



HELMDON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES



of the meeting of Helmdon Parish Council, held in the Reading Room, Church Street, Helmdon on Wednesday 24th January 2024 at 7:30pm.

Present: Cllrs Harris, Holloway, Lockett, Marchant, Minshall, Moody and Wheeler

219. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Plunkett

RESOLVED: To approve Cllr Plunkett's absence

220. Declarations of Interest

None

221. Approval and signature of the minutes of November 22nd, 2023

RESOLVED: To approve and sign the minutes of November 22nd, 2023

222. Matters arising

None

223. Open Forum (15min max- 3 min per person)

Members of the public made representations on:

- ☞ The shed in the brook.
- ☞ Footpath access on the Helmdon Old Railway site.
- Blackpits.

Action:

- DM to contact the owner of the shed
- Find out who the new owners of the Helmdon Old Railway site are.

224. To fill the vacancies on the council by co-option

David Shepherd expressed interest in the vacancy of the council.

RESOLVED: To co-opt David Shepherd onto the council.

225. To consider a new website provider as the current provider is going out of business at the end of March 2024

RESOLVED: To defer the decision until the February meeting pending receipt of three quotes.

226. Finance:

- A. To receive the financial statement: to note payments and receipts

RESOLVED: To note the financial statement: payments and receipts.

B. To consider invoices to be paid:

Payee	Invoice number	Purpose	Amount
NCALC	3372	Training for Charmaine J and John M	£79.20
Charmaine Jay		Lanyards	13.59
2Commune	4704	Domain Renewal	180.00
Reading Room	402	Reading room hire	95.00
Reading Room	413	Reading room hire	72.50
2Commune	4737	Partial hosting	500.40

C.

RESOLVED: To approve all bills for payment except the 2Commune bills, which should be held over pending the decision at the February meeting.

a. To receive recommendations from Finance committee for 2024/25

i. To set the Budget for Expenditure 2024/25

RESOLVED: To set the budget for 2024/25 at £31,943.40.

ii. To set the Precept Demand for 2024/25

RESOLVED: To set the precept for 2024/25 at £30,000.

iii. To consider timetable for the Small Grants Scheme 2024/25

RESOLVED: Clerk to confirm

iv. To approve Clerks salary increase from SCP 20 to SCP 21

RESOLVED: To increase the clerk's salary from SCP20 to SCP21 from 1 April 2024.

227.To appoint new Neighbourhood Watch Representative

To disband the Helmdon Neighbourhood Watch Scheme(s).

RESOLVED: Clerk to contact Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

228.To review councillors and representatives

To appoint Cllr Faye Holloway to the Finance Committee.

To appoint Cllrs Billie Minshall and Dave Shepherd to the Planning Committee.

To appoint Cllr Faye Holloway to the HR Committee.

RESOLVED: Inform new committee members of forward dates for meetings.

229.To consider making proposals to WNC under the Community Governance Review

To make representations to WNC that there be no changes to Helmdon Parish Council.

RESOLVED: Clerk to write to WNC before the consultation deadline (31 January 2024)

230.To review flood mitigation project

RESOLVED: To Defer to February Meeting

231.To consider re joining the National Allotment Society

RESOLVED: To rejoin the National Allotment Society

232.To consider training on 7th February 2024

To organise an in-house training session on 7th February 2024.

RESOLVED: Clerk to book Reading Room

233.To gather a working group for the Parish Plan 2024/25

To appoint Cllrs Moody, Plunkett, Lockett, Minshall, and Shepherd to the Parish Plan Working Group and to convene a meeting as soon as possible.

RESOLVED: Cllr Moody to convene a meeting of the group.

234.To consider topics for the annual village meeting on 22nd May 2024

That the topics for the Annual Village Meeting on 24 April 2024 be HS2 and Highways (focusing on the Radstone Road and Welsh Lane).

RESOLVED: Clerk to contact Dave Butcher to invite him and/or Brenna Slade. Cllrs Moody/ Marchant/ Clerk to think who best to invite from WNC Highways

235.The Welsh Lane (B4525) grittings

To write to the CEO of WNC requesting that the gritting store on the B4525 be closed off and/or litter picked on a regular basis, along with the whole of the Welsh Lane.

RESOLVED: Clerk to write to the CEO at WNC

236..Close

RESOLVED: Meeting closed

Next meeting is on Wednesday 28th February 2024 at 7.30pm