

## HAMPTON IN ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES

*Held at: The George Fentham Meeting Rooms, Marsh Lane, Hampton in Arden*

*On: Wednesday 13 March 2024*

*Start: 7:30pm*

*End: 9pm*

#### PRESENT

#### Councillors

Cllr Mike Blomer (Chairman)  
Cllr Tim Beresford (Vice Chairman)  
Cllr David Sandells  
Cllr Cat Sellars  
Cllr Peter Green  
Cllr Alexander Clayson  
Cllr Piers Reid  
Cllr Roger Waring  
Cllr Giles Cook  
Cllr John Eccleston

#### Clerk

Mrs Julie Barnes

#### Public

Sheila Blomer  
John Jenkins  
Rob Goodall

#### NO

#### ACTION

#### 24/112 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received and accepted from Cllrs Dave Cuthbert and Ken Blanch.

#### 24/113 STANDING DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- John Eccleston: President of Sports Club. Recreational Trust Trustee.
- Dave Cuthbert: chair of the Catherine de Barnes Residents Association and Trustee of Catherine de Barnes Village Hall.
- Tim Beresford: George Fentham Trustee and George Fentham Endowed School - School Governor.

#### 24/114 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

*Rob Goodall – Elm Tree Rise*

Wished to raise concerns regarding the lack of traffic calming measures on Diddington Lane. Provided an overview of the issues faced by residents of Diddington Lane and stressed the importance of something needing to be done to stop the Lane being used as a rat run.

The chair reiterated that the Parish Council have not been complacent on this issue, providing a full background on the current position. The chair also confirmed that the Parish Council are fully aware of the issues and will be arranging a meeting with all interested parties in due course.

*Stuart Jenkins - Diddington Lane*

Wished to reiterate that which Rob Goodall had stated but also noted that fly

tipping remained an ongoing issue. The chair confirmed that residents should continue to notify the clerk so that she can arrange for fly tipping to be collected. Alternatively, it was also possible to notify instances of fly tipping directly to Solihull Council who would arrange for its collection if located on their land.

**24/115 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL AND BUDGET MEETING HELD ON 3 JANUARY 2024.**

The draft Minutes taken and prepared by Julie Barnes were **approved as proposed by Cllr Tim Beresford, seconded by Cllr Peter Green** with all members being in favour.

**24/116 MATTERS ARISING**

24/97 – EV Charging Points – Cllr Beresford had investigated the matter further but both options were not favourable given high maintenance costs and the issue of losing in demand parking spaces. At this stage a watching brief will be maintained to see what Solihull Council’s future offering is.

**24/117 FEEDBACK FROM THE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE**

Cllr Beresford provided members with an overview of the Minutes that had been previously circulated to Committee members. Mention was made regarding several footpath and road issues that were currently being investigated details of which can be found in the Maintenance Committee Minutes.

**24/118 FEEDBACK FROM THE MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

In Cllr Blanch’s absence, members were referred to his report circulated in advance. The chair ran through each section of Cllr Blanch’s report to provide more detail. Mention was made regarding the lack of suitable diversion signage around Birmingham Dogs Home and Cllr Cook confirmed he would liaise with Skanska about this.

GC

**24/119 FEEDBACK FROM THE RIGHTS OF WAY AND FOOTWAY REPRESENTATIVE**

Cllr Waring referred to his report circulated in advance.

Members discussed the issues faced by residents using the footpath from Hampton Green to The Crescent. A quotation having been obtained from Dawsons Groundcare.

Cllr Waring **recommended that the Parish Council accept the quote from Dawsons Groundcare in the sum of £1,200 plus VAT. This was seconded by Cllr Green with all members being in favour.**

The clerk requested that Solihull Council be notified in advance of any works taking place. Cllr Waring will provide necessary words for onward transmission.

RW

Cllr Green stated that he considered the Parish Council should have an additional budget line to account for works related to footpaths within the village in view of limited funds being available for this purpose from Solihull Council. Members discussed this in more detail and overall agreed with Cllr Green’s proposal. Members will consider this in more detail during considerations for the 2025/26 budget.

**24/120 FEEDBACK FROM CIL COMMITTEE**

Cllr Green referred to his report circulated in advance noting that no further

applications had been received for consideration.

#### **24/121 FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

Cllr Sellars confirmed that the Great British Clean Village Tidy Events will take place in both villages on 23 March. All was in hand and all members were encouraged to support the event.

The next newsletter is due to go out in May. Members should arrange for articles to be submitted by no later than 19 April. The clerk will provide Cllr Sellars with a QR code to the Annual Report to give any residents who were unable to make the Annual Village Assembly a chance to read about the work of the Parish Council over the last 12 months.

**Clerk**

Cllr Sellars confirmed she had made some enquiries regarding the Village Information Sign located at the Train Station. P Howard Design will charge £80 to refresh the signage and quotes are waited for the printing of it. Cllr Sellars will progress and report further.

**CS**

#### **24/122 FEEDBACK FROM THE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

In Cllr Cuthbert's absence members were referred to his report circulated in advance along with the running planning report.

