

HAMPTON IN ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL
MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Held at Meeting Rooms, Fentham Hall

7:30pm on 9 October 2019

PRESENT

Councillor T Beresford (Chairman)
Councillor M Blomer
Councillor J Eccleston
Councillor D Cuthbert (to item 19/14)
Mr David Colman
Mr Graham Hollway (to item 19/13)

Clerk: Julie Barnes

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

ACTION

19/11 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Green
Councillor Sandells
Mr Danny Adams
Mr Floyd Price

19/12 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 12 JUNE 2019

These have already been adopted by a full parish council meeting.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MEETING

18/32 Roads and Footpaths: The chair requested the clerk chase up the position with regard to resurfacing patches scheduled to take place on Shadowbrook Lane and Old Station Road.

CLERK

The Chairman brought forward Agenda Item 9 (iv):

19/18 (iv) HAMPTON IN ARDEN HOCKEY CLUB (PROPOSED HOCKEY PITCH WORKS)

Mr Hollway circulated technical drawings relating to the proposed hockey pitch works and provided all with a breakdown of the proposed works. Mr Hollway explained that it is hoped that works will proceed in April/May 2020. The works are expected to cost in the region of £305,000. The Hockey Club has a shortfall of approximately £105,000 and will be looking to raise the additional funds. The chair confirmed that the matter would be referred to the next full Parish Council meeting due to be held in November with a recommendation that members approved the Hockey Club's plans.

CLERK

Mr Holway left the meeting.

19/13 THE COMMON AND THE DELL, CATHERINE DE BARNES

(i) REQUEST FOR TOOLS

Councillor Cuthbert explained that members of The Common Group regularly undertake works in order to keep the area in good order, clearing brambles etc and enquired whether the Parish Council would be prepared to fund some tools

that they could use in order to undertake these voluntary works. The chair explained the various legal and health and safety issues that would prevent the Parish Council from purchasing and hiring out such tools but did confirm that it would be possible to provide a grant in order that tools could be purchased and used at their own risk. Councillor Cuthbert will provide further details of what funds he may need in due course. The chair thanked all those involved in helping to keep the area tidy. DC

Councillor Blomer explained to Councillor Cuthbert that Midland Forestry were due to undertake their full tree survey shortly. The Common will form part of that survey. Councillor Cuthbert confirmed he would meet with the inspector. DC

Councillor Cuthbert left the meeting.

19/14 **CHURCHYARD**

Mr Colman confirmed that the clock face has now been re painted. Engineers are having some difficulty with the winding mechanism and are working towards getting a fix for that. Councillor Blomer confirmed that the Parish Council have already contributed funds towards toward the repair of the church clock but would welcome a further approach should it become necessary stressing that residents within the community feel strongly that the clock chimes form a key part of village life.

In addition, Mr Colman stated that the PCC have now provided authority for the internal redecoration of the church. Gravestones have all been tested and confirmed as being safe and fit for purpose. The paths have been cleared of moss and in February/March 2020 the second phase of tree works will be undertaken.

Mr Colman confirmed that he will be staying in his role, having previously indicated an intention of resign, and will continue to represent the church at Maintenance Committee meetings.

19/15 **RECREATION GROUND AND SPINNEY**

(i) *Improvement of the Spinney Pond*

The chair explained that this item is for information purposes and relates to the Spinney Pond (located between the Spinney and the Arboretum). Elegant Homes have offered to pay to de-silt the pond. The Conservation Group have been approached and have subsequently provided their view on such works being undertaken.

(ii) *Picnic bench request*

The chair reminded everyone that a request had been made by Mike Fisher for a picnic bench to be installed near to the practice side of astro turf. There was concern regarding the location of the bench and the possibility that it might encourage anti-social behaviour.

Mike Fisher has offered to donate £100 towards the cost of installing a bench. Councillor Blomer confirmed he would speak with Mr Fisher to see whether an alternative location could be agreed. MB

19/16 SCHOOL FIELD AND PLAY AREA

The clerk confirmed that the inspection of the play areas had taken place but the report had not yet been provided.

The chair confirmed that the George Fentham Endowed School will be installing some fencing over the October half term. In addition, two trees have been removed. The George Fentham Trust will be looking to replace those trees in due course.

19/17 ROADS AND FOOTPATHS

The chair noted that there are various ongoing issues with Streetcare within the village. The clerk is liaising regularly with our neighbourhood coordinator in relation to those. The clerk will ask Councillors to keep an eye on their surrounding roads and footpaths so that we can continue to report any issues.

CLERK

19/18 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Christmas lights switch on

Councillor Blomer confirmed that the necessary electrical installations have now taken place in order to allow Christmas lights to be lit on the Christmas Tree located on the Village Green. The chair enquired whether a light “switch on” should be held to mark this occasion. All were in agreement. A date and time of 6pm on 6 December was agreed upon for the event to take place. Mr Colman confirmed that he would make enquiries as to whether the choir were able to attend and the clerk confirmed she would make enquiries with the Meriden Rotary Club to see if Santa could come along. Councillor Blomer confirmed he would liaise with SMBC Street lighting in order to ensure that a switch on of 6pm was acceptable.

**DC/
CLERK/
MB**

(ii) War Memorial yearly clean schedule

Bellamy and Waterhouse have enquired whether the Parish Council wishes to place the War Memorial on a yearly clean schedule in order to avoid the build-up of dirt. The chair explained that the War Memorial was produced out of lime stone which is a relatively soft and porous material and, if left, will naturally weather and discolour. The cost of the yearly clean would be £350.00 plus VAT. All were in agreement but wished to seek further clarification that regular cleaning would not damage the limestone. The clerk will make further enquiries and report further in due course.

CLERK

(iii) Planter

The chair noted that the new planter had looked fantastic over the summer months. It will cost £50.00 to plant it up for the autumn/winter. All were in agreement. The chair will confirm.

TB

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

5 February 2020 at 7:30pm.

The meeting closed at 8:32pm.