

HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held at
THE MEETING ROOM

On
WEDNESDAY 11th MARCH 2015

Present: **Councillors: Dr G Lewis (Chair)**
 Mr M Blomer
 Mr C Bowen
 Mr M James
 Mr J Doidge
 Mr D Sandells
 Mrs C Sellars
Clerk: **Mrs J Richardson**

14/109 CHAIR'S WELCOME & APOLOGIES

ACTION

The Chair welcomed councillors to the meeting, and Mr Gareth Smith; member of the public.

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Rolf (SMBC) and Tom Rogers (SMBC)

14/110 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest relating to the business of this meeting.

14/111 UPDATE FROM SMBC

None

14/112 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

14/113 MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 14th JANUARY 2015

The minutes were approved as **proposed by Councillor Blomer and seconded by Councillor Bowen.**

14/114 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MEETING

14/93 Ward Action Plan – This has now been circulated and is very non-specific.

The Chair will arrange to meet Alison Lush and Tom Rogers who is now responsible for Bickenhill Ward again.

CHAIR

Railway Station – Councillor Doidge advised that a lift has now been installed at Acocks Green Station, and would like to arrange a separate meeting with Councillor Sleight to further discuss the options for Hampton-in-Arden Station.

JD

The Chair advised that at the Rural Partnership Meeting, a Centro Manager confirmed that a small amount of funding has been allocated to allow passengers to access the platform through the ticket office at all times, by securing the office.

14/96 Network Rail – No date has been given as yet, for Station Road to be re-surfaced.

14/75 Weight Restrictions – Our request to SMBC for HGVs to be banned from the village did not have high enough priority to be included in the Highways Action Plan. Councillor Blomer commented that the quarry lorries travelling through the village appeared to have reduced. The Chair confirmed that quarry traffic is subject to 106 Agreement restrictions barring it from the village and is being monitored.

14/77 Airport – Councillor Blomer advised that he continues to represent the parish council at the Airspace Stakeholder Group Meetings. The Airport will continue with modified option 6 following the end of the airspace trial, coding problems are being experienced, but are being addressed.

The Chair continues to attend ACC meetings at which the format of the committee is being reviewed. A group representing neighbouring villages is also meeting to take a consensus view forward on flight path change and ACC issues. Councillor Sandells advised that any aircraft not following the standard route should be subject to charging, which could be added to the community fund.

14/78 HS2 – Councillor Doidge advised that HS2 have produced new plans for a viaduct over Meriden Road and to re-route Diddington Lane so that it remains open whilst retaining the old road for walkers, horses and railway maintenance. These will be amendments to the Hybrid Bill which we can again petition.

14/104 Elections – The request for 2 additional councillors has now been approved.

The May Elections and ‘Meet the Councillor’ morning on March 28th have been advertised on the notice boards, village email list and in the newsletter.

14/115 MINUTES OF MAINTENANCE MEETING 4TH FEBRUARY 2015

The minutes were approved as **proposed by Councillor Bowen and seconded by Councillor James.**

14/116 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MEETING

M14/21 Festival – It has been agreed that a maximum of 30, pre-entered classic cars can attend and a review of the ground should take place the day before so that cars can be cancelled if necessary.

The Sports Club will use the main bar and not have an additional bar on the recreational ground.

M14/22 Catherine de Barnes Common – Councillor Blomer advised that a further draft of the Deed of Easement is required due to the Dell changing ownership. The surface of the access road has been challenged as the developer has amended the wording to enable the surface to be pavers or gravel.

M14/25 School Playing Field – The bottom gate leading to Peel Close has now been locked to try and prevent dog walkers using it.

M14/26 War Memorial – Councillor Sandells has photographs of the poor signage on Shadowbrook Lane to prevent wide vehicles using the road.

Councillor Bowen has been approached by someone who would like the name of a relative lost in the 1st World War added to those already on the memorial. As Councillor Bowen is satisfied that the person is eligible, councillors agreed, in principle. The cost will be approximately £275, and Councillor James advised that there are other names which may need adding. It was agreed to put this on the agenda for the next meeting so that councillors can make a decision about who is responsible for the cost.

14/117 CORRESPONDENCE (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

The following correspondence was presented to the meeting:

Postman Retiring – an email has been received to ask if the Parish Council are able to make an award. Councillors agree that this was generally not within the remit of the council.

Airport Surface Access Consultation, closing date 24th April. Passed to Councillor Blomer.

Email received regarding speeding traffic on Old Station Road. Chair to reply.

CHAIR

Email received regarding making the voluntary one way system on Fentham Road, permanent. Chair to reply.

CHAIR

Email from Village stores expressing concern about a survey of businesses regarding additional double yellow lines. Chair to answer.

CHAIR

Email regarding the Neighbourhood Plan training being on-line.

Email from SMBC conservation officer reporting that the Conservation Area Appraisal had been adopted.

Email containing SMBC Welfare Reform Newsletter.

