HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

Held at THE MEETING ROOM

On WEDNESDAY 14th MAY 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

Clerk: Mrs J Richardson

14/01 CHAIR'S WELCOME & APOLOGIES

ACTION

ALL CLLRS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Tom Rodgers, SMBC.

14/02 ELECTION OF CHAIR

Councillor Rolf proposed the election of Councillor Lewis as Chair. This was seconded by Councillor Doidge and Councillor Lewis was unanimously elected.

14/03 CHAIR'S DECLARATION OF OFFICE SIGNED

Councillor Lewis signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

14/04 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

14/05 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

The Chair proposed the election of Councillor Blomer as Vice Chair, this was seconded by Councillor Bowen and Councillor Blomer was unanimously elected.

14/06 APPROVAL OF AMENDED STANDING ORDERS

Following a meeting of councillors to review Standing Orders the Chair proposed the amended standing orders be accepted, this was seconded by Councillor James, and unanimously agreed.

The Financial Regulations will be looked at before the next meeting to allow for the introduction of internet banking.

Councillor Bowen is developing an Asset Register a copy of which was passed to each councillor to consider before the next meeting.

A register of council roles and responsibilities, to allow smooth succession, was also approved.

14/07 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

The Chair and Vice-Chair are ex-officio members of all committees.

Maintenance Committee

Councillor James (CHAIR)
Councillor Bowen

Councillor Doidge (CHAIR) Planning Committee

Councillor Sellars

Communications Working Party (including Youth Affairs)

Councillor Rolf (CHAIR)

Councillor Bowen

Councillor Sellars Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

Councillor Doidge

Councillor Blomer (CHAIR)

Councillor Bowen (CHAIR) Remembrance Day

Councillor Doidge

Councillor Doidae HS2

Councillor Lewis

14/08 APPOINTMENTS TO OTHER BODIES

Airport Consultation Councillor Bowen **SAC WALC** Councillor Rolf Councillor Lewis Councillor Blomer Conservation Advisory Police Consultation Councillor James Footpaths Councillor Lewis Rural Partnership Forum Councillor Lewis SMBC Tree Warden Committee Mr David Grimshaw

14/09 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Miss Thelma Borley wanted councillors to be aware of the verge in Marsh Lane being damaged by horse boxes.

Councillor James advised that Solihull MBC were investigating, as it is their land.

The pot hole outside the shops in Fentham Road is also a concern, and Miss Borley was advised that this was the landlord's responsibility; however, the **CLERK** clerk will notify Solihull Health and Safety to ensure they are aware of the problem.

14/10 MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 12TH MARCH 2014 The minutes were approved as proposed by Councillor Rolf and seconded by Councillor Doidge.

14/11 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MEETING

13/121 Under 7's Play Area - Councillor Doidge reported that at a meeting last week, Sovereign Design Play Systems were agreed to be the preferred bidder. The Lottery payment should be received next week, when a further meeting will be held to decide on specific items.

The Chair thanked Councillor Doidge for all his hard work.

13/121 Notice Board - The new notice board is now installed and it was agreed that the clerk and councillors would control adverts.

13/121 Network Rail Tree felling - A meeting has been arranged for 1st August, which Caroline Spelman will attend.

13/123 Tree Surveys Parish Council land- Councillor James is in the process of obtaining an up to date survey.

13/128 Neighbourhood Plan – Councillor Blomer stated that the report to the Annual Meeting was well received. Councillor Sellars had now analysed the information, completing a separate analysis for Catherine de Barnes. Work has now moved to re-drafting the Neighbourhood Plan taking into account

the survey results, which are on the website.

13/131 Neighbourhood in Bloom - Councillor Bowen advised that all entries must be received by 6th June. The village tidy-up is arranged for Saturday 12th July.

It was agreed that the £100 of vouchers from last year should be given to the CLERK Gardening Club to be used towards the planting for this year.

14/12 REPORT OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING APRIL 15TH 2014

The council accepted the draft minutes of the meeting, which will be adopted at the next Annual Meeting.

14/13 MATTERS ARISING FROM ABOVE MEETING

Damage to village green - The Chair will check at the meeting with Severn Trent, what work has been completed on the village green.

Conservatory, Engine Mews - Councillor Blomer advised that he had emailed Martin Saunders, SMBC, but had not received a response as yet. Councillor Doidge will pursue.

