Present:

Cllr. Gill Hill (Chair)

Cllr. John Jervoise

Cllr. Simon Wills

Cllr Will Cheyney

Cllr. Bob Ives

1. **To review our current and future income and expenditure**

Cllr Wills talked through the HPC Income and Expenditure 1/4/21 to 24/11/21 summary of accounts. Herriard Green maintenance costs for the last 5 years were discussed, money held as CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funds held, expenditure going forward. Cllr Jervoise confirmed that HVC reimburses HPC all costs for the Green on receipt of twice annual invoices. HPC currently has around £2000 in revenue. The remaining CIL money has to be spent on infrastructure projects.

Cllr Wills offered to produce a budget projection for the coming year including a contingency fund.

Cllr Jervoise to send a reminder to Bio Power of their donation to HPC of £1000 p/a. Last payment received March 2021.

With the Langlies Mead development HPC will have access to C106 funds of approx. £18,000 during the year 22/23. The Council will need to suggest suitable projects for this money to B&DBC. See item 4

At the last Council meeting it was agreed to look into costings for a shelter at the Green. Cllr Ives and Cllr Hill to action. We are confident that grants could be acquired to fund costs.

The play equipment has some repairs that need doing. Cllr Jervoise suggested the play equipment can be repaired as and when needed, rather than replaced at some considerable cost. Maintenance of the play area is ongoing. It was suggested that a budget is put in for thinning and pruning of trees and shrubs, a necessary part of woodland management. The fruit trees in the orchard area also need pruning and it was suggested this is also included in the budget.

Going forward- Cllr Jervoise informed the meeting that one of the Langlies Mead houses will be owned by HVC. There will be an income payable to the Parish Council. It is hoped this will be achieved in 2023-24.

1. **To decide if HPC is in favour of paying the Clerk.**

It was unanimous that in order to help retain the current Clerk, since there has been a high turnover of Clerks in recent years and it has proved very difficult to appoint a local person for this essential job, in principle, HPC would like to pay the Clerk. There followed a discussion around HMRC guidelines for paying clerks. Cllr Hill agreed to look into this and contact Cllrs by email. There remains a question over whether the Council can afford to pay the Clerk in the coming year 22/23 based on its current income, as we would have no contingency and there could be a shortfall. Further work on budget projections and discussion is needed before this can be actioned.

1. **To decide if a precept is necessary for the year 22/23 in order to inform B&DBC by 31/01.22**

Cllrs discussed raising a precept whereby the PC covers costs of paying for a Clerk by adding an amount to the parishioner’s Council Tax bill. The Cllrs voted **against** raising a precept in the coming year. HPC has never raised a precept with the Clerk historically being a voluntary role. It was agreed that local Herriard residents would not be in favour of a precept. The precept is discussed every year at the request of B&DBC.

1. **Discuss the held CIL money, £17,823, and how it will be spent.**

*For info: Community Infrastructure Levy- these are funds paid by developers or landowners when new developments are built. It is meant as a fund for new infrastructure to support the development of the area. Regs allow PCs to determine how the money is spent. Types of infrastructure- highways, transportation, pedestrian/cycle routes, flood alleviation, education, health, social care, community halls, public open spaces, play areas, parks.*

Cllr Jervoise informed Cllrs that at the time of the initial Langlies Mead proposal there was concern from residents over increased traffic on King Johns Lane. It was felt at that time, that there was a need for improved sight lines and to slow traffic by putting in a curve in the road. A separate application to HCC would be submitted after the final plans are submitted for Langlies Mead. The CIL money would be used for the new road layout. Cllr Jervoise agreed that he would start road realignment discussions in 2022 with a view to completion by the 2025 deadline for using the CIL money currently held.

1. **To discuss possible projects for the village worthy of grant applications**

* Shelter for The Green- Cllr Ives and Cllr Hill to look into costings
* Pond clearance
* Climate Change projects
* Flood alleviation

AOB: Cllr Hill thanked Cllr Ives for hosting the meeting. The meeting closed at 8.15pm