

1. **Correspondence**

As well as the correspondence currently forwarded it was agreed the Clerk would forward to all Councillors emails regarding Hartlepool wide planning applications, roadworks and HBC Committee meetings papers.

1. **Planning Applications**

H/2023/0368 – Land to the East of Hart Lane (Hart Reservoirs) – A response to the Parish Council’s concerns had been received and was discussed.

H/2023/0028 – Engineering works to infill and level the disused and drained lower reservoir – A discussion took place.

1. **Matters of Concern to Councillors**
* Milbank and Voltigeur Close – there is currently no grit bin for the area
* Speed coming down A179
* Footpath in Magdeline Drive needs making good following the utility works
* Nine Acres footpath is unsuitable to walk along due to the Hawthorn bushes trimmings all over the footpath
* Pot holes on Worset lane between substation and A179
1. **Date of next Meeting of the Parish Council**

The meeting will be held on Monday 11th March 2024 at 6.45 in Hart Village Hall.

*Meeting closed at 8.05 pm*

*Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*