

# HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held at  
**THE MEETING ROOM**

On  
**WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2014**

**Present:**      **Councillors: Dr G Lewis (Chair)**  
                         **Mr M Blomer**  
                         **Mr C Bowen**  
                         **Mr J Doidge**  
                         **Mr M James**  
                         **Mrs A Rolf**  
                         **Mrs C Sellars**  
**SMBC**            **Mr T Rodgers**  
**Clerk:**           **Mrs J Richardson**

**ACTION**

## **13/116      CHAIR'S WELCOME**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially Councillor Cat Sellars to her first meeting.

## **13/117 APOLOGIES**

None

## **13/118 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

Councillor Rolf declared an interest in the Belle Vue Terrace planning application.

## **13/119 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Chair welcomed Miss Thelma Borley to the meeting.

Miss Borley wanted to advise the parish council concerning damage being caused to the verge on the corner of Marsh Lane by vehicles turning into the horse field, and about an area overgrown with shrubbery at the end of Bellemere Road - Mr Rodgers will investigate. Miss Borley also drew attention to new recycling arrangements and damage to a lamp post.

**TR**

## **13/120 MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

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

## **13/121 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MEETING**

**13/74 PLAY AREA** – Councillor Doidge confirmed that a grant of £10,000 had been offered by the Fentham Trust, £1,000 from Hampton Gym and £500 from the Lillie Johnson Trust. We are still waiting for the results of bids to the Lottery Fund and the Airport.

A further company are in the process of providing a quotation for the supply and installation of the play area. It was felt that it would be ideal if it could be completed for the summer.

Following a discussion, councillors agreed to postpone the decision to contact local businesses for a contribution until a response has been received from the Lottery Fund.

If funding is not secured for the full amount of the play area, councillors agreed that the parish council should contribute towards it.

13/80 NOTICE BOARDS - 2 new notice boards will be installed within the bus shelter in the next few weeks, utilising the existing 'Parish Council' sign.

13/87 NETWORK RAIL – The Chair reported that Network Rail had delayed the start date of tree work, but had still not agreed to a meeting date. Councillor Sellars and the Chair will pursue.

CHAIR  
CS

13/111 OUTDOOR FITNESS – The Chair reported that a few sessions had taken place, but due to the poor weather it was not financially viable for the trainer through the winter, and out of pocket expenses of £50.00 have been given as agreed.

### **13/122 MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MAINTENANCE MEETING HELD 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2014**

The minutes were approved as **proposed by Councillor James and seconded by Councillor Lewis with the addition of Councillor Bowen as an attendee.**

### **13/123 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MEETING**

M13/51 GRASSCUTTING CATHERINE DE BARNES COMMON – The Chair will chase the requested quotes and obtain additional quotes.

CHAIR

WORKING PARTY – Councillor Doidge reported that Solihull Council's Environment Services Team, and working with the Conservation Group they laid bark to approximately half the Spinney footpaths. The day was extremely successful, and very productive.

M13/52 TREE SURVEYS – Councillor James will arrange a full survey with an accredited body and the results can then be discussed with the Conservation Society. Councillors considered this should be completed as a matter of urgency in view of the extremely wet weather.

MJ

The Clerk will identify who Hampton Church use, and Mr Rodgers will make enquiries to see who Solihull MBC use.

CLERK  
TR

M13/54 SCHOOL FIELD – Councillor James stated that reports had been received that members of the public are using the school playing field at times when the school are using it, and the problem with dogs being taken on the field continues. Councillor James and the Chair will review the signage.

MJ  
CHAIR

M13/55 CAR PARK DRAINS – A letter has been received from Environmental Health stating that it is the responsibility of the Parish Council to keep the drains clear. A quote of £82.00 per hour has been received to do this work and it was agreed that this should be carried out on an annual basis. The clerk will book for early winter.

CLERK

POT HOLES – The Chair advised that Solihull MBC were waiting until Severn Trent had completed their work.

### **13/124 CORRESPONDENCE (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)**

None received that has not already been forwarded to the councillors.

### **13/125 REPORT FROM COMMUNICATION GROUP MEETING 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2014.**

Councillor Rolf circulated a copy of the minutes prior to the meeting, and briefly summarised them:

YOUTH ISSUES - The Youth Bus is still being well supported and Duncan Ballard has arranged for 2 youth workers. Youths will ultimately need a permanent venue and the Scout and Guide Headquarters is being considered if dates can be agreed.

