



HART DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF PARISH & TOWN COUNCILS

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Association held on
Tuesday, 16 April 2024 at 7.30 pm
At Crondall Village Hall, Croft Lane, Crondall, GU10 5QG**

PRESENT

Name		Position	Parish/Town Council
Tony Spencer	TS	Chairman	Yateley
Martin Whittaker	MWh	Secretary	Hook
Paul Einchcomb	PE		Fleet
Chris Cornwell	CC		Hartley Wintney
David Jackson	DJ		Crookham Village
Simon Ambler	SA		Crookham Village
Gillian O'Connor	GO		Crondall
Astrid Angove	AA		Crondall

V0.4 2/5/23

		Action
24/1	Introduction and welcome	
24/2	Apologies for absence Apologies for absence were received from: <ul style="list-style-type: none">WinchfieldJulie Routley, YateleyAdam Bealey, RotherwickBob Schofield, Fleet The presence of 6 out of 21 councils failed to satisfy the quorum of 7.	
24/3	Minutes of the meetings held on 23 January Held over to next meeting.	
24/4	Matters arising from the Minutes All actions reported as complete except: <ul style="list-style-type: none">23/48 Banking arrangements – on agenda.23/50.2 email on Urgent Treatment Centres – no information received from Louise Hodgetts. MWh will follow up.	MWh
24/5	Hart District Council report Nobody was available from HDC to attend the meeting due to a clash with Overview and Scrutiny. As the meeting took place during the pre-election period, HDC were unable to answer questions.	
24/6	Chairman's Update	

	<p>TS reported on the HALC conference, 20 March 2024: “Partnerships in Action”:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rob Humby of HCC spoke about shaping Hampshire for 2050, including partnerships and devolvement, which is a subject that refuses to go away, and touched on the budget consultation which at the time we were still considering our responses to. • He spoke at length about Social Care - how big a percentage of the budget was being spent on this element and that it remains a priority. Reserves were being used to fund much of the shortfall, and cuts to supporting public transport and community transport had to be weighed against social care and special needs funding. There were questions about potholes and the general state of roads. HCC are not in danger of going broke in the next couple of years, unlike a number of other county councils, but hard decisions have to be made. • Interesting workshops I attended on the day the Partnership with Young People, about getting youths aged 11-18 getting engaged in community issues that had never been involved before. Fantastic talk from Dmitris Melksans telling us about the Hampshire Youth Parliament. The Partnership in Community workshop was also interesting, with discussion about local resilience in face of emergencies, with flooding a serious concern to many parishes. 	
24/7	<p>Conduct at HDAPTC meetings</p> <p>Daryl Phillips had sent a complaint about the behaviour of one of the attendees at the January meeting and had asked for a meeting with the chairman and secretary. Members had found the behaviour equally unacceptable. The Chairman would write to Daryl apologising for the unacceptable behaviour, and the secretary would endeavour to arrange a meeting for the second week in May.</p>	TS MWh
24/8	<p>HDAPTC banking arrangements</p> <p>TS agreed to progress this as a matter of urgency.</p>	TS
24/9	<p>Changes to Basingstoke Canal governance</p> <p>Jackson reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Surrey/Hampshire CC joint management committee has ceased and replaced by a joint board between the two up near cabinet level, with an advisory group. • A consultant has prepared a management plan, prompted by lack of funds. • The future of the canal seems to be secure, but dredging will continue to be a problem. • Basingstoke Canal Society will be playing a greater role in future. • Details of future plans for the canal are not clear. • The documents describing the changes are on the website. 	
24/10	<p>Parish Reports</p>	
1.	<p>Fleet (PE)</p> <p>(written report received)</p> <p>Greening Fleet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of our Greening Fleet campaign, we have recently held the following events to help promote greater environmentalism in the town: 	

- Greening Campaign launch event – 9th March. The event launched the annual schedule of activity for the Greening Campaign and was supported by a number of external partners.
- Repair Café - 9th April. Fleet's first Repair Café and to be held each month. The first session was very successful, and we did a soft launch as it was our first session. The Café benefited from funding from the HCC Waste Prevention Grant. The Town Council launched and set up the Café but it will soon be operated by an outside non-incorporated charity. The next Café will be held on 4th May.

- Greening Campaign Challenge Cards – as part of the campaign we distributed a greening challenge card to all 10.8k households in Fleet. Residents are asked to complete three basic level environmental challenges and place the card in their window. Card counting started on 14th April and will be a mammoth task to cover all of the streets in the parish.