Cllr Cook made special reference to Oak Farm. The Parish Council had sought an extension which had been obtained. In advance of the Planning Committee meeting to discuss their submission, it was felt that it would be appropriate to meet again with the Planning Consultant, Donna Savage. Cllr Cook confirmed that he would seek some availability and revert further to the clerk for arrangement details.

**GC**

#### **24/123 FEEDBACK FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING GROUP**

Cllr Green confirmed that there was no further progress at present. A discussion was held regarding how best to progress matters. Cllr Green confirmed that he would make additional enquiries with SMBC to see what could be done.

**PG**

#### **24/124 FEEDBACK FROM FUNDING WORKING GROUP**

No further updates.

#### **24/125 FEEDBACK FROM THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP**

Cllr Waring referred to his report circulated in advance with no further comments added.

#### **24/126 ENQUIRY REGARDING A RESIDENTS ONLY PARKING BAY OUTSIDE NO.6 MERIDEN ROAD.**

The chair referred to his report circulated in advance. Members discussed the proposal in further detail before being asked to decide if such a parking scheme should be supported.

Members expressed concerns over setting a precedent in this way. A wider discussion was also held regarding parking within the Parish. **It was regrettably proposed by Cllr Beresford not to support the applicant in making an application for a resident only parking bay outside No.6 Meriden Road. This was seconded by Cllr Eccleston with 4 members being in favour, 1 against and 1 abstaining. As a result, the proposal was carried.**

#### **24/127 LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY REVIEW**

The chair referred to his report circulated in advance. Members discussed the review in further detail. The chair asked members to consider if any changes to the current parish boundary should be proposed.

It was agreed by all members that no changes to the boundary were required and that the Parish Council would therefore not respond further to this consultation.

#### **24/128 REQUEST FOR FUNDING FROM THE STAN BOWLEY TRUST**

The chair referred to a request for funding that had been received from the Stan Bowley Trust. Members considered the request in more detail and were asked to decide upon whether a donation should be made.

The chair noted that the Parish Council do not currently have a policy on donations and following a discussion, members felt that this was something that the Parish Council should look to prepare.

**Cllr Eccleston proposed not to provide funding in this instance due to it not being a direct benefit to our residents. The proposal also contained a need for the Parish Council to prepare a policy relating to future requests for funding. This was seconded by Cllr Green with all members being in favour.**

#### **24/129 GEORGE FENTHAM TRUST – TRUSTEE REPRESENTATIVE RESIGNATION – MARK ABBOTT**

The chair noted that Mark Abbott had been appointed as a Parish Council representative to the George Fentham Trust in January 2022 but having recently moved away has now resigned from his position with immediate effect. A replacement has not yet been proposed by the Fentham Trust. Further information to follow.

#### **24/130 .GOV.UK EMAIL ADDRESS IMPLEMENTATION**

The chair notified members that WALC had informed Parish Councils that they should all have a .gov.uk email address. The clerk is making the necessary arrangements, and that process will be implemented seamlessly shortly.

#### **24/131 CORRESPONDENCE**

Most correspondence is received by email and is forwarded to Members as a matter of course with the majority being of a routine nature. Examples are regular consultations from SMBC on planning applications, updates, and training opportunities from WALC and NALC, notifications from HS2 and National Highways and Skanska. The following are those that depart from the routine:

01/02 – SMBC – Air Quality Strategy Consultation.

21/02 – Stan Bowley Trust – Request for donation

21/02 – R Nicholson – Airport Expansion.

#### **24/132 REPORTS FROM OTHER MEETINGS**

Parish Council meeting with Ms R Nicholson  
Regarding Birmingham Airport Expansion

The chair referred to a meeting that had taken place with Ms Nicholson who resides in Warwickshire. The Parish Council had noted Ms Nicholson's concerns regarding what she perceived to be unnecessary expansion of Birmingham Airport and a lack of consultative process.

Cllr Sandells was able to provide an update on the current Noise Action Plans and various polices that will come into effect around Autumn 2024 noting that he found the Airport Consultative Committee meetings to be productive and useful.

Cllr Waring – Claverdon Parish Council

Cllr Waring confirmed that he had attended a recent Parish Council meeting at Claverdon where he is assisting them with legislation regarding public rights of way.

**24/133 FINANCE**

The quarterly accounts and payments for 11 months ending 29 February 2024 were accepted as **proposed by Cllr Beresford seconded by Cllr Cook** with all members being in favour.

Cllr Beresford requested the clerk display CIL figures separately to ensure clarity regarding the Parish Council's expenditure. **Clerk**

**24/134 DATES OF NEXT MEETING**

Maintenance Meeting: 5 June 2024 (via Microsoft Teams)

Annual Village Meeting: 23 April 2024 (in Fentham Hall)

AGM: 8 May 2024 (Parish Council Office).

**MEETING CLOSED AT 9pm**

**Reports detailed in the minutes are attached.**

*Minutes taken and prepared by Clerk, Julie Barnes*