

**HUCCLECOTE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21ST OCTOBER 2024
IN THE MEETING ROOM AT
PINEHOLT VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00 PM**

Present Councillor Mrs Bentley (In the Chair)
Councillor Stevens
Councillor Mrs Blackwell
Councillor Bentley
Councillor Ellis

In attendance Councillor Yates (Borough)
Councillor Vines (County)
2 members of the public

24/116 ACCEPTED APOLOGIES

- i. Councillor Smith
- ii. Councillor Townley
- iii. Councillor Miss Clifford

24/117 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY AND THROUGH THE CHAIR

Thanks were expressed to members and staff for supporting the Macmillan coffee morning, over £200 was raised and it was a successful event.

The Chair gave her apologies for the November meeting.

24/118 RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR BENTLEY (14TH DECEMBER 2024)

The resignation of Councillor Bentley was received, he was thanked for all his hard work over the past 9 years. **Action: Clerk to notify the monitoring officer and to advertise vacancy.**

24/119 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident of Sussex Gardens raised concerns with the Clerk regarding parking restrictions outside their property. The restricted parking in the cul-de-sac meant that visitors struggled to park and it was causing some inconvenience; the concerns were noted but Council felt it was not practical to adjust the current restrictions, as the process is costly and lengthy.

Residents of Coopers Edge attended the meeting to raise concerns about pedestrian safety when crossing Lobleys Drive. An online petition has been created and currently has 487 signatures calling for a pelican crossing; the development of shops on Lobleys Drive will increase pedestrian activity in the area.

Following discussion, County Councillor Vines agreed to present the petition to the cabinet member at the County Council to try and progress.

Residents left the meeting.

24/120 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 9th September 2024 were approved and signed by the Chair.

24/121 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

24/122 BOROUGH/COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Police – Crime figures were noted for the period April – July 2024; details will be shared on social media pages in the future.

County – Councillor Vines reported that following a recent boundary review some divisions will change at the next elections; two additional councillors will also serve the council.

Borough – Councillor Yates gave an update on the recent cyber-attack, now thought to be a failure in systems; things are slowly getting back to normal but there is a backlog that staff are dealing with.

A report from Councillor Paul Smith was received.

24/123 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations made.

24/124 COOPERS EDGE TRUST REPORT

Councillor Bentley attended the last meeting of the Trust, there had been no progress made with the transfer of allotments.

A Christmas Market will be held on Saturday 7th December at the Coopers Edge Community Centre.

24/125 PLANNING

a) New Applications

- i. 22/00297/FUL – Erection of 47 apartments with associated parking, access, landscaping, drainage and services (revised plans). Details were circulated before the meeting. Following discussion, it was resolved to object to the revised plans due to insufficient parking, overall poor design and removal of social housing provision.

b) Decisions

There were no decisions to report.

c) Coopers Edge Public Open Spaces

Tewkesbury Borough Council are chasing their solicitors and hope to have the land transferred shortly; this includes land along the Wotton Brook corridor. Councillor Yates agreed to follow up with officers at the borough council.

County Councillor Vines left the meeting

24/126 PINEHOLT VILLAGE HALL

a) Clerks report

A written report was received from the Clerk and Events and Community Engagement Lead.

Members agreed to hold a Christmas Festive afternoon on Friday 13th December and to charge a small fee to cover the costs.

24/127 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

a) Pedestrian safety on Lobleys Drive

Following earlier discussions, it was resolved to support the campaign for a safe crossing point on Lobleys Drive; the Clerk will liaise with residents.

b) Cycle network and improving connections

A report was received from Councillor Townley explaining the current planning for cycle network development.

It was resolved to proceed with the recommendation in his report to work with neighbouring parish councils and cycling groups to explore and identify new potential routes. **Action: a meeting to be arranged for early 2025.**

24/128 PLAY AREA

a) Quarterly inspection report

The quarterly inspection was undertaken by the caretaker and there were no matters to report.

