



HELMDON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES



of the meeting of Helmdon Parish Council, held in the Reading Room, Church Street, Helmdon on Wednesday 28th February 2024 at 7:30pm.

Present: Cllrs Holloway, Lockett, Marchant, Moody, Shepherd and Wheeler

219. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Harris and Minshall

RESOLVED: To approve Cllrs Harris and Minshall's absence

220. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Wheeler declared an interest in item 232

221. Approval and signature of the minutes of January 24th, 2024

RESOLVED: To approve and sign the minutes of January 24th 2024

222. Matters arising

None

223. Open Forum (15min max- 3 min per person)

Members of the public made representations on:

- Super fast broadband been advertised for Greatworth
- Parking issues down Station Road

Action:

- Helmdon Parish Council to put forward a case to WNC in the future
- To form a working group for Station Road parking

219. To consider a new website provider as the current provider is going out of business at the end of March 2024

It was confirmed that the council will use new provider for the website to start a fresh. There are a lot of out of date items on the website.

RESOLVED: Clerk to request Parish Online to become new provider for Helmdon Parish Council's website

220. Finance:

A. To receive the financial statement: to note payments and receipts.

RESOLVED: To note payments and receipts

B. To consider invoices to be paid:

Payee	Invoice number	Purpose	Amount
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Marcus Young	4229	Dog bin emptying	£636.48
Scribe	5154	Annual subscription	£414.72
2Commune	4704	Domain Renewal	180.00
2Commune	4737	Partial hosting	500.40

RESOLVED: To approve payments to both Marcus Young and Scribe. Clerk to enquire termination costs for Cuttlefish. Up to £200 has been authorised from the council for the clerk to pay

- 221. To reconvene the Station Road Working Group to produce an issues and options report on parking near Station Road Green and to appoint members of the council and members of the public to it**
To appoint Cllrs Marchant, Plunkett and Shepherd alongside Geoff Abbey and Peter Coy to reconvene the Station Road Working Group to produce an issues and options report on parking near Station Road Green.

RESOLVED: Cllr Marchant to convene first meeting

- 222. To discuss application for permanent diversion of footpath ap30**

The council supports the application and has no comments

RESOLVED: Clerk to reply in support of application

- 223. To review flood mitigation project**

It was noted that:

- The catch pit was dug out in June 2017. This exposed the pipe running under Grange Lane and a break in the pipe indicated that it was almost completely blocked with hardened silt. The pit was dug by the landowner, using their equipment and at their expense.
- The part of Grange Lane traversed by the pipe was also owned by Badnell Properties and it was therefore their responsibility to clean it, which they accepted.
- The cleaning was undertaken by a specialist contractor and funded by Badnell Properties
- It is not known what the total costs of the above works were. HPC did not pay anything.

RESOLVED: Work with new land owner to create a plan to get the catch pit cleaned

- 224. To consider a date for the annual litter pick**

Sunday 7th April 2024 was decided on the annual litter pick at 10am outside Helmdon Primary School.

RESOLVED: Clerk to circulate information on social media and website. Clerk to contact WNC for equipment.

- 225. To consider access to ownership issues with Helmdon Old Station site**

- 226. To receive an update Welsh Lane (B4525) gritting store**

There was no update or correspondence received from WNC.

Sam Simmonds from Highways is attending the Annual Village Meeting in April- a good opportunity to discuss issues on B4525.

It was suggested that there is more monitoring of speed along the B4525

227. To consider quote from R & G for weekly cuttings on War Memorial

Clerk to question R & G if they are able to do adhoc cuttings on war memorial and if other arrangements were made would they be happy to continue with other quotes.

RESOLVED: Clerk to contact R & G

228. To consider acquiring a portrait of King Charles III to celebrate his reign

Clerk to write to Reading Room and the school to see if they would like the portrait of King Charles III

229. To exclude members of the public and press

230. Confidential

231. Close: Meeting closed at 21.22

Next meeting is on Wednesday 27th March 2024 at 7.30pm