

HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held at
THE MEETING ROOM

On
WEDNESDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2015

Present: **Councillors: Dr G Lewis (Chair)**
 Mr M Blomer
 Mr J Doidge
 Mr D Sandells
 Mr D Cuthbert
SMBC: **Mr T Rogers**
Clerk: **Mrs J Richardson**

15/44 CHAIR'S WELCOME & APOLOGIES

ACTION

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Beresford, Blanch and Ward Councillor Rolf, also from Councillor Sellars who was congratulated on the birth of her baby. Councillor Blomer was attending the Solihull Connected Green Paper Meeting and joined the parish council meeting later.

15/45 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

15/46 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair welcomed Miss Thelma Borley to the meeting who wanted to bring the following items to the attention of the parish council:

Hampton Court Development – Concerns regarding the number of houses being built and access for emergency vehicles.

Fentham Road/Marsh Lane – The mortar is in poor condition. This has been passed to SMBC. The clerk will follow-up.

CLERK

15/47 SMBC UPDATE

The Chair advised that a meeting has been arranged with Alison Lush on 30th September at 14.30 in the parish office which all councillors are welcome to attend.

Mr. Rogers:

Patricks Bridge – road markings still not replaced; Mr Rogers will follow-up.

T ROGERS

Old Station Road, flooding – SMBC pursuing contractor to complete the re-instatement.

Bellevue Terrace, bollards – Mr Rogers advised that the home owner has agreed to fund some approved bollards.

T ROGERS

Packhorse Bridge, boardwalk – A price for repair is being negotiated. Shadowbrook Lane, HGV signage – this has already been ordered; Mr Rogers will follow-up.

T ROGERS

Cleaning of Road Signs – Mr Rogers advised that this is not included on their maintenance schedule and the parish council will need to notify SMBC if any is required.

15/48 MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 8th July 2015

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

15/49 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MEETING

15/29 Railway Station Access –London Midland have advised that funding is not available to make Hampton Station accessible for the less abled as the footfall is too low and nearby stations are fully accessible.

We believe funding is available to secure the ticket office and keep the bridge open in this financial year.

Councillor Doidge questioned whether improved access should be pursued through the Transport Green Paper Consultation questioning the methodology for the measurement of passenger numbers which will be limited by the size of the car park, and infrequency of trains.

15/31 War Memorial – The war memorial will be cleaned and the new name engraved in time for Remembrance Sunday.

15/34 Community Asset Register – Councillor Rolf had been going to investigate the register in more detail during her time as a parish councillor.

15/35 Solihull in Bloom – Councillor Sandells will attend the presentation evening. DS

15/39 Catherine de Barnes – A further Deed of Easement is required for utility cables; all councillors approve this request. MB

Further ruts have been made across the Common and councillors are concerned that the damage will get worse over the winter. Councillor Blomer will contact the solicitor for advice, and Councillor Cuthbert will contact local residents to try and identify any further issues. MB
DC

15/50 CORRESPONDENCE (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

The following correspondence was presented to the meeting:

1. An email from Phillip Tomkinson regarding re-surfacing of High Street on 26th October (2 nights).
2. 2 emails regarding loss of the gate at the side of the Spinney when the fence was replaced; councillors agree to retain the fence.
3. A report of anti-social behaviour at Peace Court, ward councillors involved.
4. Email regarding a problem with cats, SMBC involved.
5. A letter from SMBC about a rights of way consultation, Councillor Lewis replied.
6. A letter concerning nominations for Queen's honours and awards.
7. An invitation to share views about how the police and crime officers engage with the parish council. The Chair will reply. CHAIR
8. A Letter regarding Solihull Connected Green Paper. Councillor Doidge to reply. JD
9. A letter regarding a bulk energy buying scheme. This will go in the newsletter and on Facebook. DS
10. Consultation on Localised Council Tax Support Scheme.
11. Email from Meriden parish council regarding a planning application for Daw Mill.

15/51 REPORT FROM COMMUNICATION GROUP MEETING 1st SEPTEMBER 2015.

Councillor Sandells summarised the meeting:

YOUTH ISSUES UPDATE – Councillor Lewis reported meeting with Councillor Doidge and Mr and Mrs Grant about how the parish council can support their training plans for young people’s mental health and suicide awareness. It had been agreed that people working directly with youth would benefit most from the training however it could be sensible for one parish councillors to undertake training. Councillor Sandells expressed interest in attending.

Table tennis: Councillor Lewis reported the application is still pending with Sport England with some queries recently answered.

Councillor Sandells will pass contact details for the Youth Bus to Councillor Cuthbert for him to discuss the possibility of Catherine de Barnes children attending.

WEBSITE AND COMMUNICATIONS

Website: The group discussed our website in comparison with those of similar parish councils. It was not felt that any major changes were needed at present.

Old Hampton Photographs: Councillor Lewis reported discussions with Mr Boyles concerning old pictures of the village. It has been agreed that they will be added as an album to the website and be available in the village library.

Telephone box information signs: Councillor Sandells reported that following multiple quotes a solution re-using the existing panels had been found that should cost around £40.

Rail Station information point: Councillor Lewis reported that National Rail had agreed to consider this when they renovate the booking office.

NEWSLETTER:

Councillor Lewis reported that the parish council had responded to a complaint from a Catherine de Barnes resident about an article that suggested parking on Bickenhill Lane to walk on the common and canal. An apology had been sent explaining that the parish council was ensuring public awareness of the common land for which it was responsible. This will be taken into account when preparing future articles.