The Harlington Lease

- We are in the very final stages of securing a lease for The Harlington.
- The tender for architectural services for the building refurb was issued on the contracts portal on 12th April.

Annual Residents' Meeting

- Approximately 80 people in attendance.

Road Closure Activities – Insurance Issue

- Fleet Lions has informed us that they will no longer be insured for their road closure and marshalling activities, which will impact Remembrance Sunday and other community events.
- The council is working with the Lions to seek ways to resolve this and any practical suggestions from other councils would be most welcome.

Communications

- In March we launched our newly revitalised town newsletter, after many years following the same format. The new style has received positive feedback in terms of style, usefulness of the content and engagement.
- This was facilitated by implementing a new staff position for a Communications Officer, with the goals of developing the council's engagement with the town, on and offline.

Toob high-speed broadband

- FTC is monitoring Toob's activity in our area. Councillors had a meeting with Toob to discuss their progress rolling out their service.

Permitted Development Rights on Bungalows

- FTC has had recent issues with the implementation of permitted development rights with regard to converting bungalows into two storey homes, since this is contrary to the Council's Neighbourhood Plan. FTC resolved to write to HDC requesting an article 4 direction to disallow permitted development rights to be used for adding an additional floor to bungalow properties.

	<p>Grant for Replacement Heating at The Harlington</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HDC (as owners of the building) applied for a Public Sector Decarbonisation Grant for the installation of an air source heat pump at The Harlington. Unfortunately, the grant was unsuccessful. This was largely due to the fabric of the building not being at the required environmental standards to support the carbon reduction benefit that the heat pump would bring. <p>FTC Executive Officer Leaving</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The town's Executive Officer will be leaving in mid-June. The recruitment process for her replacement is currently underway. 	
2.	<p>Yateley (TS) (written report received)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the Annual Town Meeting on 18 March at the football club there were presentations of community awards and discussion of the many events planned in the town over the rest of the year, which the council will keep updating on the council website. As well as the Feel Good Festival on 21/9/24, we have the May Fayre next month, the 6 June D-Day commemoration beacon lighting on Church End Green and on 8 June a D-Day Event organised with the Royal British Legion involving the Air and Army Cadets. The town council submitted its views on the HCC Future Services Consultation and I believe some councillors also submitted their personal views. We are employing a part-time Climate Change Officer from April 2024 to ensure the council is on track to meet net zero targets and also tasked with getting the message of climate change across to our residential and business communities. The council has been active for the past couple of years in managing climate change, forming YCAN, which is an active multi-participation committee with community groups and interested individuals within its membership, has already put on exhibitions and events and will be taking a leading role in the wellbeing festival planned for September. We also have an Emergency Climate Committee that takes responsibility for managing the council's own carbon footprint. 	
3.	<p>Crookham Village (DJ)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uncontested election. HDC's parking standards state that a single garage doesn't count as a parking space. This means there is no defence against garage conversions, which are especially tricky in areas that already have limited on street parking. Trying to put a heat pump into the village hall but struggling to find a consultant to help apply for the grant. 	
4.	<p>Winchfield</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are ongoing sewage issues that are being discussed with Thames Water. We know some of our neighbours are experiencing similar. 	
5.	<p>Hook – MWh</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The council applied before planning permission for the new sports pavilion before Christmas but has still not been determined. After some confusion 	

	<p>with addresses the application was validated in January with a determination date in March. This was then slipped to April as HDC's internal reports weren't ready. An extra report from Leisure was requested at the last moment for an unknown reason. It was then decided to take it to committee, but HDC are uncertain whether it can be taken in May. Therefore it may well take over 6 months to determine.</p>	
6.	<p>Crondall – GO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncontested election. • Election paperwork – needs to be in by 1700 on a Friday, which is difficult for people who work full-time. • Increase in vandalism and ASB. • They have been told the police have no resources to look after any more 20mph areas. 	
24/11	<p>Any other business</p> <p>MWh announced that he was resigning as Secretary, to take effect after the July meeting. He pointed out that the current honorarium for each meeting - £75 – had not been increased in living memory and was unlikely to encourage a replacement. As the constitution required any new figure to be agreed at an AGM he would put this on the agenda for the next meeting.</p>	MWh
24/12	<p>Date and venue for next meeting:</p> <p>Dates for the next period, every 3 months</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 16/7/24 (AGM) (Hook) • 15/10/24 (Hartley Wintney – TBC) <p>Meeting closed 0915.</p>	

Martin Whittaker, Secretary, HartDAPTC@gmail.com