

Hales and Heckingham Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting of
Hales and Heckingham Parish Council (HNPC)
At 7.30pm on Tuesday 17th October 2023

The Meeting will be held at Hales and Assembly Hall, Briar Lane, Hales

Present: George Buckle (Chairman) (GB)
Keith Beavor (KB)
Craig Broadley-Naylor (CB-N)

1. Welcome by the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed everyone present at the meeting.

2. Apologies & Approval of Absences from Council Members

Apologies were received from Akhil Pramanik and Martine Rebbeck.

3. Declaration of Interest for items on the agenda

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Ratification of minutes of the meeting held on 5th September 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th September 2023 were ratified.

5. County and District Councillors Updates

There were no updates. The Chairman said she would email the Councillors before the next meeting to invite them.

6. To Receive Updates from Individual Councillors

CB-N said that although there had been a few minor complaints about the resurfacing of Yarmouth Road most of the contractors had been pleasant and helpful. It was agreed that the work had been cleanly done and delivered on time. However, since the completion of the works it had been noted that the level of speeding had increased. GB noted that the police had been carrying out checks.

GB reported that the hedge along Beccles Road had been cut.

GB said the bricks surrounding the concrete pad on Yarmouth Road near the brick bus stop will require some attention. It was thought that the land belonged to Saffron Housing.

7. Village Sign and Overgrown Green

GB had contacted Saffron Housing regarding the grass cutting to request a meeting to discuss better outcomes for all stakeholders.

The creator of the Village Sign had offered to refurbish the sign and would shortly remove it for a period to carry this out.

8. Hales Development Off Yarmouth Road

Planning permission for the next phase of the development has been submitted to South Norfolk District Council under planning application number 2023/. It was agreed that the parish council would resubmit earlier comments for consideration with this application.

It was noted that Anglian Water had attended to pump out a broken sewer at the top of Briar Lane on a few occasions. There have also been leaks from the sewer further along Briar Lane where it runs along the ditch. On two occasions this has flooded fields, ruined the crop and rendered the fields unusable for at least a season. GB will ask Councillor Kay Mason Billig if she can advise who to approach at Anglian Water. It was suggested that contact should be made with the Environment Agency about the spills.

The parish council agreed to bring the poor state of the sewer to the attention of South Norfolk planners as both the current development is being piped into this and it is proposed the new one will also. Concerns about the capacity of the pumping station had already been raised with the planners.

CB-N reported that there was a change to the soft landscaping and boundary of the current development to accommodate a badger sett. Willow fencing would be used to provide protection and look naturalistic.

9. Hales Green Update

The second grass cut was complete and had gone well. Four additional parking bays had been completed spread between Hales Hall Lane and Litchmere Lane. Following several new occupants in the properties adjoining the common, South Norfolk District Council were reconsidering sending a general information letter to them. It was expected that this would need to be hand delivered.

10. Remembrance Sunday

CB-N will contact Reverence Ros and the bugler to ask if they would be available to conduct the service.

11. Next Meeting on 28th November 2023

The primary item on the agenda for the next meeting will be to set the budget for 2024/25.

12. Close of Meeting

The meeting closed at 20.01.