**HOOK COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**18 February 2025 - Hook Sports Association**

**Present -In Person**:

Councillor David Petrie – Chair Councillor Sandra Jones (Remote)

Councillor Joy James

Councillor Simon Jones

County Councillor Michael John

**Also in attendance:**

Jackie Thomas – Clerk/RFO

Four Members of the Public

Two PCC Officers (Remote)

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | 1. **Apologies**   Apologies were received from Councillor Keith Hancock     1. **Declarations of any personal or potentially conflicting issues.**   **Supplementary Agenda, Item 1: New Homes in Harcourt Close, Hook**  Councillor Joy James declared a personal interest by virtue of being employed by Pembrokeshire County Council.   1. **Minutes of the meeting** **held on the 21 January 2025**   Moved by Councillor Steve Gladwin: Seconded by Councillor Joy James  **AGREED**  That the Minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2025 be approved as a correct record.   1. **Matters Arising**   There were no matters arising.   1. **Hook Wood**   The Chair welcomed Kay Miller who lives on Hook Quay to the meeting. Ms Miller highlighted the historic fly tipping that had taken place and advised that they, together with Natural Resources Wales (NRW) were looking to remove invasive species within the Hook Wood Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and address the problems with fly tipping. Ms Miller explained that they were looking for support and assistance from the Community Council to raise awareness.  Cllr Joy James advised that there were bio-diversity grants available and Cllr Steve Gladwin suggested writing to residents to update them of the situation. Cllr Simon Jones highlighted that Youth Schemes, Wildlife Studies and Re-wilding could also be undertaken.  The Chair invited Ms Miller to return to the Community Council when there were any updates and gave the support of the Council to support the clean up and review of the site.  **Supplementary agenda item 1. PCC potential Acquisition of properties at Harcourt Close**  The Chair welcomed the Housing Strategy and Affordable Housing Manager (HSAHM) and New Homes Officer from Pembrokeshire County Council to the meeting to present the new homes site at Harcourt Close, Hook. The HSAHM explained that the site had been to PCC Cabinet to introduce local lets on the properties and to provide an overview of what had taken place in other areas. He highlighted Phase 1 of 10 x three bedroomed properties had been completed and on the market but that there had not been much interest. They were keen to move on and develop Phase 2 and had identified the opportunity to change the three bed properties from Phase 1 into two bed properties as the larger homes were not reflective of the local need. He emphasised that nothing had been agreed at this point but that they had requested to update the Community Council as early in the process as possible. If the project were to progress, it would be involve the PCC purchasing the 10 properties quickly and making them available to local people as quick as possible.  The HSAHM advised that the local let policy would be shared with the Council as early as possible for input. In response to a concern from the Chair regarding shared ownership, the HSAHM advised that the first 10 properties would be for social renting. Phase 2 could be a mixture of tenures with an option for lowcost ownership.  The Chair agreed that there was a big shortage of affordable and social housing in the area. In response to a question from Cllr Gladwin regarding the potential for One bedroom properties and accessible properties, the HSAHM advised that they would look to remove some of the larger 4/5 bed properties as there were more than sufficient large properties to provide an option for downsizing and that there would be some flats, and accessible properties.  Cllrs discussed the local letting policy and were concerned on the criteria involved. The HSAHM reassured Cllrs that in order to qualify for the scheme, they would need to respond positively to various criteria.  The HSAHM advised that they would return to the Community Council with an update as it became available.  The HSAHM, Officer and Members of the Public left the meeting at this juncture.  Cllrs noted that the development would be a bonus to the village and school and that the move from 4/5 bed properties was beneficial.   1. **Report of County Councillor Michael John.**   C.Cllr Michael John presented the following update from PCC:   1. **Head of Housing.** Cllr John had met with the Head of Housing and the HSAHM recently and the concerns that had been presented under the previous agenda item were discussed. He highlighted that it was positive to have early engagement noting that planning permission was already in place and that project this could provide an opportunity to provide much needed affordable housing in the village. 2. **Bi-Election in Prendergast**. Cllr John advised that Cllr Alun Williams from the Independent Political Group had been successful. 3. **Boundary Commission.** Cllr John advised that following the excellent united representations from Hook, Llangwm and Freystrop, they would be remaining as separate Community Councils. The recommendation was that Hook may lose one Cllr but this was still to be approved. 4. **Budget.** The budget setting was taking place later in the week with an expected 9.8% increase. 5. **St Davids Day.** On 7 March 2025, all local schools would be taking part in a celebration of St Davids Day in Haverfordwest with over 1000 children. 6. **Consultations.** Cllr John advised that a Flood Risk Strategy was being undertaken as well as a Regional Transport Strategy with South West Wales CJC. 7. **20MPH Review.** Cllr John advised that some Counties have announced changes to the 20MPH speed limits and that the Local Authority would announce any changes in March/April. He noted that he was not aware of any reversals in his wards but would up date if advised of any changes. 8. **Bottleneck footpath.** The bottle neck markings had been completed.   Councillor John reminded Councillors that if there were any queries, they could contact him.   1. **Correspondence received.**   The Clerk advised that all correspondence received had been circulated with all Cllrs.   1. Planning Received.   No planning applications had been received.   1. **Finance.** 2. Balance on accounts (as at 11.02.25)   Community Council account £13911.09  Miners Trust Account £12550.76  Total £26461.85   1. No Audit update had been received. 2. No invoices for payment had been received. 3. Training.   No update for training was required.   1. **Website update**   The Clerk advised of the update that the website was progressing.  Cllr Simon Jones advised that he would provide the link for Microsoft Office for Charity organisations.   1. **AOB – at the discretion of the Chair.**   Cllr Steve Gladwin declared a personal interest at this juncture as he was a member of the Hook Forum.  Cllr Steve Gladwin advised that they were planning the Summer Fete to coincide with the VE Day 80th Anniversary on 4 May 2025 and would update as appropriate.  Cllr Sandra Jones advised that she would seek permission to use the field.   1. **Date and time of next scheduled meeting**   The dates of the next meetings were agreed as 18 March 2025, 15 April and 20 May 2025.  **Meeting ended at 2001** | **Action** | | **MINERS TRUST**   1. **Play Park update**   Cllr Sandra Jones advised that some of the Christmas events had not been able to take place due to the weather and suggested that Hook Forum undertake the Carols around the Christmas Tree and the visit by Father Christmas.  Cllr Joy James noted that these events had previously sat with the Miners Trust and that it should now move to the Forum.  Cllr Jones advised that a grant application had been submitted toward the playpark and it was **AGREED** that the Chair would make the purchases required.  Moved by Cllr Joy James; Seconded by Cllr Steve Gladwin  **AGREED**  That the estimate received would be instructed and that the work would commence.  Cllr James requested that Cllr Gladwin count the volunteering hours for submission to the grant application.   1. **Electronic Land Registry**   There was no update available.   1. **Charities Commission**   The Chair advised that this would be updated with Cllr Simon Jones details.   1. **AOB**   Cllrs requested that an annual review of the cost/charge on the lease of the club be placed on the next agenda.  **Meeting ended at 2020** |  | |
| Signed: ………………………………………….  Date: ……………………………………………. |