The post installation report for the outdoor fitness equipment was received; a copy will also be sent to the borough council. **Action: Clerk**

24/129 FINANCE

a) Accounts for Payment

		Net	VAT	Gross
i.	GAPTC – Training	30.00	0.00	30.00
ii.	County Trading Services – Loft insulation	1995.00	399.00	2394.00
iii.	Barnwood United AFC – Grant	510.00	0.00	510.00
iv.	Play Equip Ltd – Instructional plates for equipment	246.00	49.20	295.20
v.	DB Landscaping – Hedge cutting	280.00	0.00	280.00
vi.	Hiscox Insurance Company Ltd – Insurance	3064.54	0.00	3064.64
vii.	Fine Turf Services – Grounds maintenance	314.00	0.00	314.00
viii.	Greenfields Garden Services – Play area maintenance	403.00	80.60	483.60
ix.	GAPTC – Training	45.00	0.00	45.00
x.	Amazon – Stationery	74.57	14.94	89.51
xi.	Amazon – Paper cups	10.30	0.00	10.30
xii.	TV Licensing – License	169.50	0.00	169.50

xiii.	British Gas – Service contract	25.51	5.10	30.61
xiv.	Water plus – Water supply	34.27	0.00	34.27
xv.	Opus Energy – Electric	234.84	11.74	246.58
xvi.	Opus Energy – Gas	58.07	2.90	60.97
xvii.	BT – Telephone/Broadband	68.23	13.65	81.88
xviii.	PHS – Hygiene Services	76.34	15.27	91.61

It was proposed, seconded and resolved to approve the payments.
The bank reconciliation was approved and signed by the Chair.

b) Finance report April – September 2024

Members had before them a finance report detailing income and expenditure, the variances with the budget were explained. An end of year forecast and draft budget report will be presented at the next meeting.

c) Internal Control report July - Sept

Councillor Miss Clifford had undertaken the audit for July-Sept 2024, there were no matters to report.

d) New Financial Regulations

The new financial regulations were received. Following discussion, it was resolved to adopt them with immediate effect.

e) Installation of solar panels

A report was received from Councillor Stevens. Following discussion, it was resolved to accept the quotation from Redbridge & Sons for the installation of solar panels at the village hall. The energy efficient grant application to Tewkesbury Borough Council was successful and will cover the vast majority of costs.
(Local Government Act 1972, S.133)

f) Grant applications 2025/2026

Following discussion, it was resolved to approve a £250 grant application (25/26) from the Friends of Churchdown Hill. This will help towards the annual costs of maintaining the footpaths, steps and other areas on the hill.
(Local Government Act 1972, S.137)

24/130 MISC

a) Tree Planting

Following discussion, it was resolved to submit an application to the Gloucestershire County Council ash die back replanting scheme. Councillors Bentley and Ellis will assess the number of trees and species required; permission from land owners would also be sought. A volunteer planting day will be organised for November/December.

b) Parish newsletter

It was resolved to produce a resident's newsletter ready for distribution early December; expenditure was agreed.

(Local Government Act 1972, S.142)

c) Recruitment of parish councillors

Vacancies will be advertised on social media pages, in the newsletter and on parish noticeboards; larger posters will be put up around Sussex Gardens and Cranham Gate.

d) Management of wild flower beds

Following discussion, it was agreed to continue with the wildflower beds around the parish; positive feedback was received from residents. It was further agreed to spend no more than £2k, Councillor Bentley will review and amend the specification before quotes are sought.

(Highways Act 1980, S.47)

e) Creation of Coopers Edge Liaison Group (CELC)

A meeting was held with Brockworth and Upton St Leonards parish councils to discuss the formation of a joint working group to benefit the Coopers Edge community; notes from the meeting were circulated.

Following discussion, it was resolved to accept the agreed actions of the committee. The next meeting will be held on November 28th at the Coopers Edge Community Centre. **Action: C/T, D/B**

Meeting closed at: 8.25 p.m.

Next meeting: Monday 18th November 2024