

# Minutes of the meeting of Handforth Parish Council on the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2013, 7:15 pm at St Chad's Church Hall.

Present: Cllr Barnes

Cllr Martin

Cllr Pincombe

Cllr Samson Chair of Handforth Parish Council

Cllr Thompson

Also present Mr J Brooks Parish Clerk.

13/17/1 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr Tolver and  
Cllr Pincombe did not join the meeting until 7:30 pm.

13/17/2 To note declarations of Members' Interests.

None.

13/17/3 Open Forum

Mr Shenton stated that in other areas CEC ward councillors provide regular feedback to residents about the work that the council is undertaking, he wanted to see similar arrangements in Handforth. Cllr Samson informed Mr Shenton that there was a ward councillor present and that after the meeting closed they could possibly discuss this matter in more detail. Mr Royle asked whether the communications policy would restrict the right of a councillor to assist a resident. Cllr Samson responded that this was not the intention of the document, the aim was to create clearer lines of communication, and to avoid the duplication of requests to the unitary authority. He also asked about the purpose of the complaints procedure and was informed by the Clerk that it was intended to deal with complaints about officers of the council and complaints about councillors that that fell outside the code of conduct.

Mrs Connolly expressed concern about the lack of flora displays in Handforth, when compared to other villages in the area. Cllr Samson responded that she hoped that item 12/17/9 (if approved) would redress this issue. Mrs Fogarty stated that she saw the Communications Policy as a way in which councillors could demonstrate group responsibility. Mr Bishop informed the meeting that the orienteering course at Meriton Road Park would be launched on the 10<sup>th</sup> July and thanked HPC for their financial support.

13/17/4 To approve the minutes of the HPC meeting of the 28<sup>th</sup> May 2013.  
Cllr Thompson stated that he was still not satisfied with the way any possible tie in voting in item 13/14/10 might be resolved. Cllr Barnes proposed, seconded by Cllr Pincombe that the minutes of the HPC meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> May 2013 be approved.

**Motion Carried: 3 for, 1 against, 1 abstention.**

13/17/5 To approve the minutes of the HPC meeting of the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2013.  
Cllr Pincombe proposed that the minutes of the HPC meeting of the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2013 be approved.

**Motion carried: 3 for, 2 abstentions.**

13/17/6 To receive a report from the Clerk.  
The Clerk's report was noted.

13/17/7 To approve accounts for payment.  
Cllr Pincombe proposed, seconded by Cllr Samson that the accounts for payment of £3588.32 be approved.

**Resolved: unanimously.**

13/17/8 To receive a written report from Cllr Pincombe on improving the street scene in Handforth.  
Cllr Pincombe outlined ways in which the centre of Handforth could be improved in the short, medium and long term. He hoped that with financial support from HPC work on improving the centre of Handforth could begin almost immediately. (Report attached)

Cllr Barnes proposed, seconded by Cllr Samson, that Cllr Pincombe's report be received.

**Resolved: unanimously.**

13/17/9 To approve the expenditure of up to £5000 on the installation of planters and flowerbeds in Handforth (DP).  
Cllr Barnes proposed, seconded by Cllr Thompson that the expenditure of up to £5000 on the installation of planters and flowerbeds in Handforth be approved.

**Resolved: unanimously.**

- 13/17/10 To approve the expenditure of up to £1800 on the services of a Village Handyperson. The role to be reviewed in December 2013.  
Cllr Martin proposed that the expenditure of £1800 to secure the services of a village handyperson be approved, with a review in December 2013.  
**Resolved: unanimously.**
- 13/17/11 To approve the expenditure of up to £250 to support a fishing competition being organised by Cheshire East Youth Service and Handforth's PCSO's.  
Cllr Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Thompson that the expenditure of £250 on the fishing competition be approved.  
**Resolved: unanimously.**
- 13/17/12 To approve the expenditure of up to £1000 to provide 'fun day' activities at the Youth Centre over the summer and October half term holidays. These events to be organised by Cheshire East Council Youth Service.  
Cllr Thompson proposed, seconded by Cllr Samson, that the expenditure of £1000 on 'Fun day' be approved.  
**Resolved: unanimously.**
- 13/17/13 To approve the expenditure of up to £1000 on setting up the Scribe accounts package and associated staff training.  
Cllr Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Pincombe that the expenditure on the setting up of the Scribe accounts package and associated training be approved.  
**Resolved: unanimously.**
- 13/17/14 To consider the adoption of 'Guidelines for Chairmanship' as an appendix to the current HPC Standing Orders (JM).  
Cllr Samson proposed that items 13/17/14 & 13/17/15 be deferred until they could be discussed at a working group meeting, to be held in early September.  
**Resolved: unanimously.**
- 13/17/15 To consider the adoption of a 'Communications Policy' as an appendix to the current HPC Standing Orders (DP).  
See item 13/17/14.

13/17/16 To elect a member of the Employment Committee.  
Cllr Martin expressed an interest in joining this committee. Cllr Thompson proposed that Cllr Martin be elected to the Employment Committee.

**Resolved: unanimously.**

13/17/17 To consider the adoption of a new complaints procedure.  
Councillors expressed concerns about a number of items in the complaints procedure, and Cllr Samson proposed that this item be deferred until it could be examined at a working group meeting, to be held in early September.

**Resolved: unanimously.**

13/17/18 To agree the date and time of the next meeting of Handforth Parish Council.

The next meeting of Handforth parish Council will be on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2013 7:15 pm at Oakmere on Spath Lane..

The meeting closed at 8:30 pm.

Chair of Handforth Parish Council..... Date.....