



**St Giles on the Heath with Northcott Hamlet
Parish Council**

“Working with you, For you”

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON

Tuesday 8th April 2025 at 7.30pm

Parish Councillors Present: Cllr Atkinson (Chairman), Cllr K Hamlyn, Cllr R Nicholson, Cllr S Trusler, Cllr Bowyer, Cllr Fisher, Cllr Curtis, Cllr Williams, Cllr Thorne, Cllr Paulger, Cllr Dimmock.

In attendance: Clerk Kayleigh Walker, District Cllr Gibson, District Cllr Hackett, Staci Dorey - Head of Legal - TDC, members of the public: 5.

1. PUBLIC SESSION

1.1 No questions. The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting, introduced Staci Dorey and thanked everyone for attending.

2. RECEIVING APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE & DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2.1 Cllr Russell, Cllr A Nicholson - the Clerk advised the Councillors that Cllr A Nicholson had given his resignation.

2.2 None.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the meeting held February 25th, 2025, were previously circulated. Cllr Fisher requested that item 5.3h was amended to include ‘Cllr Hamlyn stated that the shop did not need the grant because money is freely available from the community’. Cllr Hamlyn questioned whether Cllr Fisher should have declared an interest in item 5.3d. The Clerk advised there was no interest to be declared and that this had been checked with Staci Dorey. Subject to the change the minutes were proposed as a true record of the meeting and the Chairman signed a copy. Proposed by Cllr Fisher, seconded by Cllr Williams and agreed by all.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1 Cllr R Nicholson questioned whether the Women’s Guild needed the grant funding as they are subsidising members lunches. The Chairperson advised this would be a matter to look into if they apply again next year.

5. REVIEWING CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERK’S REPORT

5.1 The Chairperson advised that Staci had been asked to attend the PC meeting to meet everyone and put a face to the name following advice that had been sought from her recently. Staci introduced herself and gave an explanation of her role which is far wider than her title of Head and Legal and Monitoring Officer. Staci confirmed she is also happy to help with queries and advice. She also confirmed she had worked with Cllr Hackett for a number of years. Staci welcomed any questions and Cllr R Nicholson asked if she could provide an update on an enforcement appeal. Staci confirmed she would follow it up and provide an update. Members thanked Staci for attending.

5.2 County Cllrs report - none.

5.3 District Cllrs Report - Cllr Gibson reported that the Police & Crime Commissioners Office had a new advocate scheme that he had now joined. With regards to devolution he advised that there had been lots of meetings and that the reorganisation would see town and parish councils with more power in regards to matters such as litter and snow wardens. Cllr Hackett responded stating that the advocate scheme was not new and he had been a member for many years. He also questioned Cllr Gibson’s comments regarding devolution suggesting his briefing was incorrect. Cllr Hackett also asked Cllr Gibson why he had not informed him that the Police and Crime Commissioner was visiting Holsworthy and why the Mayor had not been invited. Cllr Hackett also questioned Cllr Gibson’s election marketing. The Chairperson asked that the District Cllrs keep to matters relevant to the meeting. Cllr Gibson confirmed he was running for county cllr at the upcoming elections on May 1st. Cllr Hackett had nothing further to add until item 6.1. The Chairperson thanked the Cllrs for their reports.

5.4 The Clerk advised it was now a requirement for pc’s to have a specific email address such as .org.uk and would look to set this up along with the website host. Cllrs agreed they should also look to have individual cllr email addresses.

5.5 The Clerk advised that the contractor was waiting for payment from Willow Tree Housing before they commence repair work to the drainage in the playing field. The Clerk agreed to continue to follow this up, expressing dissatisfaction over the timescale and to update the community via Facebook.

Chairman Sign and date1.....



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5.6 Having reviewed the inspection report and repair quotes the cllrs agreed with advice that some items are no longer economical to repair and should be removed. It was felt that removal of items may also raise awareness within the community regarding the consequences of not having enough funding to upkeep the play equipment which could result in support and help from the community. Cllr Curtis agreed to write a notice for members of the public. The Clerk was asked to revert to the inspector to find out which items they suggested would be better removed and to ask TK Play to visit the site and give advice on the best way forward. A member of the public offered to look into some funding avenues and cllrs thanked him for his support. Staci confirmed she would look at whether any S106 money was available from the Lower Sladesmoor development.

5.7 The Clerk had circulated guidance on playground inspections prior to the meeting. Cllrs Atkinson and Fisher agreed to check the playground regularly recording their findings and Cllrs Paulger and Dimmock agreed to take over on their return from France.

5.8 Cllrs acknowledged the Definitive Map Review. Cllr Thorne said that some walkers were not sticking to the line of the footpath and were deviating around the entire field. He also said that some dog walkers were allowing dogs off lead, even when livestock were present. Cllrs agreed this was not acceptable and asked the Clerk to look into some signage. Cllr Hackett suggested contacting Richard Walton and DCC.

5.9 Cllrs agreed that the annual parish meeting would take place before the next pc meeting on May 20th. The Clerk confirmed Richard Haste, Head of Operations at TDC had accepted an invitation to be guest speaker. Staci advised he would be able to cover play areas as well as waste operations.

6. PLANNING

6.1 1/0923/2024/REMM - residential development (up to 12 dwellings) (Lower Sladesmoor) - Cllr Hackett advised that the flood concerns had been addressed by all necessary authorities and a new plan had been submitted. As a result he felt the call in to committee was no longer supported. Cllrs discussed this and agreed that as flooding had been addressed and they had no other concerns they should withdraw the call in. Proposed by Cllr Paulger, seconded by Cllr Trusler and agreed by all.

7. REVIEWING PROGRESS OF COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

7.1 Parish Meeting - Cllr Atkinson reported that the speedwatch meeting was poorly attended however the representative from Speedwatch gave a great talk and two new members had signed up to to the scheme making a total of 5. Cllr Fisher said she was also happy to join. Cllrs suggested the group should look into Chapmans Well as a site once again using the old pub car park as a standing place. Cllr Trusler offered to check whether the owners would allow this and Cllr Atkinson agreed to look at whether it was possible to register it as a location.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Cllr Hamlyn said sheep had entered the playing field because the fence was damaged and this was the responsibility of the pc. Cllrs/Clerk will look into this.

8.2 Cllr Hamlyn suggested the PC write a thank you letter to two members of the public that had been litter picking. The Clerk will proceed with this.

9. FINANCES

9.1 Authorisation of expenses – Coronation Hall hall hire for parish meeting £23 and April meeting £18, DALC membership £227+VAT. The Clerk advised the grass cutter had also submitted an invoice for £480. Accounts proposed for payment by Cllr R Nicholson, seconded by Cllr Bowyer and agreed by all.

9.2 Current account as of 17th March 2025 - £5319.15

9.3 Monthly budget sheet – circulated for Cllrs information only.

10. NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

10.1 Annual Parish Meeting to be held Tuesday 20th May 2025 7:00pm followed by the annual parish council meeting.

11. CLOSE

11.1 Meeting closed approx. 8.35pm.