

HAMMERWICH PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
Wednesday 15 May 2013

PRESENT: Cllrs V Wasdell (Chairman), Mrs M Greenway J Turnbull, R Campbell, Ms R Bailye (Vice Chairman), D Bayliss, Mrs J Pope, Cllr P Chapman Mrs V Evans (Parish Clerk) and 3 members of the public.

Action

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

- 1.1 The outgoing Chairman asked for nominations and Cllr Campbell proposed that he serve a second term.
- 1.2 Cllr Mrs Pope seconded the nomination and Cllr Wasdell was re-elected unanimously
- 1.3 Cllr Wasdell thanked his fellow Cllrs for their continuing support

2 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

- 2.1 The Chairman asked for nominations for Vice Chairman
- 2.2 Cllr Mrs Greenway nominated Cllr Ms Bailye and this was seconded by Cllrs Bayliss and Turnbull
- 2.3 Cllr Ms Bailye was also re-elected unanimously

3 APOLOGIES

- 3.1 Cllr Mrs V Richards

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS

- 4.1 None

5 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

- 5.1 Cllr D Bayliss proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true record and Cllr Ms Bailye seconded
- 5.2 **RESOLVED:** that the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17 April 2013 be accepted

6 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- 6.1 Cllr D Bayliss advised the meeting that his wife (former County Cllr Mrs E Bayliss) thanked the Council for their good wishes on her retirement. (points 5.1, 5.2 of the April minutes refer)
- 6.2 Cllr Mrs Greenway asked if Cllr David Smith (SCC) had been invited to attend a parish meeting (point 5.3 of the April minutes refers)
- 6.3 Cllr Bayliss reminded the meeting that Cllr Corfield was no longer a County Councillor (point 15.1 of the April minutes refers)
- 6.4 Cllr Chapman requested that Neighbourhood Planning should be reinstated on the agenda

7 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 7.1 The Chairman was able to advise that Cllr Smith had accepted the invitation and would attend prior to the next Council meeting at 7.00 pm
- 7.2 He also advised that as the Council still required a Councillor for Pool Ward, nominations would be welcomed
- 7.3 The Chairman also gave details of the meeting on 18 May 2013 at the Community Centre between 2.00pm and 5.00pm with regard to arrangements for Staffordshire Hoard exhibition coming to the village in September

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8 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

8.1 There were no planning or licensing applications to consider

9 UPDATE ON HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

9.1 The list of highway works for the Neighbourhood Highway team was updated for communication to SCC VE

9.2 The Chairman advised that the stile and finger posts had been installed by volunteers and he felt a letter of thanks should go to Mr West, Mr and Mrs Willet, Mr D Walker and Wayne Colson VE

9.3 He also advised that a resident wished to donate funds for a further finger post to be installed on the footpath to the waterworks

9.4 Councillors requested details of the donor but the Chairman replied that he wished to remain anonymous and the Chairman felt that the Council should honour that request.

9.5 As the stile kit had a generous amount of spares, the Chairman suggested they should be used to repair a stile in Coppy Nook Lane

9.6 Cllr Campbell moved support of sending letters of thanks, accepting the donation and the proposed repair

9.7 Cllr Bayliss seconded and the proposals were accepted unanimously

9.10 Cllr Bayliss raised the proposed reconstruction of Hall Lane. Members agreed that the resultant road closure would be difficult but the Clerk was requested to contact SCC to request a timescale for the reconstruction VE

10 PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

10.1 Cllr Greenway reported that the new fencing had been damaged by local children and she requested that LDC be contacted to effect repairs VE

10.2 However, as other Councillors have previously reported, the children's play area is extremely well used

10.3 She again mentioned the dangers of children crossing the road to get to the play area and the Clerk was requested to contact the safer roads partnership for interactive signing, crossing or some other speed reduction measure VE

10.4 Cllr Bailye expressed her pleasure at the notification that the Village Green was registered as it would mean it might be possible to apply for grant funding

10.5 Cllr Bayliss raised the issue that the land still belonged to SCC and the Clerk was requested to check ownership details VE

11 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

11.1 The Clerk reported that LDC had responded to the request for information on tree surveys to advise that they may be able to arrange for a contractor to carry out a survey

11.2 Members felt that as they were responsible for few trees and these trees had been inspected relatively recently, no action should be taken at this time

11.3 Members had asked the Clerk to enquire how Eccleshall parish had monitored speeding in their village and the Clerk gave details of the speed gun purchased and contact details for a police advisor. Unfortunately, volunteers were no longer willing to undertake monitoring