Email from WALC regarding by-laws. Councillor James will look at the list of by-laws already held by the Parish Council.

MJ

Email about rubbish, including fishing waste, being left around Barston Lake, causing a danger to dogs. Forwarded to SMBC footpath officer.

Email about Parish and Town Emergency Planning. Councillor Sellars will look at this after the May election.

CS

Email concerning review of pharmacy services in Solihull.

14/118 REPORT FROM COMMUNICATION GROUP MEETING 4TH MARCH 2015.

Councillor Sellars summarised the meeting:

YOUTH ISSUES: There is still a need for councillors to visit the Skylark bus and meet the Youth Workers.

FACEBOOK: The Parish Council is now set up on Facebook. The Social Media Policy agreed by the full parish council in January 2015, will be added to the website, together with a link to the Facebook page.

SPORTS CLUB: Councillor Sandells attended the Sports Club AGM and confirmed they have secured funding of £750k for sports club redevelopment on the basis that a swimming pool is provided. It was reported that the Sports Club had CASC status (Community Amateur Sports Club) but was unclear how CASC rules and criteria would fit with our lease, the Chair will contact the sports club to clarify the situation.

CHAIR

The Hampton Gym are interested in relocating to a redeveloped sports club, a traffic survey would be required to identify potential parking issues and further discussions are needed to clarify how the swimming pool could be operated as the facility must be available to the community.

PHONEBOX: Councillor Sandells will tidy-up the phone box and ensure everything is up to date.

CHRONICLE: It was confirmed that the chronicle will continue to be produced for at least another year. Councillor Lewis has suggested a meeting between Parish Council, Church, Hampton Society and Fentham Trust to consider the possibility of a joint publication. The Communications Group discussed this and have concerns, but would like to meet and discuss it further.

NEWSLETTER: The winter newsletter has now gone to print and will be ready for delivery from 9th March.

Councillor Sellars thanked Councillor Bowen for all his hard work over the

last four years in establishing and maintaining the newsletter. Councillor Bowen confirmed he would be happy to be co-opted onto the Communications Group next year.

14/119 QUALITY STATUS

NALC have now replaced the Quality Council Scheme with the Local Council Award Scheme. Our status as 'Quality Parish Council' means we have been able to apply for automatic transition to the Foundation Level for 1 year, free of charge. Councillors agreed that the decision whether to apply for the Award Scheme would be reviewed by the new council in 12 months' time.

14/120 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Members of the Working Group have now prepared the draft 'pre-submission' Plan and Solihull MBC will give their informal comments on this shortly. Subject to any further minor changes being required the Plan enters the "statutory consultation" stage whereby a professionally printed Plan will be widely distributed for a final six week consultation period. In addition to this last period of consultation with residents, businesses and community groups it is necessary to give neighbouring parish councils, statutory undertakers and some government departments the opportunity to make comment. At the conclusion of the statutory consultation period all comments and observations will be considered and any further amendments made. The Plan will then be formally submitted to Solihull Council to arrange for a professional examination and, eventually, a referendum at which a simple majority of those voting is required for the Plan to be adopted and become a part of the Solihull Local Plan.

Members will recall that, at the outset, it was agreed that funding of £1,000 be made available to fund the cost of preparing the Plan and that the Council was successful in an application for a government grant through the Supporting Communities in Neighbourhood Planning programme of £4,221. The grant period expired on 31st December 2014 when total expenditure amounted to £4,226 which includes professional printing. Further future expenditure is expected to be minimal.

The Chair thanked Councillor Blomer and his working group for all their hard work.

14/121 CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

The draft Child Protection Policy was circulated to the councillors prior to the meeting. **Councillor Blomer passed a motion for the Parish Council to adopt the policy, which was seconded by The Chair.** All councillors agreed.

14/122 REPORTS FROM OTHER MEETINGS

The Chair gave feedback from the following meetings:

Hampton Society – Presentation on Local Enterprise Partnerships.

Solihull Partnership – Presentation by CENTRO on local transport issues and by SMBC on 'One Borough': an equal chance for all.

WALC Annual Briefing Day – The Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities was discussed. Councillors agreed that a working group should be set up following the elections in May.

Quarry Liaison Meeting. A452 and Solihull Road being resurfaced this Spring.

14/123 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillor Doidge circulated details of all planning applications currently outstanding, prior to the meeting, but made the following comments:
2015/10 26 Diddington Lane – Rabbit Rescue Centre, retrospective application has been approved with the provision of conditions (yet to be determined).

14/124 FINANCE

The Summary of Accounts and Authorisation of Payments were accepted as **proposed by Councillor James and seconded by Councillor Lewis.**

14/125 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Dates for meetings of the Parish Council in 2015 will be as follows:

Annual Parish Meeting – Tuesday 14th April 2015 Fentham Hall

Parish Council AGM – Wednesday 13th May 2015

Maintenance Meeting

10th June 2015

The Chair thanked all councillors for the work completed as this was the final meeting of the current council.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

