

Horspath Stone Pit Charity
Minutes of Trustees' Meeting – Tuesday 19th March 2024 at 7.30pm
held at Horspath Village Hall

Present: Mrs B Oakley (Chairman), Mr D Burgess, Mrs P Cook, Mr L Coolman, Mr I Harris, Mr B Igoe, Mr P O'Brien, Mr E Parker, Mrs H Kogel (Clerk). Mrs H Franklin, Mr R Hamlet, Mr B Lowe.

Apologies: Mrs C Riley.
Absent: Mr T Bearder, Mr S James-Lawrie.
Public: 3

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were made on behalf of Mrs Riley. Mr James-Lawrie and Mr Bearder were absent from the meeting.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

Mrs Oakley declared an interest in one individual grant application
Mr Lowe declared an interest in one organisation grant application.

3. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL.

The Minutes of the Trustees Meeting held on 12th December 2023 were agreed and signed as correct by the Chairman.

The Minutes of the Trustees Meeting held on 31st January 2024 were agreed and signed as correct by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING. – None.

5. STAGECOACH. – Construction of new sub-station.

Mr O'Brien reported that he has recently spoken with the representative from Stagecoach who has confirmed that they are waiting for the lawyers to deal with the legal documents. Mr Igoe stated that Stagecoach took delivery of 6/7 electric buses last week.

6. HSPC ACCOUNTS – Update – Email from the Accountant.

Trustees agreed that Mrs Oakley and Mr Burgess will sign the accounts and also to ask Mr Barnes to go ahead and contact his legal colleague for advice on the disclosure of the land. Mr Parker suggested that we seek advice on whether an independent valuation and an audit is required.

Trustees approved the Trustees Report produced by Mr Parker.

7. LAND FOR SALE.

Mr Coolman stated that the landowner is looking to sell the land for £160k plus 25% overage. Mr Coolman has spoken with an estate agent who has stated that the asking price is too high. Mr Parker stated that the land is vastly over-priced and, ideally it would be a low price with a higher overage as HSPC would not be looking to build on the land, but to use it as a buffer zone. Mr Hamlet stated that he no longer supports purchasing the land as it is over-priced and it has been vacant for 25 years and suggested that HSPC pull out of the sale.

Following discussions and further information received, Mr Burgess proposed that an offer of £75k plus 40% overage is put forward to the land owner as a final offer. Seconded by Mrs Cook, In Favour 7, Against – 1. (Independent Advisors, In Favour – 2, Against – 1).

Mr O'Brien stated that Trustees should not be fearful of any backlash from the village, as Trustees have to make the best decision at the time.

8. CLERKS SALARY INCREASE & BACK PAY.

Trustees agreed and approved the Clerk's salary increase in line with NALC's recommendations, to be back paid to April 2023.

Trustees also agreed and approved the holiday pay that should have been paid in July 2023.

Trustees agreed that the Treasury Deposit Account should be renewed in May 2024 when it matures, and every six months after. It was also agreed that an additional amount of £100k will be added to the Treasury Deposit Account, totalling £800k.

9. INDEPENDENT ADVISORS.

Mrs Oakley stated that the current Independent Advisors are Mr Bearder, Mr James-Lawrie, Mr Hamlet, Mr Lowe, and Mrs Franklin.

Mr Bearder has not attended a HSPC meeting for more than six months, and Mr James-Lawrie has only attended one HSPC meeting since he was elected. Trustees agreed that the Clerk contact Mr Bearder and Mr James-Lawrie as Independent Advisors and ask them if they would like to continue in their roles as Independent Advisors as it is not helpful when they do not attend the meetings. Mr O'Brien stated that HSPC has a fine balance of Independent Advisors with the three members present tonight.

10. CORRESPONDENCE.

- a. Mr Skeats. – Receipts.
- b. Mrs McGee. – Receipts for swimming lessons.
- c. Mr Wright. – Receipts for the memorial service & cheque for un-spent grant.
- d. Mrs Elsworth. – Receipt.
- e. Mr Underdown. – Thank you email for the grant for the village magazine.
- f. Mr Woodcock. – Receipts.

11. PAYMENTS

Date	Paid To	Details	Total £
30.1.24	HMRC	Employer Contributions	122.80
31.1.24	Lemoneye	Web hosting and renewal of domain	225.00
19.3.24	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Salary Jan, Feb, March 2024 Payment of holiday pay for 2022/23	1014.49
		TOTAL	1362.29

12. RECEIPTS.

Date	Received from	Details	Total £
22.12.23	Stagecoach	Quarterly Rent	62,500.00
12.1.24	Mr David Wright	Return of un-spent grant	109.00
21.2.24	Horspath Senior Residents	Return of un-spent grant	105.00
4.3.24	Barclays Bank	Interest on Business Premium Account	343.97
		Total	£63,057.97

****£62,500 due from Stagecoach in March 2024**.**

Bank Balance as of 12.3.24

Community Account	£13,459.05
Business Premium Account	£135,343.97
Deposit Treasury Account	£700,000.00

13. AOB.

Mr Burgess asked if HSPC would consider awarding grants to secondary school children attending the Youlbury School trip. Trustees agreed that this HSPC would award grants towards all educational school trips. The Clerk will update the website.

14. APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING.

3 Organisation & 9 Individual applications to be considered.

Organisations Applications

Horspath Magazine – Awarded £2475.00 for 6 editions of the village magazine.

(Mr Lowe declared an interest and took no part in voting).

Babies1st.net - Awarded £100.00 for the hire of the Hub, cushions and paper laminating.

Horspath Parish Council – Awarded £1060.00 for the cost of submitting a pre-app for the proposed new village hall.

Individual Applications

2 applications were deferred due to no receipt submitted for previous grant.

4 applications were successful for swimming lessons. Total £800.00.

2 applications were successful for School Trips. Total £400.00.

1 application was successful for the provision of meal vouchers for senior citizens for the next three months. (Mrs Oakley left the room and took no part in voting). Total £5000.00.

A total of £9,835.00 was awarded.

Signed Date.....