

Horspath Stone Pit Charity
Minutes of Trustees' Meeting – Tuesday 30th June 2026 at 7.30pm
held at Horspath Village Hall

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

Apologies: Mr L Coolman,
Absent: Mr James-Lawrie (I/A), Mr A Absolum (I/A).

Public: 4

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were made on behalf of Mr Coolman). Mr James-Lawrie and Mr Absolum were absent from the meeting.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

Mrs Oakley declared an interest in one of the individual grant applications.
Mr Smith (I/A) declared an interest in two of the individual grant applications.
Mr Lowe (I/A) declared an interest in one of the organisation grant applications.

3. MINUTES FOR APPROVAL.

The Minutes of the Trustees Meeting held on 24th March 2026 were agreed and signed as correct by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING. – None.

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

Mr O'Brien advised Trustees that he has sent several emails to the representative that is dealing with this project but has not received a reply, although they have 55 similar schemes that they are working on. It was agreed that this will be removed from the Agenda until further correspondence is received.

6. HSPC AUDIT.

Mr Parker stated that he is waiting for a valuation of the site before it can be confirmed if an audit is required. From next year the values for the need for an audit are doubling so it may be that we only need an audit for one year.

7. STAGECOACH RENT REVIEW.

Mr O'Brien stated that there is no update available.

8. REVIEW OF INDEPENDENT ADVISORS.

Mrs Oakley confirmed that currently the Independent Advisors are Mr Brian Lowe, Mr Leigh Smith, Mr Bob Hamlet, Mr Anthony Absolum and Mr Sam James Lawrie. No contact has been received from Mr James-Lawrie or Mr Absolum. Mr Walker will make contact with Mr Absolum before a position is advertised.

Mrs Oakley stated that although Mr Hookham has resigned as a Parish Councillor, he has confirmed that he would like to be an Independent Advisor for HSPC. Trustees agreed that Mr Hookham will become an Independent Advisor and will replace Mr James-Lawrie. The Clerk will inform Mr James-Lawrie.

9. CORRESPONDENCE.

- a. **Mr L Smith. – Email regarding Independent Advisors, grants and new ideas for HSPC. –**
Mr Smith stated that all new Independent Advisors need all information available to them before starting. Mr Smith has discussed this position with several people and the general view is that historically there have been relatively similar grants issued. Mr Smith suggested that he comes up with different ideas that can be considered. Mr Parker stated that any new ideas would have to be a proposal to HSPC for Trustees to consider. Mr O'Brien stated that when he joined HSPC he did an audit on historic grants awarded and there was over £400k awarded, but absolutely no financial gain to the village. Mr O'Brien stated that HSPC should not be inviting any organisations with big capital expenditure items while the village hall project is on-going. When this project is finished, grants can be reviewed. Mrs Oakley stated that swimming, uniform, school trips, and transport grants were introduced over the last few years to help young families. Organisations are expected to raise money towards projects that are awarded a grant. Mr Smith will look at other low cost grants in the hope of improving village perception. Mr Parker stated that it is the same residents who attend the meetings on a regular basis.

10. PAYMENTS.

Date	Paid To	Details	Total £
30.6.26	Mrs Hayley Kogel	Salary Apr/May/June 2026 + ¼ holiday pay	716.46
28.5.26	Clear Council Insurance	Trustee Indemnity Insurance	187.00
30.6.26	HMRC	Employer Contributions Apr/May/June	179.00
		TOTAL	£1,082.46

11. RECEIPTS.

Date	Received from	Details	Total £
18.6.26	Barclays Bank	Treasury Account Interest	4786.52
16.6.26	Stagecoach	Quarterly Rent	62,500.00
8.6.26	Barclays Bank	Interest	532.25
1.4.26	Ms Sinnott	Repayment of un-spent grant	108.00
25.3.26	Stagecoach	Quarterly Rent	62,500.00
		Total	£130,426.77

Bank Balance as of 23.6.26 - £1,229,391.20

Community Account £1,004,130.36

Business Premium Account £225,260.84

Treasury Account £0

The Clerk confirmed that the Treasury Deposit Account for £1,000,000.00 has been renewed.

12. AOB.

- a. Mr Hamlet (I/A) asked if the grant awarded to the Church around 2-3 years ago to draw up plans has been used and has a receipt been submitted. Mr Lowe (I/A) stated that an architect did draw up the plans which were then delayed due to covid, and then the architect resigned, so the project was put on hold. This project has recently been re-started and is on-going. The Clerk will check that a receipt has been provided.
- b. Mr Smith (I/A) asked who owns the land at Gateley as one of his ideas to stop vehicles parking on the grass is to create a parking area and benches. Mrs Oakley stated that it is owned by SODC. Mrs Cook reported that OCC and SODC have recently been out looking at the land and have suggested different things for the area. Mrs Cook spoke with the representatives and suggested that the area is used to create parking. This project will be discussed at a HPC meeting.
- c. Mr Hookham asked for any information available for the role of Independent Advisor. Mrs

Oakley stated that I/A's can comment on any applications but when an application is received from HPC, the majority of I/A's have to support the application before it can be awarded.

13. APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING.

2 Organisation and 8 Individual applications to be considered.

Organisation Grants

Horspath Cricket Club – Application deferred until September 2026 to allow for the season to end and allow more time for fundraising. The Clerk will request that the Cricket Club provide details before the next meeting in September of the amount that has been received in fundraising towards the hybrid pitch.

Post Office Community Group – (Mr Lowe, I/A declared an interest and left the room). Application deferred until September and when a Post Office Assistant has been identified. Clarification is also required on the salary calculation.

Individual Applications

1 application was successful for a school trip. – Total £200.00.

2 applications were successful for swimming lessons. – Total £400.00. (Mr Smith I/A declared an interest and left the room).

2 applications were successful for School Uniforms. - £400.00.

2 applications were successful for the Scouts Explorer Belt Expedition. - £400.00.

1 application was successful for the meal voucher scheme. - £7000.00. To commence on 1st September 2026. (Mrs Oakley declared an interest and left the room).

A total of £8,400.00 was awarded.

Signed Date.....