

# HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Held at  
**THE MEETING ROOM**  
on  
**WEDNESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2012**

**Present**                      **Councillors Mr M Blomer**  
   **Mr M James (Chairman)**  
   **Dr G Lewis**  
**Mr J Eccleston**  
**Mr D Colman**  
**Mr N Holmes**  
**Mrs J Richardson (Clerk)**

ACTION

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **M13/10 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor Clive Bowen, Mr Peter Adams and Mr Tom Rogers (SMBC).

## **M13/11 Minutes of Meeting 30<sup>th</sup> May 2012.**

These have already been adopted by a full Parish Council meeting.

## **M13/12 Matters Arising**

12/20 **War Memorial** – Councillor Lewis confirmed that Councillor Bowen has received three quotes, and following a presentation by a stone mason, the parish council have decided to have the memorial completely cleaned and re-etched which will restore it to its original condition. This is the most expensive option at approximately £6,000, but an application for funding have been made to the airport to meet some of the cost.

CB

12/20 **George Fentham School Crossing** – Councillor Lewis reported that the crossing would not be pursued at the moment due to lack of support from the school.

13/07 **Allotments** – Mr Holmes confirmed that the school were now using and maintaining their allotment.

13/08 **Handrail, boardwalk at end of Marsh Lane** – The Chairman confirmed that the handrail had now been replaced and just needed painting.

13/08 **Best Kept Village** - Councillor Lewis reported that although we did not win the best kept village award, we have been awarded the RHS Neighbourhood Award. The RHS inspectors particularly praised the enthusiasm and community spirit Hampton demonstrated with a host of people working together on the ongoing projects and gave Hampton 98 out of a possible 100 marks earning an 'outstanding' Award.

## **M13/13 The Common, Catherine De Barnes**

Councillor Lewis reported that due to the ground being uneven, the grass has been cut using a tractor, by a local farmer through the summer. Working parties took place until spring and The Common looked lovely throughout the summer. SMBC and some residents have now also planted wild flowers.

The next working party is planned for 10<sup>th</sup> November at 10am.

### **M13/14 Churchyard**

Mr Colman informed everyone that following a survey, the advice of Midland Forestry had been followed - a cherry tree had been felled and dead wood removed from a further tree. That completes the tree work for this year. The Remembrance Garden has been tidied and the paths cleaned. A further working party will be arranged for later in the year.

Approval has been given by the PCC to replace the notice board – a grant will be obtained from the Diocese. If the replacement notice board is larger than the original, planning permission will need to be obtained. The new board should be installed by spring 2013.

Approval has been given in principle to refurbish the Church Hall, costs will be kept as low as possible by using volunteer labour.

Gary Wood has contacted the village businesses to identify any companies that would like to put a Christmas tree in the Church – currently 22 businesses have confirmed they would like to.

Duncan Ballard has now been appointed as vicar of Hampton-in-Arden and Bickenhill, and chaplain to the airport.

### **M13/15 Recreation Ground and Spinney**

**Youth Bus** – The Chairman reported that it was the official launch of the youth bus on Saturday and it was necessary to identify exactly where the bus should be sited in the recreation car park. The bus will need to use toilet facilities at the Scout and Guide hut and it was unclear whether a generator would be used for electricity. Mr Eccleston confirmed that there were 3 hockey matches that day and so would be busy in the car park. Councillor Lewis and the Chairman will meet the vicar to identify whether electricity is required before making the final decision.

**Woodland Trust** – Councillor Lewis reported that the application for 420 trees had been successful and they would be delivered at the beginning of November. SMBC and a number of volunteers would be planting these trees on the 15<sup>th</sup> November. SMBC will also be providing woodchips which will be used to improve the paths.

**Old Football Pitch** – The Fentham Trust are currently considering whether trees should be planted in this area and the parish council would like them to consider whether a cycle track or benches could be incorporated.

**Outdoor Gym** – Councillor Lewis reported that £10,000 has been awarded from the National Lottery to provide an outdoor gym which will be installed at the recreation ground. Mr Eccleston pointed out that if sited near the tennis courts, care must be taken not to damage the tennis court drains.

**Play Area** – A grant of £40,000 has been requested from SITA to provide play equipment for younger children – some additional equipment for the existing play area next to the school and a new play area at the recreation ground.

**Conservation Day** – Councillor Lewis informed the meeting that a conservation day had been arranged on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November. This will be advertised to try and encourage families to help.

### **M13/16 School Field and Play Area**

Mr Holmes reported there was a problem with visitors to the school not being able to find it as there are no signs in the village indicating where the school is located.

Following a discussion about the lack of signage for various locations, such as the Sports Club, Doctors Surgery and Fentham Hall, it was agreed that the issue would be passed to the parish council to consider.

MJ

### **M13/17 Remembrance Day**

The Chairman reminded everyone that the usual road closures had been approved and that the parish council were fully responsible. Mr Eccleston informed the meeting that there was a hockey tournament that morning – they have been made aware of the road closures, but it would be beneficial to cone the road earlier than usual.

### **M13/18 Any Other Business**

**Daffodils** – Councillor Lewis stated that SMBC had given 500 daffodil bulbs to be planted around the village. It was agreed that these would be planted on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November, and would be in the following locations: Elm Lodge (High Street side), Vicarage garden, entrance to the village from Meriden, entrance to the village from Hampton Lane and verges at Catherine de Barnes roundabout.

GL

**Jubilee Festival** – Councillor Lewis reported that all Jubilee Festival committee members agreed to continue and arrange an event in 2013 to coincide with the National Big Lunch on the weekend of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of June. Initial thoughts for the weekend are: Saturday - Tennis Open Day, Church Fete, Produce Show, followed by a concert in the evening. Sunday – Open-air Church Service followed by the big lunch and then possibly a family sports day.

It had been agreed that The Church would keep their own proceeds from their fete.

**Arden 9** – Mr Eccleston advised that this would be on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June (subject to SMBC approval).

**Cycle Group** – Mr Eccleston reported that the cycle group currently using the sports club on a Sunday morning would like to locate there on Thursday evening from April 2013. The Chairman would like to ensure that it would not create any problems for villagers using facilities.

The request would be considered by the main parish council.

MJ

### **M13/19 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is arranged for 6<sup>th</sup> February 2013

The meeting closed at 8.20pm