

HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Held at

THE MEETING ROOM

on

WEDNESDAY 13th MAY 2009

**Present Councillors: Mr P Adams
Mr C Bowen
Mr M James
Mr G Juniper
Dr G Lewis
Mrs. A. Rolf
Mr R Smith**

09/01 APLOLOGIES

Action
(by when)

There were no apologies.

09/02 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor Smith proposed Councillor Lewis as chair for another year, seconded by Councillor Bowen. There being no other candidates, Councillor Lewis was duly elected. Councillor Lewis signed a declaration of acceptance of office.

09/03 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

09/04 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Councillor Lewis proposed Councillor James as vice-chair for another year, seconded by Councillor Bowen. There being no other candidates, Councillor James was duly elected.

09/05 APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES

The following councillors were elected to committees and working groups;-
(Chair and Vice-Chair, members of all committees.)

Planning;- Councillors Smith and Juniper (Chair)

Maintenance;- Councillors Adams, Bowen, Smith, (Councillor James as Chair.)

Communication;- Councillors Smith and Rolf (Chair)

Parish Plan Steering Group;- Councillor Bowen

Footpaths;- Councillor Lewis

Airport;- Councillor Bowen

SMBC Conservation Committee;- Councillor Smith

WM Police Rural Assembly;- Councillor Smith

Remembrance Day Parade liaison;- Councillor Bowen

WALC/ SALC;- Councillors Bowen and Lewis

Meeting dates for 2009/10 were approved as follows;-
July 29th, September 16th, November 18th, January 6th, January 20th, March 17th, May 12th.
(Maintenance, June 17th, October 21st, February 17th.)

09/05 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr John Eccleston, Chairman of Hampton Sports Club made a presentation to the meeting to explain the plans for the surrounding areas of the new tennis courts. There were three outstanding issues to address;-

1. tidying up the area by the clubhouse

The bank would be infilled and pyracantha to be planted at the corner of the path to prevent people walking through this area.

2. planting around the electrical supply box

There would be wooden screen to three sides not connected to the box and ivy planted which would grow up the fence and make a screen.

3. fencing around the boules pitch

There would be a fence erected around the boules pitch with seating and a removable section of fence facing the Spinney.

After some questions of clarification, the Chair thanked Mr Eccleston and confirmed that these proposals would be discussed later in the meeting.

09/06 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14TH MARCH 2009

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

09/07 MATTERS FOR ACTION ARISING FROM MINUTES

07/46 Signage at the Recreation Field

The completed sign should be delivered next week.

08/85 Parish Council Surgeries

The first surgery had taken place. The police were very happy to share their surgery and it was a useful opportunity to discuss common issues of concern. There had been few visitors but the main role may be the "signposting" of queries to other agencies, often Solihull MBC.

08/85 Setting up of a Youth Council

There was no progress to report.

GL (29/7)

08/87 "The Engine" S106 Monies.

The chair confirmed that the bus shelters and speed camera were about to be ordered and the bollards at Station road had been replaced.

09/08 CORRESPONDANCE (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

The following correspondence was presented to the meeting

1. Solihull MBC had notified us that the power would be disconnected from the telephone box. It was agreed to add the box to the maintenance plan and arrange to lock the box.
2. Network Rail had confirmed that they would tidy up Station Road (which had been done) but they had not yet put bollards across the railway bridge.
3. Details of the work of Sustain including publicity for a closer working relationship between Solihull MBC and the third sector, "Solihull Together".
4. Details of Monitoring Officer Liaison meetings which had been attended by the clerk, who reported very positive feedback with a willingness for the new monitoring officer to assist parish councils.
5. Extension of the consultation period of the new Minerals Strategy for Warwickshire.
6. Publicity for the new Healthcare Drop in Facility at Solihull Hospital.
7. Letter from Equality and Human Rights Commission reminding parish councils of their obligations under the legislation.
8. Letter from Planning at Solihull MBC inviting the parish council to a meeting on the planning portal and to receive our equipment for the trial.
9. Schedule of maintenance done on footpaths by Solihull MBC.
10. Consultation letter proposing changes to speed limits to 50mph to Solihull road approaching the village and Meriden Road leaving the village. The clerk had replied supporting the proposals plus asking for 1 50mph speed limit to be applied to Eastcote Lane also.
11. A letter from Solihull MBC re a matching £250 grant for Solihull in Bloom.
12. E mail concerning problems with contractors parking at the bus stop at the top of the village, causing an obstruction. The police have been informed and are keeping an eye on the situation.

