

HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held via

MICROSOFT TEAMS

on

WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2020 at 7:30pm

MINUTES

PRESENT	COUNCILLORS	Mr Mike Blomer (Chair) Mr Tim Beresford (Vice Chair) Mr Dave Cuthbert Mr David Sandells Mr Ken Blanch Mr Peter Green Mr Giles Cook Mr John Eccleston Mr Alexander Clayson Mrs Catherine Sellars
	CLERK	Mrs Julie Barnes

ACTION

- 20/40 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
Mr Mike Hulme.
- 20/41 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- John Eccleston, President, Sports Club.
 - Dave Cuthbert, Residents Association and Trustee of Catherine de Barnes Village Hall.
 - Tim Beresford – George Fentham Trustee.
 - David Sandells, Sports Club Member.
- 20/42 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
None.
- 20/43 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8 JULY 2020**
- The minutes from the Parish Council meeting were approved as **proposed by Councillor Cuthbert and seconded by Councillor Blanch.**
- 20/44 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MEETING**
- 20/08 Hampton Lane/Trench – the chair confirmed that the road surface repair remains outstanding. The clerk has contacted SMBC on several occasions and will continue to chase. **Clerk**
- 19/08 Network Rail/Fallen Tree – Network Rail are still to remove the fallen tree. The

- clerk has been in regular contact with Network Rail and will continue to monitor the situation. **Clerk**
- 20/08 The Common – Councillor Cuthbert confirmed that Newlands Bishop have undertaken one cut with a further cut due. Interim strims will then take place in between. Councillor Cuthbert continues to make enquiries with Wildlife Ways regarding a potential wildflower meadow. **DC**
- 20/17 Neighbourhood Plan – the chair confirmed that the working group are now in the process of receiving completed Neighbourhood Reviews back from residents and will arrange a meeting at the end of September to analyse the contents. **NP Working Group**
- 20/27 Parish Online – the chair enquired what members views were of *Parish Online*. All members agreed that it is a beneficial package and wish to extend its use beyond the free trial. **Clerk**
- 20/28 Oak Tree – Hampton in Arden Sports Club – the chair explained that following a further meeting with the Sports Club it had been confirmed that unfortunately there is no other option but to fell the Oak tree in order to mitigate further damage to the sports club building. The sports club have confirmed that they will plant replacements trees. A form of words will be agreed between the Sports Club and the Parish Council which will be communicated to residents via social media and in the next Parish Council newsletter.
- A birch tree that is situated within the hedgerow on Shadowbrook Lane will also need to be removed. It is understood that the removal of this tree will require approval from SMBC and not the Parish Council but the chair will make additional enquiries with the Sports Club in this regard. **MB**
- The chair explained to members that the sports club had also clarified the position regarding the status of the club to the Parish Council who had previously understood it to be a “*private members club*” and had therefore discounted possible CIL funding on that basis. The chair explained that the club is indeed a CASC (*a Community Amateur Sports Club*) and, on that basis, it was agreed that the Parish Council would review whether the sports club were therefore eligible for CIL funding. **PG**
- 20/45 FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**
- Due to Covid-19 the Communications Subcommittee had been unable to meet. It is hoped a meeting can be convened shortly.
- Councillor Sellars explained that she had taken the decision to postpone the village tidy until 2021. Councillor Beresford expressed concern about the increase in litter within the village. The clerk will contact SMBC. **Clerk**
- The next newsletter is due in November. Councillor Sellars requested articles by 16 October 2020. **ALL**
- 20/46 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**
- Councillor Cuthbert referred members to the report circulated in advance, noting in particular:
- 51409 – MSA:- The Parish Council hope to be in a position to provide a response by the end of September.
- 00874 – 14 The Crescent:- This application will be discussed at the next SMBC planning meeting and it is noted that officers have recommended it be approved.

01266 – 1 Oakfields Way:- An amendment is awaited but is not expected to be significant.

01908 339 Lugtrout Lane and 01821 351 Lugtrout Lane: - The Parish Council will object due to the developments being built on green-belt land.

Woodhouse Farm:- An appeal is anticipated.

Councillor Cuthbert referred to two current government consultation papers which seek to reform the planning system. 1. White Paper (Planning for the Future) and 2. Changes to the current planning system. The subcommittee will meet to discuss this in more detail.

The chair directed members to a presentation by Neil Pearce regarding the proposed planning reform and requested members listen to it before next subcommittee meeting.

**Planning
Subcommi
tee.**

03208 - Brickworks :- This application has been approved. The Parish Council will continue to monitor the situation. The chair noted that there remains some confusion over footpath M108 and further enquiries are being made in this regard.

M42 J6 Improvement Scheme:- Councillor Cook has joined a technical working group set up by Josh Higgins at Mott MacDonald. The group's objective is to provide statutory consultees with updates on the environmental progress, landscaping design and consenting requirements. The clerk has circulated the minutes from the recent meeting to all members.

WGAA:- Councillor Cuthbert confirmed that no decision has yet been made. A further meeting with Skanska will take place next week.

DC

20/47 CIL PROJECTS

The chair confirmed that the list of potential parish projects was now on One Drive for all members to view.

As indicated above, the chair confirmed that the Parish Council will review the CIL position regarding the sports club's request for funding.

PG

Councillor Green stated that he believes the Parish Council's current CIL policy needs amending. Councillor Green will therefore review the policy and suggest some modifications in due course.

