

**Harescombe Parish Council**  
Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting  
held on  
Tuesday 16th May 2023 at 7.30pm

Present - Cllrs. Caroline Ractliffe (Chair), Paul Richards (ViceChair), Kath Pritchard and 4 residents of Harescombe village Linda Pike, Gill Richards, Robert Trinder, Tom Leeper

Prior to the meeting villagers and council members enjoyed drinks and nibbles and an opportunity to chat over village concerns.

1. Welcome - Cllr Ractliffe welcomed everyone to the meeting
2. Apologies - Sheila Murray (Clerk)  
In the absence of the clerk Cllr Pritchard took the minutes.
3. The minutes of the previous Annual Meeting 2022 were read, approved and signed. There were no matters arising.
4. Cllr Ractliffe presented her report on the previous year (on file).

Following on from the installation of the defibrillator it is hoped to organise another refresher course on its use in the near future, to which all villagers will be invited.

£100 will be donated to Sue Ryder in remembrance of the late Andy Buckmaster, our previous chairman. £100 has also been donated to Bowel Cancer UK from the village.

The Parish Council donated money to the village for the Coronation Lunch celebrations.

It is hoped that a Councillor will in future take responsibility for any planning application which may arise and bring any problems to the council's notice at future meetings.

Tom Leeper has submitted his interest to be co-opted to the parish council following the resignation of Mike Hyett.

5. District Councillors report.

Cllr Williams had been in contact with Cllr Ractliffe to report that money was available to resurface Church Lane and to assist with clearing the drains around the village, but gave no indication when this might happen.

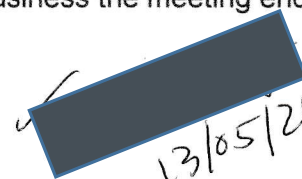
6. Discussions and questions took place between Councillors and villagers present with regard to a memorial to celebrate the late Queen's reign. A bench or planter had been suggested but siting this was proving difficult. Gill Richards suggested a sundial which might be sited in the churchyard and this idea was well received. Cllr Pritchard will approach the PCC with this idea at the next meeting.

A previous discussion with regard to tree planting around the village was discussed. A small area for a copse was suggested but this would need to be with the approval of the farmer who owned the field. Cllr Pritchard would speak to the farmer and report back at the next meeting.

Cllr Pritchard informed those present that bids were now open to apply for money for village projects from the Balfour Beattie incinerator fund. Suggestions were received for a new kitchen, repair of the parish room ceiling and 2 more electric heaters to replace old models.

7. The annual general meeting of the parish council will be on Tuesday 30th May at 8pm in the parish room.

Cllr Ractliffe thanked everyone for coming and there being no other business the meeting ended at 8.35pm

  
13/05/24