



**St Giles on the Heath with Northcott Hamlet
Parish Council**

“Working with you, For you”

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
9th January 2024 at 7.30pm**

Parish Councillors Present: Cllr K Hamlyn (Chairman), Cllr E Williams, Cllr R Nicholson, Cllr S Paulger, Cllr S Trusler, Cllr R Atkinson, Cllr A Nicholson, Cllr A Curtis, Cllr H Lewitt

In attendance: Clerk Kayleigh Walker, District Cllr P Hackett, Members of the public: 0

1. PUBLIC SESSION

None.

2. RECEIVING APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE & DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2.1 Cllr G Thorne, Cllr E Hunt - apologies accepted.

2.2 The Chairman requested all declarations of interests to be raised at the appropriate agenda item.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Minutes of the meeting held December 12th, 2023, were previously circulated, Cllr G Thorne was added to Parish Councillors Present and the minutes proposed by Cllr S Paulger, seconded by Cllr A Nicholson and agreed by all as a true record of the meeting, the Chairman signed a copy.

4. MATTERS ARISING

4.1 Cllr Hackett gave a report starting with noting that Precepts are currently being set however as money is in short supply Councils will need to be prudent. Cllr Hackett advised the Parish Council to consider their grants carefully and to suggest those asking for grants also match fund through fundraising. Cllr Hamlyn raised concerns over potholes and drains in poor conditions, Cllr Hackett advised that although these are County matters, he will report them appropriately. Cllr Hackett advised that reinstatement of the railway came out top of the questionnaire recently sent out by Sir Geoffrey Cox MP. Cllr Hackett also agreed to follow up with the Police regarding a large van that is causing obstructions on Moorfield Road.

5. REVIEWING CORRESPONDENCE AND CLERKS REPORT

5.1 Grants – Councillors discussed all the grant applications received and agreed to award as follows:

- FPTA St Giles on the Heath Primary School - Cllrs Lewitt and Atkinson declared an interest and abstained from voting. £350 proposed by Cllr Curtis, seconded by Cllr Williams, all agreed.

- St Giles Shop Committee – Cllrs Hamlyn and R Nicholson declared an interest and abstained from voting. £350 proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Paulger, all agreed.

- St Giles Short Mat Bowls – £100 proposed by Cllr Paulger, seconded by Cllr R Nicholson, all agreed.

- St Giles Cemetery Fund - £70 proposed by Cllr Trusler, seconded by Cllr Curtis, all agreed.

- St Giles Church Maintenance – Cllrs A Nicholson, R Nicholson and Trusler declared an interest and abstained from voting. £100 proposed by Cllr Paulger, seconded by Cllr Curtis and agreed by all.

- St Giles Mens Skittles Team - £50 proposed by Cllr Paulger, seconded by Cllr R Nicholson, all agreed. A request will be made for a combined application from both skittles’ teams in future.

- St Giles Ladies Skittles Team - £50 proposed by Cllr Paulger, seconded by Cllr R Nicholson, all agreed. A request will be made for a combined application from both skittles’ teams in future.

- St Giles Luncheon Club – Cllr Hamlyn declared an interest and abstained from voting. £250 proposed by Cllr Paulger, seconded by Cllr Trusler and agreed by all.

Chairman Sign and date



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- St Giles Womens Guild - £150 proposed by Cllr Paulger, seconded by Cllr Lewitt, agreed by all.
- North Devon Record Office – as no form was received Councillors instructed the Clerk to reiterate the grants policy and welcome them to apply during the next application period.
- Citizens Advice Bureau - as no form was received Councillors instructed the Clerk to reiterate the grants policy and welcome them to apply during the next application period. The Clerk will advise CAB that the PC will cover the costs of the hall if they wish to run a drop in session from St Giles.

5.2 Cllrs discussed the budget and agreed to keep the precept request at the same level as last year. The Clerk will request £15,000. Proposed by Cllr R Nicholson, seconded by Cllr Hamlyn and agreed by all.

5.3 The Clerk shared the quote for tree work and was asked to obtain two further quotes for consideration.

5.4 The Clerk shared the locations of proposed airband poles.

5.5 The Clerk provided details of the Saving Devons Landscapes Project and was asked to post on the Facebook page to see if members of the Community have any ideas of where they would like to see a tree planted.

6. PLANNING & ENFORCEMENT

6.1 1/1044/2023/LBC - Removal of existing oil tank and replace with a heat pump, raise height of chimney – Linda Cottage – Application Permitted.

7. REVIEWING PROGRESS OF COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

7.1 Community speed watch – Cllr Atkinson reported that the group still require more volunteers in order to run sessions.

7.2 Chapmans Well defib – A site meeting will be arranged for Saturday January 20th at 11am with Cllrs Curtis and Trusler, an interested contractor and the property owners to gain a better idea of what works are required to get electricity to the defib site.

7.3 Playground subcommittee - A play equipment company will be visiting the site on Thursday with a view to providing ideas and costs for upgrades to the playground. Following this the subcommittee will be in a better position to investigate funding opportunities.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 The Clerk advised of a traffic notice for the road from Gridley Corner to Tower Hill Cottage between March 4th and 5th.

9. FINANCES

9.1 Authorisations of expenses: Clerks paper and envelopes £17.44, Coronation Hall £12.00 hall hire January 2024 meeting. Cllrs agreed to pay all expenses and the grants noted under 5.1. Proposed by Cllr Paulger, seconded by Cllr Curtis, agreed by all.

9.2 Current account as of 17th December 2023 - £11475.11.

9.3 Monthly budget sheet – circulated for Cllrs information only.

10. NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

10.1 Tuesday 13th February 2024 7.30pm.

11. CLOSE

11.1 Meeting closed approx. 9pm.

Chairman Sign and date