09/09 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, 21ST APRIL

Matters of Accuracy;-

The question attributed to Mr Doidge was actually Mr Holmes, Fentham Road.

Mr Doidge was added to the "apologies" list.

Subject to these amendments, **The minutes were approved as proposed by Councillor Rolf and seconded by Councillor Smith.**

HW(29/7)

09/10 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

There was general concern about the perceived level of crime in the village as evidenced by the number of questions. The chair confirmed that she had spoken to the police and levels of crime in the village were relatively low but a number of residents, particularly the elderly were feeling vulnerable. It was agreed that the parish council should do more to promote neighbourhood watch schemes in the village and would contact the police to investigate holding a meeting to encourage more volunteers to come forward.

Interest in the Parish Plan was disappointing but this should not stop the

HW(29/7)

parish council from proceeding with publication.

09/11 FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNICATION GROUP

The group had a useful meeting recently and were grateful for the input from Sam Adams from Ruralnet. The group's priority was to review the website including pursuing the possibility of grant funding to help us with associated costs.

HW(29/7)

09/12 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The meeting considered the following applications;-

1. 09/407 8 Bellemere Road
Objection on the basis that the extension is over-development and too near the neighbours
2. 09/459 8 Corbetts Close
The trees referred to were reduced 2 years ago so object on the grounds that no further reduction should be necessary
3. 09/499 7 Engine Mews
No objection
4. 09/513 Beech Cottage
No objection
5. 09/659 8 Old Station Road
Objection as trees subject to TPOs and need proper assessment as to their alleged damage to the house by Solihull MBC
6. 09/714 Potters Chicken Farm, Catherine de Barnes
All councillors to view plans and let Councillor Juniper have their views.
7. 09/411 Beeches Restaurant
No objection

Clerk to check whether a change of plan had been put forward to 6 Diddington Lane

09/13 FINANCE

The clerk presented the end of year accounts and schedule of payments. **These were accepted as proposed by Councillor James and seconded by Councillor Lewis**

09/14 TENNIS COURTS

The chair advised that we had received advice from WALC that we receive confirmation that the Sports Club had carried out a risk assessment on the health and safety issues when tennis and cricket were played together and this had been received. The potential danger of cricket balls was mitigated by the higher netting to the far tennis courts which the parish council formally approved.

The meeting discussed Mr Eccleston's proposals and approved the first two proposals. After discussion, it was decided that the parish council could not agree to the proposals for fencing around the boules pitch as this encroached on the recreation field and was likely to appear unsightly. It was thought that the picnic tables would present a more natural "Boundary without the need for a fence. Councillor James would inform Mr Eccleston of the

(MJ29/7)

meeting's decision.

09/15 MAINTENANCE WORKS TO THE COMMON, CATHERINE-DE-BARNES

The chair told the meeting about some proposals by Solihull MBC to clear the pathway through the Common and create a wetland ecological area in consultation with the Council's ecologist. This would create a more tidy appearance and allow better access to those who use the Common. The work would be carried out by volunteers. The meeting agreed to support the proposals subject to adequate consultation with the residents, **as proposed by Councillor Lewis and seconded by Councillor James**

(GL29/7)

09/16 ADOPTION OF THE TRAINING STRATEGY

The Chair explained that the only condition of the Quality Status approval was that the council formally adopt the training strategy **which was formally adopted as proposed by Councillor Lewis and seconded by Councillor Bowen.**

CB(29/7)

Councillor Bowen agreed to be the lead councillor on taking the implementing the training strategy

09/17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for 29TH July at 7.30pm (Councillor James sends his apologies)

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm