

Minutes of the Quarley Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday the 9th of April 2024 in the Quarley Village Hall at 6.30pm.

Present: Cllr S Leech - Chair
Cllr N Constable
Cllr P Doran
Cllr L White
Cllr Y Whyton
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
Mr P Whyton – Village Hall Trustee
Borough Councillor Mrs S Hasselmann.
Member of the Public – Mrs M Hodgson

Apologies: County Councillor Mr C Donnelly, Borough Councillor Mrs M Flood, Mrs C Rowe and Mrs R Walker.

WELCOME.

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST.

There were no Declarations of interest recorded.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

The Chair signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record. Matters arising from those minutes:

WAR MEMORIAL – The Chair reported that Derek Davis who has cut the grass around the war memorial for many years would like to retire. The Parish Council wished to note the village's appreciation of the tidy way the memorial has been kept and to thank him for his commitment over such a long period of time. The Chair reported that John Tait has volunteered to take over the grass cutting. It was noted that green algae is beginning to appear on the war memorial and the Chair stated that she will see if she can remove it.

HIGHWAYS – The Clerk reported that he has contacted TVBC and requested the missing road name signs for Bush Farm Lane, Skew Road and Park Lane. This is confusing for delivery drivers and could make it difficult for the emergency services to find an address.

The Clerk stated that he had reported the litter on the slip road verges from the A303. Cllr L White reported that the verges have been cleared of litter and are looking a lot better.

The Chair reported that she has repeatedly reported the degraded road edges, broken kerb, broken 30mph signs and various potholes as have other councillors – some items have been reported 3 times and have still not been dealt with. A list of outstanding issues will be forwarded to County Councillor Mr C Donnelly.

It was noted that included in the Draft Borough Plan is a scheme to develop part of the Thruxton Industrial Estate and improve access to the circuit which the Council will need to monitor.

REPORTS.

FOOTPATHS – Cllr L White reported that she has cut Footpath 13 and been litter picking in the parish.

WEBSITE – Mrs M Hodgson reported that there is a bit more tweaking needed, but the new website is nearly ready to be published and go live. The Parish Council have now previewed the new website and thanked Mrs M Hodgson for all her hard work.

PAN PARISH FORUM – Despite ground water levels being 10 metres higher than in 2021/2, Southern Water’s work on relining the sewers has enabled the number of tankers being used to be reduced from 36 to 3. The Southern Water sewage treatment plant at Fullerton has received adverse publicity by overpumping into the Test but there are plans to increase the capacity by 60% probably in 2025.

Borough Councillor Mrs S Hasselmann reported that Test Valley Borough Councillors were invited by Southern Water to look around the Fullerton sewage treatment facility. The facility is currently running at 25% above the maximum output and seems to be coping and is no longer over pumping into the Test.

FINANCE.

End of Year Financial Report – 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.

RECEIPTS	£
Precept Test Valley Borough Council	3,150.00
TVBC Kings Coronation Grant	500.00
HCC Grant – Brush Cutter	1,174.00
	<u>£4,824.00</u>
PAYMENTS	
Administration	823.00
Clerks Wages	960.00
Village Maintenance	667.00
Street Lighting	188.92
Section 137 Payments – Church Grass	200.00
VAT on Payments	703.11
Jubilee Tree	188.96
Kings Coronation Celebrations	479.82
Insurance	739.72
Footpaths Training and Equipment	957.22
War Memorial Refurbishment	830.00
Transfer Lengthsman Balance to new	
Lead Council – Shipton Bellinger	6,590.22
Resilience Project	5,000.00
	<u>£18,327.97</u>
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY	
Balance Brought Forward 1/4/2023	28,734.17
Add Receipts	4,824.00
	<u>33,558.17</u>
Less Payments	18,327.97
	<u>£15,230.20</u>

REPRESENTED BY FUNDS

Bank Account 80686506 – 31/3/2024	15,267.70
Less Cheques not presented 31/3/2023	
No: 597 £37.50	37.50
	<u>£15,230.20</u>

The Parish Council agreed to adopt the End of Year Account as a true record.
Proposed by Cllr S Leech and seconded by Cllr P Doran.

CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION – AGAR 2023/2024

The Parish Council agreed to submit a Certificate of Exemption as the turnover was below £25,000. Proposed by Cllr S Leech and seconded by Cllr P Doran. All agreed.

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2023/2024

The Clerk read out the Annual Governance Statement 2023/2024 ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statement. The Annual Governance Statement was approved by the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr S Leech and seconded by Cllr N Constable. All Agreed.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2023/2024

The Annual Accounting Statement 2023/2024 was approved by the Parish Council. Proposed by Cllr S Leech and seconded by Cllr P Doran. All agreed.

FINACIAL REPORT APRIL 2024

EXPENDITURE.

Bank Charges	= £	6.60
Clerk Administration Fee	= £	80.00
	= £	86.60

SUMMARY.

Opening Balance 1/4/24 = £ 15,230.20
= **£15,230.20**

Less Expenditure
April = £86.60
= **£15,143.60**

Total Cash in Bank = **£15,143.60**

Parish Council working Balance = £ 5,143.60
Solar Farm Money = £ 10,000.00
= **£15,143.60**

VILLAGE HALL.

RESILIENCE PROJECT - The Chair was pleased to report that the remainder of the Resilience Grant has been paid to the Village Hall Trustees to assist with the cost of the new boiler.

PLAY AREA – The Chair reported that the trustees would be willing to allow risk-free low-level play equipment. Some councillors felt that swings would be a better option. It was agreed to hold another village consultation meeting on the 17th of May 2024 to

discuss ideas for spending the £10,000 Solar Farm money as it is five years since the last consultation.

VILLAGE HALL TRUSTEES – Mr Paul Whyton reported:

- The floor in the North Hall has been replaced.
- With grant aid it is planned to replace the entrance doors.
- A combi-boiler is being considered to run the heating and the hot water in the building, this will replace the immersion heaters and should cut running costs.
- It is planned to tidy up the front of the village hall and to re-define the car park.
- The internet in the village hall is up and running
- The pop-up coffee shop and pub are continuing to do well and a regular fixture in village life.
- Mr P Whyton wished to thank the volunteers who are giving their time to the Village Hall.

PLANNING.

A Planning Application has been submitted by Home Farm to take down 15 deceased trees in Bush Farm Lane to which the Parish Council has made no objection. It was hoped that replacement trees would be planted.

The refused Retrospective Planning Application for the HGV Site at Thruxton Down is to go to appeal.

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR MRS S HASSELMANN.

Cllr Mrs S Hasselmann reported that the Test Valley Climate Emergency Group are gathering momentum and reviewing their policies. Test Valley Borough Council have several Community Based Grants available. Test Valley Borough Council are asking for assistance in Butterfly Monitoring as part of a Conservation Project.

PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS.

There were no other issues raised that had not been already discussed.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING.

The Chair thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE 2024/2025 MEETINGS.

The dates for the 2024/2025 meetings:

16th of July 2024

19th of November 2024

11th of February 2025

6.30pm start time.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.

16th July 2024 at 6.30pm in the Quarley Village Hall.