11.4 Again, Members felt that no further action should be taken at this time

11.5 At the last meeting Cllr Mrs Richards had asked the Clerk to contact, now ex, County Councillor Corfield to seek assistance from SCC with the placing of a marker to commemorate the finding of the Staffordshire Hoard

11.6 The Clerk replied that she had been contacted by a highway officer to the effect that perhaps the best approach would be to bid to the County Members Community Fund

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- 11.7 The Clerk advised that she had been contacted by LDC with regard to locks missing at Triangle, Mansion Drive and a tree which had fallen over in Oakfield Park VE
- 11.8 Cllrs asked the Clerk to contact Spencer Duvall of LDC who had the lock for Mansion Drive. They could not identify the lock at Triangle but Cllrs Mrs Greenway and Campbell undertook to investigate MG/
RC

11 CORRESPONDENCE SENT

- 11.1 All items of correspondence sent related to the items mentioned above

12 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- 12.1 Cllr Campbell proposed suspending Standing Orders and Cllr Mrs Pope seconded **RESOLVED:** to suspend Standing Orders for public participation
- 12.2 Dr Sharpe gave details of the meeting at the Community Centre on 18 May 2013 on the Staffordshire Hoard highlighting the intention of the organisers to interview local people for their thoughts on the hoard
- 12.3 He also advised that the organisers of the exhibition were looking for volunteers to help curate the exhibits which would include local archaeological finds
- 12.4 Cllr Mrs Greenway, who represents the Council on the steering group, said that she had seen some of the replicas which would feature in the exhibition and they were stunning. She urged everyone to try to see them
- 12.5 Dr Sharpe also reminded the meeting that the Hoard site was still a working site and the idea of a commemorative marker might be premature
- 12.6 Cllr Chapman offered to use his database contact to publicise the meeting
- 12.7 Mr Gregory updated the meeting on the latest developments, as he knew them, at Springhill Cemetery such as the removal of a planted hawthorn hedge with laurel, which is not a native species
- 12.8 Councillors were told of other transgressions and the Chairman was minded to contact the local MP
- 12.9 However, Cllr Chapman was concerned that circumventing the Planning Authority was not the correct protocol
- 12.10 After much discussion Cllrs agreed to contact LDC on two specific points:
1 Planning permission was granted on 14 01 2010 and work should have started by 14 01 2013.
2 One of the conditions of the development was that no work was to take place before the construction of a highway roundabout
- 12.11 Cllrs contended that any work which has taken place cannot be considered as the roundabout has not been started
- 12.12 Cllr Campbell requested that the Chairman contact Mike Wilcox, the Leader of the Council, the Head of Planning at LDC and Chris Hibbs, Head of Planning Enforcement
- 12.13 Cllr Mrs Greenway proposed restoring Standing Orders and this was seconded by Cllr Ms Bailye
- 12.14 **RESOLVED:** to restore closed session

13 FINANCE

- 13.1 Members had been circulated with a copy of the asset register but it was pointed out that the confirmation of the village green meant that the asset register should be altered to reflect this VE
- 13.2 Members had received a copy of the year end figures and sanctioned the Chairman to sign off on the accounts and the governance section subject to internal audit.
- 13.3 Cllr Mrs Greenway proposed that the SPCA subscription be paid and Cllr Bayliss

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seconded

RESOLVED: to pay SPCA subscription

13.4 Cllr Ms Bailye proposed the acceptance of accounts for payment and Cllr Mrs Pope seconded

13.5 **RESOLVED:** to approve the payments list for May

14 MEMBERS' REPORTS

14.1 Cllr Bayliss reported that on Lichfield Road, Brownhills a compound full of water storage type tanks had appeared and that they were a complete eyesore

14.2 Members agreed to contact LDC enforcement on behalf of the community as this site was believed to be just over the border of the parish VE

14.3 The solar panels were proving to be a success

14.4 Cllr Mrs Geenway picked up on the Walsall Development Document which had been forwarded for Cllrs comments

14.5 Among potential developments was the quarry site located in Cllr David Smith's parish and it was suggested that this might be an issue to bring to his attention at the next meeting

14.6 Cllr Chapman reported progress on LDC's submission of its draft local plan and that the council had so far successfully answered queries with regard to the plan

14.7 The Chairman advised the meeting that he hoped to attend each day of the hearing which was programmed to last for 3 weeks

15 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 Cllrs asked if there had been any news with regard to the Travellers Site but there had been not update

15.2 The Chairman advised that the Clerk would be unable to attend the next meeting but that Cllr Ms Bailye would minute the meeting

16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

16.1 Wednesday June 19 **commencing at 7.00 pm**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.39 pm

Chairman
19 June 2013