

HAYDON WICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Haydon Wick Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 28th March 2023 at 6.00pm at the GLL Haydon Centre Studio Room, Thames Avenue, Swindon, SN25 1QQ.

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS: Councillors V Manro (Chairman), E Baker Lee, R Hailstone, J Jackson, S McDermott, J Fuller, B Patrick-Okoh, A John and R Ross.

DEPUTY CLERK Laura Cutter

STAFF Dave Hunt, Caroline Hunt, Joanne Newman, Kate New, Darry New, Andy Nickols, Mark Weaving, Lisa Weaving

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE There were 37 members of the public in attendance.

APM 17 WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN
Councillors V Manro and E Baker Lee welcomed the meeting.

APM 18 APOLOGIES
Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors L Brown, D Rodgers, S Callen, S Heyes (Personal Commitments) and Councillor K T Naik (Work Commitments). Also from Swindon Borough Councillor D Renard and Justin Tomlinson MP.

APM 19 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS
Members confirmed as a true record the minutes of meeting held on 22nd March 2022.
Proposed: Councillor J Jackson Seconded: Councillor A John
Vote: Agreed with
RESOLVED: Members confirmed as a true record the minutes of meetings held on Tuesday 22nd March 2022.

APM 20 ROUND UP OF THE COUNCIL YEAR
Councillor V Manro gave a roundup of the Council year; highlights included:

- A round up video of the previous year's achievements.
- An update on the Grounds Maintenance Facility, the enhanced hedge & grass cutting programme and the projects to complete in 23/24
- An invitation to take part in the Community Choices survey.
- The interim Annual Reports from Committee Chairs are available in printed copies and on the Council's website this year.
- Awarded the Council with the Quality Gold Award.
- Presented Councillor R Hailstone with a long service award for 43 years and Councillor J Fuller for 28 years of being parish councillors.

APM 21 BEST – BE A BETTER YOU
Mr Craig Hiscock and young athlete Jess gave an informative update on the work that BEST Be A Better You does within the community and in conjunction with the Parish Council. Both gave a demo showing the impressive skills that Jess has learnt during her time attending BEST.

APM 22 CLIMATE CHANGE PRESENTATION

The Community Development Officer gave an overview of climate change initiatives that the Council has adopted and is working towards. Key topics included:

- Introduction of two, soon to be three, electric vehicles for the Parks & Open Spaces Team
- Introduction of electric tools
- Solar panels on the Council Office roof
- Climate Change Working Party Set Up
- Carbon Literacy Training
- 1,300 whips planted at Tadpole Lane

APM 23 WILTSHIRE AND SWINDON POLICE UPDATE

An insight to the performance of the Wiltshire and Swindon Police Team was given by Mr John Derryman (Performance & Planning Officer for the Office of the Police Crime Commissioner) and local issues addressed by PC Emma Harriman. Questions that arose from the meeting included:

Q) Why is there an over one hour wait time to report issues to 101?

A) The wait time may have been an isolated incident as the average time is 12 mins on the phone lines. The Performance & Planning Officer visits the call centre once per week to monitor performance and receive an update on incoming themes. Reports can also be done via the internet and a reminder that if the item is urgent and needs an immediate response to call 999.

Q) How do we know who is the local Beat Officer?

A) The local officers are Sergeant Penny Sprawson and Sergeant Danielle Salmon. PC Emma Harriman is working with the Communications Team for ease of access to contact details and most PC's and PCSO's have work mobile numbers for reporting issues.

Q) An observation that Wiltshire & Swindon Police is receiving special measures and this information seems to have been omitted from the presentation.

A) Wiltshire & Swindon Police is receiving special measures but has vastly improved the performances and strategic objectives. The reports of this nature are very transparent and can be seen on the Wiltshire Police Website.

Q) An observation that Wiltshire Police is underfunded.

A) Wiltshire Police is the third lowest funded police force as the funding is calculated based on the crime per head within the local district. The Performance & Planning Officer regularly attends meetings with the local MPs and groups to lobby for funding.

Q) Is there any opportunity to reopen the public information desk at the Orbital Centre, North Swindon?

At present there is no scope to provide this service as the building is not fit for purpose, it is too small as it needs to store the kit and equipment of twenty members of staff. Gloucester Police has just reopened some public information desks but now Wiltshire & Swindon Police do not have the budgets.

Q) How to improve communications and is there any leaflets available?

A) At the moment budgets for printed are constrained, however, meetings are taking place to see how this can be improved. The Police is working closely with the Parish Council to enrol information about the 'Herbert Protocol' to assist vulnerable people living with dementia to find a safe way home and working to raise awareness for current issues such as knife crime and preventing suicide cases.

APM 24 MOULDON HILL PRESENTATION

Mr Neil Pullen from Wiltshire Wildlife Trust gave a presentation on local work at Mouldon Hill and invited those present to attend a guided walk at Mouldon Hill in the summer months to view the pyramidal orchids.

APM 25 HAYDON WICK HERO AWARDS

The Chair of the Community Development Committee awarded:

- Mrs Rachel Maslin – Volunteer of the Year
- Haydon Wick Memory Café – Community Group of the Year
- Kaylee Weaving – Young Achiever of the Year

APM 26 COMMUNITY PROJECT UPDATES

- **Kelly Foundation** – gave a presentation about the work the charity is doing for people suffering with mental health issues and/or in need of debt counselling. Each person receives one to one support with the same case worker and receives help and support above what most charities can currently offer. The funding received from Haydon Wick Parish Council and other local councils has helped with the set up costs.
- **The Tuesday Art Group** – thanked Haydon Wick Parish Council for the recent grant to hold the annual exhibition in the Council Offices in October. The event will be held downstairs so is accessible to wheelchair users. The Group meet every Tuesday at the Council Offices between 10am – 12pm and paint, chat and practice new skills.
- **1st Greenmeadow Guides and Haydon Wick Rangers** – gave an overview of the importance of girl guiding and what the group is working towards. Thanked Haydon Wick Parish Council for the grant towards insurance renewal costs which have expedited this year.

APM 27 QUESTIONS FROM PARISHIONERS

There were no questions.

APM 28 RCCG CHURCH CHOIR

Introduced themselves and the work that it does with Haydon Wick Parish Council such as the Christmas Parcel Scheme and donating the Community Defibrillator. The Church Choir sang a hymn to close the meeting.

APM 29 CLOSE OF MEETING AND COMMUNITY NETWORKING EVENT

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and the staff for organising this event, then invited everyone to partake in the light refreshments set out and closed this year's meeting.

The meeting closed at **19:20**

Chairman _____

Initials _____