



HELMDON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES



of the meeting of Helmdon Parish Council, held in the Reading Room, Church Street, Helmdon on Wednesday 27th September 2023 at 7:30pm.

Present: Cllrs Harris, Marchant, Moody (Chair), Plunkett, Wheeler (Vice-Chair) and Charmaine Jay (Clerk)

In attendance: 4 members of the public.

179. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bearman

RESOLVED: To not approve Cllr Bearman's absence

180. Declarations of Interest

None

181. Approval and signature of the minutes of July 26th 2023

RESOLVED: That the minutes of July 26th 2023 are approved and signed

182. Matters arising

None

183. Open Forum

- Cllr Eastwood expressed thanks to all volunteers in the village that are involved in the community larder as it is becoming a huge success.
- It was expressed that the land that is for sale in the village, if developed on, should lean towards smaller homes to allow younger families to have affordable housing.
- If properties are built- there will need to be an investigation into the flooding.

184. To fill the vacancies on the council by co-option

No expressions of interest for the vacancies on the council

RESOLVED: To defer to October meeting

185. To receive an update from HS2 liaison officer from recent meetings

- No recent update from HS2 liaison officer.
- Information is being sent out via email, post and through websites.

186. Finance:

A. To receive the financial statement: note payments received and consider invoices to be paid ([Appendix a](#))

RESOLVED: That the following bill(s) be approved for payment:

Payee	Invoice Number	Reason	Amount
Reading Room	391	Room Hire	90.00
Helen Timms	Pump Garden	Pump Garden	200.00
PKF LittleJohn LTD	SB 20231522	External Audit	252.00

B. To note closure letter from PKF Littlejohn LTD

RESOLVED: To note closure letter from PKF Littlejohn LTD

C. To consider insurance quote received from Clear Councils

RESOLVED: To continue with insurance with Clear Councils

D. To receive report from ICC

Report was received from Cllr Wheeler, the Internals Control Councillor, and everything was satisfactory.

RESOLVED: To note the satisfactory report from the ICC

E. To consider SLCC membership for Charmaine Jay

The membership cost is £146 per annum and a £10 joining fee. It would benefit the clerk to network with other clerks and help move the council forward.

RESOLVED: To approve the SLCC membership for the clerk

187. To receive an update for alternative website providers

The report received was noted.

A lot of website providers focus on algorithm and are more focused on e-commerce website providers.

RESOLVED: To reduce the amount in mailboxes by two, treewarden@ and webmaster@.

To continue with 2Commune and review in June 2025.

188. To establish a working group for a cycle way to Brackley project.

A lot of information was collated by Emma Gray and is keen to move forward with getting a cycle way to Brackley.

RESOLVED: For Cllrs Holloway and Plunkett to form a working group for a cycle way to Brackley.

189. To consider quote from Dan Phillips for work on play area

The bark at the play area needs topping up according to the latest inspection from RoSPA

RESOLVED: To approve the quote from Dan Phillips for work on play area

190. To consider purchasing a new county flag

The current county flag is looking dishevelled

RESOLVED: To approve purchasing a new county flag

191. To consider ideas for D-Day on June 6th 2024

There was discussions for D-Day that a beacon is purchased and exploring the option of the theme which is fish and chips.

Action point: Cllr Moody to speak to Bill Elkington to find out what the church is doing

192. To allocate notice board key to a councillor

RESOLVED: Cllr Moody to hold the notice board key

193. To consider how to respond to enquiries relating to the land for sale around the village

Enquiries have been received regarding the land for sale around the village and Priory Fields. It was discussed at length how the council should move forward with the correspondence.

RESOLVED: To forward all enquires and correspondence regarding land for sale around the village and Priory Fields to the planning committee.

194. To exclude members of the public and press due to the next item being confidential

RESOLVED: To exclude members of the public and press

195. Land sales

CONFIDENTIAL

196. To agree the date and time of the next parish council meeting

RESOLVED: Wednesday 25th October 2025 at 7.30pm

197. Close

Meeting closed: 21.06

Next meeting is on Wednesday 25th October 2023 at 7.30pm