Mr Bowen mentioned that the publication/distribution date is expected to be 1st week in November and therefore timescales were tight to get the newsletter out in advance of the remembrance day parade.

TRANSPARENCY – Councillor Sandells reported that there was a transparency code for small authorities with income/expenditure below £25000 and large authorities above £200,000 but nothing in-between (which is where Hampton-in-Arden parish council sits). WALC recommended that we follow the code for small authorities in order to comply with best practice and to provide appropriate transparency to parishioners. Councillor Sandells suggested that all the relevant information could be provided in sections of the annual report. Councillors agreed that this should commence in 2016.

OTHER MATTERS:

Rail Station Access: Please see 15/29 above. Councillors felt that an updated passenger numbers survey could be helpful; Councillor Lewis will contact Network Rail about this.

Hampton Society Who’s-who: Mr Bowen reported that Hampton Society are constructing a publication of all the societies and contact names and roles.

Hampton Chronicle: Chris Cluley and Ellie Ballard are the new editors.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 3rd November 2015 at 7.30pm at the Parish Office.

15/52 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Councillor Blomer circulated a report prior to the meeting:

The Pre-Submission Draft of the Plan has been published and the six week statutory consultation began on 3rd August and ends on 14th September. The Working Group will carefully consider all comments, opinions and views expressed and where appropriate these will be incorporated into the final Submission Draft of the Plan ready for consideration by Solihull Council.

In addition to sending the Plan to a number of statutory consultees (e.g. government departments, utility companies, local district councils) it has also been sent to neighbouring Parish Councils and interest groups, major businesses in the Parish and to all of the local community groups. Open events were held on 22nd and 26th August with little attendance and the retail outlets and library where the Plan is available likewise report little interest from residents. To date there has been limited response; all positive. It is hoped that the final Submission Draft can be sent to Solihull Council by the end of October when a suitably qualified Examiner will be appointed to inspect the Plan. Any recommendations made by the examiner will be considered and, if necessary, included in an amended final version. Solihull Council will then arrange a referendum and, if supported by more than 50% of those voting, will "make" the plan and formally adopt the Hampton-in-Arden Neighbourhood Plan. Currently there is no suggested date for the conclusion of this process.

Three other Neighbourhood Plans are now in the early stages of preparation these being for Cheswick Green, Meriden and a combined Balsall Common and Berkswell.

15/53 LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME

The Chair advised that the scheme changed about a year ago when, as an existing Quality Council, we were transferred to Foundation Level, it is now necessary to apply and be formally assessed for the scheme. At the parish council meeting in March 2015, councillors agreed to review our position in 12 months, however a letter has now been received for registration to be completed by 1st of October. Councillors decided not to pursue an award at this stage as it was not clear that we had derived any benefit from our previous qualification.

15/54 HS2 UPDATE

Changes to the scheme were announced in July and there is much concern in the community about the proposal to realign Diddington Lane rather than close it as previously planned. Councillor Doidge reported that the parish council, Hampton Society, Fentham Trust and 28 residents had written petitions to Parliament opposing the proposal. It is expected that the parish council will be called to address the Select Committee at the end of this year or beginning of 2016 and will combine a presentation with residents who are being encouraged to attend the committee to show solidarity.

An action group has been formed to oppose the plan led by a resident of Diddington Lane and a village petition is being planned for Caroline Spelman M P to present to Parliament.

Councillors were concerned that only 10 days' notice has been given to advertise an Information Event that HS2 have arranged at Fentham Hall on Saturday 19th September.

15/55 AIRPORT AND FLIGHT PATH UPDATE

Councillor Sandells reported that the following points were discussed at the recent meeting he attended:

Emirates will increase to 3 flights per day, and are considering larger aircraft. Wake turbulence reports had been requested.

Option 6 is being re-designed as not all aircraft could follow the route.

Complaints procedure is being re-vamped.

The master plan for the airport will be published in April 2016.

Councillor Blomer reported that there were still a high number of complaints being made, but the airport still consider it is only perception that planes are flying further to the east.

15/56 CAFÉ2U FRANCHISE APPLICATION

The Chair reported that the owner of the van selling coffee in the recreation car park has approached the parish council officially asking if he can continue. Following information from Solihull MBC, he has been advised that he would need street trading consent. Councillors agree that if he obtains the relevant licence, he can trade for 6 months, then the parish council will review. The clerk will contact the owner.

15/57 SPORTS CLUB – REQUEST FOR BENCH

The Chair advised that a request had been received to site a bench at the sports club in memory of Mr John Pearson. All councillors agree to this being done.

15/58 REPORTS FROM OTHER MEETINGS

Solihull Connected Green Paper – Transport Policy

Councillor Blomer attended the workshop and reported that the emphasis was on getting people out of cars and on to public transport. The parish council will respond to the consultation.

15/59 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillor Doidge circulated details of all planning applications currently outstanding, prior to the meeting.

Objections have been sent to the following applications:

2015/1252 TPO 1 Engine Mews – pollarding of tree

PL/2015/51409/PPOL Motorway Services

15/60 FINANCE

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

15/61 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Date for the next Parish Council meeting:

11th of November 2015

Maintenance Meetings

7th October 2015

Communication Group

3rd November 2015

The meeting closed at 10.10pm