JD

14/14 CORRESPONDENCE (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

The following correspondence was presented to the meeting:

- 1. Letter received complaining about litter on Marsh Lane this has now been cleared.
- 2. WALC correspondence re: internet banking.
- 3. WALC correspondence about training courses Councillor Sellars is scheduled to attend in June.
- 4. Email received from SMBC regarding speed limit changes.
- 5. HS2 consultation letter received.
- 6. Correspondence from Centro regarding opening the Whittaker Link this is unlikely to be progressed due to the estimated cost of £300 million.
- 7. Letter from a resident asking to keep Diddington Lane open if HS2 goes ahead.
- 8. Correspondence from Birmingham Airport regarding trial of the airspace change proposals.
- 9. Letter from the constructors of the new houses at Peel Close advising of a site office on Peel Close.
- 10. Solihull Local Policing and Crime Plan.
- 11. Correspondence from Phil Tomkinson at SMBC regarding resurfacing of Marsh Lane. This has now been postponed as the parish council advised that the water main work was incomplete.

14/15 REPORT FROM COMMUNICATION GROUP MEETING 4th May 2014.

Councillor Rolf summarised the meeting:

- The website continues to be updated regularly, although the use of the village diary is disappointing.
- An item on Youth Issues will be included in the next newsletter.
- The newsletter continues to be well received. The next newsletter items were discussed, which is planned to be printed on 20th May. Next meeting was arranged for 2nd July 2014.

14/16 PARISH COUNCIL PETITION OPPOSING ASPECTS OF THE HS2 **HYBRID BILL**

The Chair read the following resolution:

- 1) It is hereby resolved that Hampton in Arden Parish Council should petition in Parliament against the High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Bill.
- 2) It is further resolved that Councillors Gillian Lewis and John Doidge are delegated to act on behalf of the council on all petitioning matters and are delegated to make decisions on behalf of the council if negotiations arise with representatives of HS2 Ltd regarding mitigation.
- 3) It is resolved to authorise the payment of reasonable advertisement costs, petitioning fees and reimbursement of fares incurred for necessary travelling on petitioning matters.
- 4) It is resolved that Councillors Lewis and Doidge shall, if necessary, seek the advice of a parliamentary agent concerning the petition to a maximum cost of £3000-00.

This resolution was proposed by The Chair and seconded by Councillor Doidge.

All councillors voted in favour of it.

14/17 REPORTS FROM VARIOUS MEETINGS

HS2 - There have been numerous meetings regarding HS2, and it was reported that the Chair and Councillor Doidge are working very closely with Solihull MBC.

14/18 PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AT RING OF BELLS **GARAGE and AFFORDABLE HOMES COMPONENT**

Councillor Blomer circulated a report regarding details of possible redevelopment of the Ring of Bells garage site, and gave a brief update:

The garage is now closed; no planning application has yet been made. A developer has approached the parish council offering the council the freeholds of a one and a two bedroomed apartment on 99 or 125 year leases. The freehold interest would allow the parish council to ensure that occupiers meet eligibility criteria such as a true connection to the village. Both properties would be sold at a price equivalent to 75% of market value and the retained 25% equity would be gifted to the parish council.

Advice from WALC is that a parish council can own freehold property but has no power to act as a landlord.

Following a discussion, Councillor Blomer will make further enquiries with MB the housing association and the developer, and report back to the next meeting.

14/19 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillor Doidge circulated details of all planning applications currently outstanding, prior to the meeting. The following comments were made:

2013/1293 8 Old Station Road - This application was refused, and the applicant has appealed to the secretary of state.

Councillor Blomer advised that a draft agreement has now been received from a developer regarding access across The Common to The Dell, JD/MB Catherine de Barnes. This will be considered in detail by the planning subcommittee.

14/20 FINANCE

The End of Year Accounts and Summary of Accounts and Authorisation of Payments were accepted as proposed by Councillor James and seconded by Councillor Blomer.

14/21 APPROVAL OF FINANCE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

The Annual Return and completed annual governance statement were received and approved as **proposed by Councillor James and seconded by Councillor Blomer.**

14/22 APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE TO REPLACE PARISH COUNCIL COMPUTER

A number of problems have been experienced with the parish council laptop over the last year, and all councillors agreed that it should be replaced with a desktop computer; This was proposed by Councillor Rolf and seconded by Councillor Doidge.

14/23 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Dates for meetings of the Parish Council in 2014 will be as follows: 9th July 2014
10th September 2014
12th November 2014

Maintenance Meetings 15th October 2014

The meeting closed at 8.55pm