PG

Councillor Blanch confirmed that the list of potential projects does not only rely on CIL for funding and requested that an agenda item be added to the next meeting in order that members can consider each potential project in more detail. Councillor Green confirmed he would consider each project when undertaking the CIL policy review.

**Clerk
PG**

20/48 HIGH STREET BUSINESSES

The chair explained to members that a disagreement had arisen between The Corner Shop and its Landlord. Members considered the issue, but all agreed that it is not appropriate for the Parish Council to intervene.

MB

The chair noted that, in addition, a parking issue had arisen along High Street.

Parking issues had recently been exacerbated by building works on Butchers Road, but that work had now ended and, as a result, more spaces were now available. Members considered the situation, and all agreed that it was necessary for the Parish Council to write to the residents on High Street reminding them not to park their vehicles on the pavement thereby creating an obstruction. Councillor Blanch will provide some wording to the chair for his further consideration.

KB/MB

Councillor Sellars confirmed she would include an article in the next newsletter.

CS

20/49 REMEMBRANCE DAY PLANNING (COVID-19)

Considering the current health crisis, the Vicar has expressed concerns about how Covid-19 restrictions will affect this year's service on 8 November. A possible idea is to have an outdoor service on the Recreation Ground to be followed by the usual parade. This will be weather dependant.

Councillor Eccleston confirmed that the Sports Club have been approached about a possible outdoor service and have confirmed they are happy with any such proposals.

There are no firm arrangements in place at present.

The chair requested authority for members to delegate any decision making to the Chair and Vice Chair. All members agreed.

Councillor Blanch confirmed that the application for the road closure has gone in and suggested that barriers and signs should go up as per usual despite the current uncertainty.

20/50 PEDESTRIAN AND ROAD SAFETY UPDATE

Councillor Blanch confirmed that the SMBC cabinet met on 1 September and approved the Parish Council's interim traffic calming scheme at a total cost of £60,000 with the Parish Council funding £25,000. Councillor Blanch indicated that he considered that this would be an excellent use of some of the Parish Council's CIL funds rather than drawing on reserves.

SMBC Highways will now work on the proposals and will communicate further with the Parish Council in due course.

The chair congratulated and thanked Councillor Blanch for all his hard work on this matter.

Catherine de Barnes Ward, Pedestrian and Road Safety: Proposals are now in place and can be submitted for approval. All members agreed that this proposal should wait until the initial interim scheme has been developed further.

Councillor Cuthbert referred members to photos of videos that had been circulated of congestion on Lugtrout Lane at a recent football match. The chair confirmed that this is a police matter and should be raised with them should such a situation occur again.

20/51 PETANQUE COMPETITION

The chair referred to a request received about the possibility of arranging a local Petanque competition within the village.

All members agreed. The chair will provide a response.

MB

20/52 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS PLANNING

The chair confirmed that following the success of last year's Christmas tree light switch on another event had been arranged to take place on Friday 4 December at 6pm.

The chair confirmed that the clerk has liaised with Meriden Rotary Club who have confirmed that Santa will again attend the event.

Councillor Blanch confirmed that the necessary road closure paperwork has been submitted to SMBC.

The clerk noted that she will contact Johnson's Buses regarding their necessary diversion on the evening closer to the event.

Clerk

In light of Covid-19 it may be necessary to make changes to the plans in place but that the Parish Council would maintain a watching brief.

20/53 THE CHARITY OF GEORGE FENTHAM – M SHALLEY RE-ELECTION

The chair noted that the Parish Council is required to appoint three persons as Trustees of the George Fentham Trust who each serve a term of four years.

Dr Martin Shalley's appointment is due to expire in October 2020. Dr Shalley has expressed a willingness to continue as a Trustee. All members agreed.

Clerk

Councillor Cuthbert enquired whether Trustees were required to provide a report based on their appointments with the Trust and sought clarification. The clerk will make further enquiries.

Clerk

20/54 CORRESPONDENCE

Most correspondence is received by email and is forwarded to Members as a matter of course. Most of the correspondence is of a routine nature, examples being regular consultations from SMBC on planning applications, updates, and training opportunities from WALC and NALC, many notifications about ongoing HS2 works and, currently, many relating to Covid 19. The following are items which depart from the routine:

29/06 - SMBC - Contact details for Neighbourhood Team

29/06 - SMBC - Meriden Neighbourhood Plan Consultation

07/07 - SMBC - Consultation on Governments Decarbonisation Plan

22/07 - Travel for West Midlands - Travel Survey

21/08 - SMBC - Civic Honours

27/08 - SMBC - Members Allowances (to be reported in detail to the October meeting)

20/55 REPORTS FROM OTHER MEETINGS

Councillor Blanch confirmed that West Midlands Trains are planning to hold regular stakeholder meetings. He will report further in due course.

The chair confirmed that WALC have now arranged a regular chairman's meeting with the first virtual meeting taking place tomorrow.

20/56 FINANCE

The quarterly accounts and payments for 5 months ending 31 August 2020 were accepted as **proposed by Councillor Blanch and seconded by Councillor Cook.**

20/57 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Eccleston noted that “*The Boat*” in Catherine de Barnes is going to close for a major refurbishment for 9 weeks from 14 September 2020.

20/58 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The chair confirmed the dates for the next meetings:

Parish Council Meeting: 11 November 2020

Maintenance Committee Meeting: 7 October 2020

Meeting closed at 9:30pm.

Minutes taken, prepared, and presented by Julie Barnes, Clerk