

HAWKCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council:
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Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Hawkchurch Village Hall on Tuesday 23rd July 2024, commencing at 7pm

Present: Cllr's Dr A Nolan (Chairman), S Bartlett, T Greenshields, J Dobson, J Baker and D Searle.

In Attendance: The Clerk (Mr J Vanderwolfe), Cllr M Mackinder (EDDC) Cllr I Hall (Devon County Council and Cllr P Hayward (EDDC- Axminster Ward Member)

119	Apologies No apologies received
120	Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct No Declarations of Interest under the Code of Conduct were made at this stage of the meeting
121	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on the 21 st May 2024, having been previously circulated; were adopted as a true record.
122	Matters Arising National Association of Local Councils had replied via the Devon Association of Local Councils to our question on spending public funds on private land. They stated that as Hawkchurch had the Power of Competence, it could, if it wished, pay for works on private land, however, it would need to access if this was good use of public money. The chairman informed the meeting that work was underway to prepare a consultation on what work, if any, should be undertaken on the War Memorial Chairman had attended a working group meeting of the EDDC Strategic Group. She had made the point that the parish council did not feel it should be in the tier four category. The point was made that we only had one bus a week into Axminster. She stated that she felt that they had taken her views on board, The point was however made that the new Government was likely to change the housing allocation strategy.

	.A number of holes had been dug in the village that were suspected to be in association with the sewer system.																		
123	Democratic Period No items brought forward In this session																		
124	County Council Report A report had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. Cllr Hall made the point that £12m had been allocated by the Government to highways; although that would be insufficient to do all the highway works required in the county.																		
125	District Council Report Cllr Mackinder informed the meeting that EDDC was keen to improve the way in which it communicated, and felt that the meetings like the chairman had attended were a positive way forward. Concerns were expressed as to whether landowners actually were aware of the correct process for putting available land forward for consideration																		
126	Planning Adjoining Parish (Axminster) 29/0096/MFUL Land off Hazelhurst, Raymonds Hill, Axminster: Proposed construction, operation and maintenance of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with associated infrastructure and works including highway access, landscaping and biodiversity enhancements. The chairman stated that, in the main, this was a far better application than had previously been received for this type of operation, however, she still had serious reservations regarding the safety of this system if something were to go wrong. It was noted that Axminster Town Council had supported the application, however the ward member had serious reservations. The chairman had prepared a response, which all members felt was very good. A number of small additions to the report were given, and accepted. The meeting agreed that there were still a number of issues appertaining to this site, therefore they were unable to support this application,																		
127	Accounts for Ratification The following accounts were ratified: <table border="1" data-bbox="360 1662 1007 2031"> <tr> <td>Total Energies</td><td>62.17</td></tr> <tr> <td>Devon Communities Together</td><td>50.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Devon Association Councils</td><td>242.83</td></tr> <tr> <td>Gallagher Insurance</td><td>1057.29</td></tr> <tr> <td>Travis Perkins</td><td>30.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>Tom Day</td><td>20.00</td></tr> <tr> <td>South West Water</td><td>290.65</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Energies</td><td>65.03</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>1817.97</td></tr> </table>	Total Energies	62.17	Devon Communities Together	50.00	Devon Association Councils	242.83	Gallagher Insurance	1057.29	Travis Perkins	30.00	Tom Day	20.00	South West Water	290.65	Total Energies	65.03		1817.97
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128	Financial Update Members agreed the financial updates provided by the RFO. Cllr T Greenshields had checked the invoices and bank reconciliation statements. The financial assets as of the 5 th July 2024 Were £19,616.53. The clerk confirmed that the S106 funding had not yet been claimed.
129	Items from Assets Committee It was agreed that Mr Andy Gage would act as the liaison officer for booking the playfield. He would inform the clerk so that invoices could be submitted. It was agreed that the charges for the hire of the field by the Axminster Football Club would be £20 from May 24 until September 24, and £50 from September 24 until May 25. There was also an outstanding invoice from September 23 until May 24 of £25. There had been a request received for a wedding to be held in the field in 2025. Agreed that the fee would be £150. The conditions of this booking to be looked into nearer the time.
130	Highways The clerk had circulated the new Hedge Cutting Regulations. Cllr T Greenshields thanked Cllr Searle for his work in cutting the hedges but reminded him that we were only supposed to cut back enough of the hedge for safety reasons; the rest was down to landowners.
131	Rights of Way The clerk stated that he had not yet received the notice regarding funding from the County Council , under the Parish Paths Partnership (P3) scheme for this financial year.
131	Correspondence Correspondence had been circulated via email by the clerk when received
132	Items of Urgency Concerns were expressed by a councillor about the large amount of parking by the playfield, that had times caused a traffic problem. He felt that white lines could be painted on the road. It was noted that this would require highway permission.
133	Closing of Meeting The chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.05pm
134	Next Meeting: Monday 13 th September 2024 at 7pm

Signature -----

Date -----