

**Minutes of the Handforth Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday 9th December 2014 at 7:30pm, The Youth Centre, Old
Road, Handforth.**

Present: Cllr Chapman
Cllr Fox
Cllr Harrison
Cllr Thompson (Chairman)

Also present: Mr Brooks, Parish Clerk, CEC Cllrs Burkhill and Mahon plus 21 members of the public.

14/29/1 To receive apologies for absence- apologies were received from Cllrs Scott and Tolver.

14/29/2 To note declarations of Members' Interests- Cllr Chapman declared a personal interest in item 14/29/12.

Cllr Thompson informed the meeting that Items 14/29/11 and 14/29/12 would not be considered this evening.

14/29/3 Open Forum-

A question was asked about the purchase of the bowser and the implications that taking the work in-house would have on the village maintenance service. The Clerk was asked to respond, clearly if the handyman was undertaking the plant watering then less maintenance could be undertaken. However, by using the services of the handyman, Handforth PC had greater control over exactly when the plant watering was done. There were further questions about the Parks and Open Spaces letter to CEC and the Friends of Meriton Road Park Questionnaire. The Chairman responded that the content of the letter would be discussed by councillors in detail under item 14/29/9 and that any questions about the questionnaire should be directed to the 'friends' group.

14/29/4 To approve and sign the minutes of the HPC meeting of the 11th November 2014.

Cllr Thompson proposed, seconded by Cllr Harrison that the minutes of the HPC meeting of the 11th November 2014 be approved as a true record and signed.

Resolved: unanimously.

14/29/5 To receive a report from the Clerk.

The Clerk's report was noted.

14/29/6 To approve accounts for payment.

Cllr Harrison proposed, seconded by Cllr Fox that the accounts for payment be approved.

Resolved: unanimously.

14/29/7 To consider the Handforth Parish Council budget for 2015/16.

Cllr Harrison stated that he was not satisfied with the budget in the present form. Cllr Fox proposed, seconded by Cllr Thompson that the budget as circulated be adopted.

Motion carried: 3 for and 1 against.

14/29/8 To consider setting the precept for the year 2015/16 at £85,000.

Cllr Harrison stated that he did not wish to see the precept increased, and was not satisfied with the way that the figure of £85000 had been calculated. Cllr Fox proposed, seconded by Cllr Chapman that the precept for the year 2015/16 be set at £85,000.

Motion carried: 3 for and 1 against.

14/29/9 To agree the content of the letter to Cheshire East Council regarding their Parks & Open Spaces Strategy, with particular reference to Meriton Road Park.

Cllr Fox proposed, seconded by Cllr Chapman that the letter be approved and forwarded to CEC.

Motion carried: 3 for and 1 against.

14/29/10 To approve the expenditure of up to £1000 on a water bowser.

Following a discussion about the full cost and impact of purchasing a water bowser, it was unanimously agreed without a vote that this item be deferred to a later meeting.

14/29/11 To consider a funding application for £5000 from the SK9 Youth Group- item withdrawn.

14/29/12 To consider a grant application for £1000 from the Handforth Mobility Access Group- item withdrawn to a later meeting.

14/29/13 To confirm that the next meeting of Handforth Parish Council will take place on the 13th January 2015.

The next meeting of Handforth Parish Council will take place on the 13th January 2015, 7:30 pm at Handforth Youth Centre.

The meeting closed at 8:10 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....