

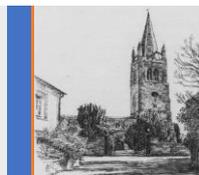
## Hanslope Parish Council

Hanslope Pavilion

Castlethorpe Road, MK19 7LG

[clerk@hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@hanslopeparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Tel: 07383 091319



### Minutes of **Annual Parish Meeting** of Hanslope Parish Council - Monday 8th April 2024, 7.30pm at The Community Hall, Hanslope Recreation Ground

#### **Present:**

**HPC:** Cllrs Courtman (Chair), Simpkins (Vice Chair), Price, Andrew, Wallond, Geary, Pacheco, Flatley

**MKCC** (Ward Cllrs): Cllr L Andrews

**Clerk:** G Merry

**Guest Speakers:** Mrs J Wright – Hanslope Hornets, Dr N Younus – Parks Practice

**Members of the Public:** 76

#### **Chairman's introduction and summary**

Cllr Courtman welcomed all and referred everyone to the summary of the last year, distributed to all (appended). She introduced the council and thanked them for their support throughout the year before introducing Ward Councillors Alison Andrew and Liam Andrews. Cllr Courtman asked for a positive and receptive approach from the public.

#### **Presentations from councillor working groups – Cllr reports appended.**

- Cllr Andrew – Responsibilities: Events, volunteers and community liaison, Recreation Ground Liaison, police and crime liaison, review of the Hanslope Neighbourhood Plan. Implementation of Christmas Lights, enforcement contract, Coronation event, Village Magazine, assistance with football teams (parking marshalling, pitch improvements), Dr's surgery development, tidying of Old Bus Garage frontage, working with PCSOs. Responsibilities as Ward Cllr: Bins, speed tables, potholes, individual case work, Highways liaison, donations from Ward Cllr budget to charities/organisations. Brought together ward councillors, parish councillors and MKCC officers for cross-ward meeting on New City Plan and chasing updated information.
- Cllr Wallond (notes appended): Implementation of Community Speed Watch group, 20mph survey, solar panels bid, hedgehog highways project.
- Cllr Simpkins: (notes appended): Landscaping contracts and devolved services arrangements, ponds and trees, bins and dog waste bins, allotments. Reported 16 new trees planted by MKCC with 34 more due this year. Requested all to help with watering. Intention to enter Hanslope into Bucks Best Village Competition and called for volunteers (5 offers).
- Cllr Price (notes appended): Monitoring of council accounts and finances, planning (recommending planning comments), review of the Hanslope Neighbourhood Plan. Outlined where NHP has been successful in opposing new developments. Complete re-write of NHP starting 2025 and called for volunteers.

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### Guest Presentation

1. Jo Wright – Club Secretary for Hanslope Hornets Junior Football: Hornets established in 1969. JW involved since 2015 and secretary since 2019. 10 teams, from under 6s to Under 18s with children welcome from 6 years. 150 children currently registered and all run by volunteer helpers, coaches and committee members. Active fundraising and work with local organisations to support events and also to support local (e.g. sourcing locally for tuck shop). Parking has been difficult for home games and more volunteers for marshalling would be welcome.
2. Dr Naeem Younus – Senior Partner Hanslope Surgery: Joined the practice in 2003 as a GP but trainee there since 1997. Originally mostly at Roade but now based at Hanslope. Invited questions.

### Open Forum for residents to ask questions and bring matters to the PC's attention:

Q: Resident had repeatedly reported the knocked-down bollards (splitters) at the Long Street Road/Gold Street junction but to no avail. *(Clerk's note: These were removed by Highways)*

Q: Adjacent to the Wheatfields Estate, the main road only changes to 30mph on entering the estate but the main road switches from 30 to 40 to 30mph.

A: Cllr Andrew responded she has written to Highways to change to a consistent 30mph and will report back.

Q: The playground at the Wheatfields must have been signed-off but is not yet adopted.

A: The PC are aware and will be adopting in due course. Until then, they have no powers to affect change.

Q: Re. the 40mph between Long Street and Hanslope, there must be no increase to 60, as this may invite speculative development.

Q: The sign stating 'Long Street' is still down and this had been reported to the clerk. *(Clerk's note. It was reported to Highways who are not prioritising it at present).*

A: Only Highways can replace signs but they are not responsive.

Q: The concern is that Long Street may no longer be considered a separate settlement to Hanslope.

A: Cllr Andrew urged viewing the NHP as this states the 'gap' is protected and there should be no permitted development.

Q: What is happening to the Dr's Surgery *(Clerk's note: there were many questions on this matter and Dr Younis' responses are summarised as follows): -*

- The operation of the surgery has not recovered since the pandemic. There are more challenges but measures are being taken.

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- The issue of accessing appointments is being addressed. The practice has signed up to a cloud-based system whereby the system calls you back. This will eliminate the current 8am phone queue system. This will be implemented within weeks.
- Previously the 4 sites had worked separately from each other but are now actively working towards pooling resources and supporting each other.
- There have been staffing issues. Newer GPs have a different work ethic whereby they either don't stay, or they only wish to work part-time. The practice is undergoing a recruitment drive currently and aiming to get staff to commit to 3-days a week minimum. Dr Younus himself does 4 days a week. A new Dr is joining and will do 2 days, plus 2 more to join in due course, on 3-days. It is planned to be at full staff capacity by summer 2024.
- Nurses are still down but they have managed to recruit 1 and are still recruiting.
- The ground floor extension has been applied for and will be considered by the Development Planning Committee on 18/4/24. The Section 106 money for this has been approved. If planning is approved, this will include a 24-hour dispensary, similar to a vending machine. This will help eliminate the slow delivery of prescriptions and queuing. *(Cllr Andrew encouraged residents to write to the LPA in support of the application).*
- Unfortunately the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase – a second-story extension had had to be shelved as the Planning Authority had indicted this would not be supported. Cllr Andrew added this had been partly due to the issues with the cross-border nature of the Practice and that improvements at Hanslope could not be considered to be helping residents of Northampton.
- Dr Younus advised that Section 106 money cannot be used to pay salaries.
- Dr Younus encouraged all to contact the relatively new Patient Participation Group to foster better liaison with the Practice. Feedback via the PPG was encouraged.
- A new E-Consult system will be introduced and this will speed up for example, acquiring a sick note. People were encouraged to also use 111 for out of hours requirements. These measures will help relieve the pressure on reception.
- A new Practice Manager is being recruited.

Q: There were several comments sharing personal experiences of poor conduct by Practice staff. Dr Younus responded that it was difficult to comment on individual cases and he offered to talk to some members of the public after the meeting.

A member of the Patient Participation Group was present and stated there had been noticeable improvements since Dr Younus had come on board. There were many constraints but much work was being done 'behind the scenes' to implement improvements. Residents were encouraged to get in touch via the PPG ([theparks.k83052@nhs.net](mailto:theparks.k83052@nhs.net))

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Q: Some members of the public commented that the timings of the meeting had not allowed for enough discussion on this matter and to bring up other matters.

A: The clerk reported that the this was a statutory meeting and as such, the times published with the agenda must be kept to. However, the chairman had at this point allowed an extra 20 minutes.

A: Cllr Andrew stated the council operates under legal rules of governance. Councillors are volunteers giving of their time and would be returning to the regular PC agenda once this meeting was concluded. There is no obligation to have guest speakers and this was the first time this was being trialled.

The Chairman thanked Dr Younus who received a round of applause. The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.50pm.