WEB SITE - The web site homepage has been updated

NEWSLETTER – The content of the next newsletter was discussed, and Councillor Bowen will consider the suggestion that the Scouts and Guides could be involved with the folding and distribution, under supervision. CB  
Councillor Bowen will contact Solprint to see if they are able to maintain the cost for printing, but if not, 3 quotes will be obtained. CB  
The next meeting was arranged for Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

### **13/126 REPORT ON HS2**

Councillor Doidge circulated notes to all councillors prior to the meeting which briefly summarised details regarding the Petitioning process to the Parliamentary Select Committee, which may need action in April or May. Councillor Doidge requests a resolution that the parish council approve the following amendments to the Standing Orders dated 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014:

- 1) Para 48: Advisory Committees: Appoint a new High Speed Rail (HS2) Sub Committee consisting of two members, served by the Officer of the Council and
- 2) Standing Orders for Parish Meetings (Para 9) Terms of Reference for Sub Committees:  
HS2 Sub Committee  
Duties:
  - 1) to oversee and monitor HS2 plans as they affect the Parish
  - 2) to prepare responses to HS2, the Local Authority or any other Statutory Agency consulting on proposals relating to HS2
  - 3) to negotiate with such Agencies on mitigations and the impact of HS2 on the Parish, including the Petitioning of Parliament if necessary.

These amendments to the Standing Orders were **proposed by Councillor Doidge and seconded by The Chair.**

In order for the council to petition on HS2 a resolution will need to be passed concerning our opposition to the scheme. This must be widely advertised for at least 10 days before hand and will possibly require a special meeting of the council before May

### **13/127 INSURANCE RENEWAL**

The annual insurance policy is due for renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014, and the clerk has negotiated a discount of approximately 20% on last years' premium if a 3 year agreement is made. **Councillors Rolf proposed that this was approved, and this was seconded by the Chair.** CLERK

### **13/128 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Councillor Blomer circulated notes to all councillors prior to the meeting providing an update: All households and businesses had been sent questionnaires in early November. The return rate for households has been good at 39%, but business return rate is disappointing at 25%. Detailed analysis is underway and initial findings will be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting. The Chair suggested it may be beneficial for the parish council to arrange an event to meet and engage with local businesses.

### **13/129 ANNUAL REPORT**

The Chair advised councillors that the Annual Report would need updating ready for the Annual Parish Meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2014. Councillors will forward their updated text to the clerk in the next 2 weeks. ALL CLLRS

### **13/130 RE-INVESTING – FIXED TERM DEPOSIT**

The £10,000 which was invested in 2 year fixed term deposit account has now matured. Unfortunately, interest rates being offered are now lower, at 0.95 for 12 months.

As councillors felt it was likely that interest rates would improve next year, the **Chair proposed to invest £20,000 for 12 months, this was seconded by Councillor Rolf**. The clerk will make the arrangements.

CLERK

### **13/131 NEIGHBOURHOOD IN BLOOM 2014**

Councillors agreed that the parish council should enter the 'village' category, and the Chair will include it in the next Chronicle article to try and encourage parishioners to enter other categories.

CHAIR

Poppy Seeds will be obtained from Solihull MBC, to be scattered.

The clerk will liaise with the Communication Group to agree a date for the 'village clean up day'.

CLERK

### **13/132 CONSULTATION ON MEETING HOUSING NEEDS PLANNING DOCUMENT**

Councillor Blomer circulated details regarding this consultation prior to the meeting.

Solihull Council has published its Draft "Meeting Housing Needs" Supplementary Planning Document and the Parish Council is invited to comment on the proposals not later than 7 April 2014. One of the key policies of the Solihull Local Plan is to address the housing needs of the Borough up to 2028 and this supplementary document aims to set out the mechanisms and criteria for improving the delivery of affordable housing and the mix of market housing through the planning system across the Borough.

MB

Councillor Blomer considers that the parish council should support the document, and this was agreed by the councillors.

### **13/133 REPORTS FROM OTHER MEETINGS**

CENTRO – The Chair reported that a meeting had been held with Centro and London Midland, which was also attended by a representative from Hampton Society:

There are now 140,000 passengers using the station a year, which is an increase of 6%. Consideration is being given by CENTRO and London Midland to raise funding to securing the ticket office during times when it is closed, leaving the bridge open for passengers to walk through.

It is reported that the slope to platforms is too steep for ramps, and the cost of lifts is estimated to be £2 million. As the issue of accessibility has rated highly in the Neighbourhood Plan returns Centro advise the parish council to start lobbying about this issue so that when funding becomes available, Hampton will be considered. The Chair will arrange a working party inviting local councillors and our M P.

CHAIR

### **13/134 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Having previously circulated details of recent planning applications, Councillor Doidge made the following comments:

2013/478 Land off Catherine de Barnes Lane - The application for a change of use from arable land to 4000 plot cemetery has been withdrawn.

Councillor Blomer advised councillors that he had been notified by the solicitor that an application has now been made for a Deed of Easement regarding The Dell, Catherine de Barnes.

**13/135 FINANCE**

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

**13/136 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS**

Dates for meetings of the Parish Council in 2014 will be as follows:

**Parish Council**

Annual Parish Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> April 2014 FENTHAM HALL

14<sup>th</sup> May 2014 AGM

**Maintenance Meetings**

4<sup>th</sup> June 2014

The meeting closed at 9.25pm