



**Minutes of the Meeting of Handforth Parish Council held on
Tuesday 14th February 2017 at 7:30pm, The Youth Centre,
Old Road, Handforth.**

Present: Cllr Samson (Chair of Handforth Parish Council), Cllr Smith, Cllr Sullivan, Cllr Thompson & Cllr Tolver

Also present Mr Comiskey Dawson, Parish Clerk
Twenty One members of the public.
One representative of the press.
One P.C.S.O.

17/06/1 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Cllr Burgess & Cllr Clark

17/06/2 To note Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation to discuss, or discuss and vote on a matter in which a Member or co-opted Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest (DPI).

Cllr Thompson declared a non-pecuniary interest as a former member of Friends of Meriton Road Park and the HMES group.

17/06/3 Open Forum-

A resident endorsed item 17/06/13 and suggested one bin be placed at the Coppice Way end of footpath 91.

A resident commented on item 17/06/16 that they hoped that the council would not make a decision on the item until they were in receipt of all documentation from HMES, ANSA, CEC and Friends of Meriton Road Park (FOMRP).

When asked about the membership of FOMRP and attendance at meetings, the resident noted that public attendance at meetings was made by request of the group. A question was asked to the same resident regarding Cllr Kerry Burgess who was not allowed to become a member but they did not want to publicise the reason.

17/06/4 To approve and sign the minutes of the HPC Council meeting of the 10th January 2017.

Chair.....Date.....

Cllr Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Sullivan that the minutes of the HPC council meeting of 10th January 2017 be approved and signed.

Resolved: Unanimously.

17/06/5 To approve and sign the minutes of the HPC Finance Committee meeting of the 19th January 2017.

Cllr Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Sullivan an amendment to the minutes under item 17/03/4.

Motion Carried: Three for and Two against.

Cllr Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Sullivan that the minutes of the HPC finance committee meeting of 19th January 2017 be approved and signed.

Motion Carried: Three for and Two against.

17/06/6 To approve and sign the accounts for payment.

Cllr Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Tolver that the accounts for payment be approved and signed.

Resolved: Unanimously.

17/06/7 Report from the Clerk

The clerks report was received by the council.

17/06/8 Report from the Chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group concerning the designation of the Neighbourhood area.

The report from the chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan steering group is appended to these minutes.

MOTION: To consider a response to Councillor Arnold's letter (circulated with agenda)

Cllr Sullivan proposed, seconded by Cllr Tolver that the motion be deferred until further information was provided.

Resolved: Unanimously.

17/06/9 MOTION: To consider the request received from the Hampers of Hope working party, to make a donation totalling £1025.80 for the financial year 16/17. Referred to full council from the HPC Finance Committee meeting.

Chair.....Date.....

A request was received from the Hampers of Hope group with regards to items to be provided in the furtherance of their aims and comprised a number of items to be kept at their Handforth base. One item was removed after discussion, namely a new DAB radio. The total donation now amounts to £995.80.

Cllr Tolver proposed, seconded by Cllr Thompson to include the Christmas lunch request for £116.35.

Motion failed: Two for and three against.

Cllr Samson then stated that she would make a partial contribution to the lunch from the chairs fund.

Cllr Tolver then noted that he would make up the difference to the amount after the chair had made her donation from the chair fund.

Cllr Thompson proposed, seconded by Cllr Sullivan to donate £995.80 to Hampers of Hope, following their request.

Motion carried: Four for with one abstention.

17/06/10 MOTION: To accept the report from the auditor regarding item 16/35/12 of the December 13th 2016 meeting.

Cllr Sullivan proposed, seconded by Cllr Smith that the auditor's report was accepted.

**Motion Carried: Four for and one abstention.
(Cllr Thomson abstained citing no reason)**

The Clerk noted a recommendation from the auditor that, as the council's expenditure had increased, it would be good practice for the council to have the auditor perform an interim audit each year.

17/06/11 MOTION: To produce a parish council newsletter before March 31st 2017 at a maximum cost of £625.00 to be distributed to all Handforth households. And to consider the ongoing production of the newsletter up to a maximum of four times per year.

Cllr Samson proposed, seconded by Cllr Thompson to begin production of a Handforth Parish Council newsletter as per the motion.

Resolved: Unanimously.

Chair.....Date.....

17/06/12 MOTION: To accept, from three quotes provided, a supplier for boundary signage for Handforth village and approve the expenditure for purchase and installation up to a maximum of £4,200.00.

Cllr Tolver noted that money for boundary signage was going to be released by Cheshire East Council. The clerk will investigate further.

Cllr Samson proposed, seconded by Cllr Tolver that the matter be deferred

Resolved: Unanimously.

17/06/13 MOTION: To approve the expenditure up to £1000.00 on the installation of five new standard litter bins in Handforth to be sited: one near the station bridge on Church Road, one on the path adjacent to the Grange School and two on the Spath Lane Estate. With one reserve.

Cllr Sullivan proposed, seconded by Cllr Tolver to approve the expenditure of up to £1,000.00 to be spent on the installation of new bins in Handforth.

Resolved: Unanimously.

17/06/14 MOTION: To approve the Neighbourhood Plan steering groups recommendation for appointment of Kirkwells as consultant town planners for the Neighbourhood Plan group. (Subject to requirement)

Cllr Thompson proposed, seconded by Cllr Tolver to approve the Neighbourhood Plan group's recommendation for the appointment of Kirkwells as consultant town planners.

Resolved: Unanimously.

17/06/15 MOTION: To earmark £5,700.00 of allocated funds from the neighbourhood plan budget from the current financial year to be spent on town planning consultancy costs, placed into reserve and rolled over to the next financial year as per Financial Regulation 3.5.

Cllr Tolver proposed, seconded by Cllr Thompson to place into reserve and roll over £5,700.00 from the current, to the next financial year to be spent on town planning consultancy costs, as per Financial Regulation 3.5.

Resolved: Unanimously.

17/06/16 MOTION: To receive a request from HMES, for Handforth Parish Council's support over lease of the pavilion.

Chair.....Date.....

Notes: HMES have been attempting for 8 years to arrange a lease for the pavilion with CEC. In order to apply for grant funding to complete much needed works, the group, legally has to have a lease. There had been exploratory meetings held between HMES and HPC. Cllr Smith requested copies of minutes or information from previous meetings but advised by Cllr Burkhill that no official records kept. Cllr Smith advised that this was not the case. Cllr Tolver noted a meeting which had taken place in June 2015, the minutes of which could be found in HPC's archives.

It had previously been agreed that Friends of Meriton Road Park (FOMRP) would have use of the Pavilion for meetings 12 times per year at 2 hours per time, however the pavilion had limited electrical, and no gas supply therefore no heating.

The portfolio holder at CEC indicated that HMES had no objection to sharing the pavilion. Cllr Samson requested that any documentation from both HMES and FoMRP to support their evidence should be forwarded to the parish clerk to be considered at the next full council meeting.

Cllr Samson proposed, seconded by Cllr Thompson to defer the motion.

Resolved: Unanimously.

17/06/17 Notices and Correspondence.

None.

The meeting closed at 9:33 pm.

Chair..... Date.....

Chair..... Date.....

Application by the Handforth Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (HNPSG) for the Designation of a Neighbourhood Area: Timeline of Events

23rd November:

Initial meeting of volunteers interested in joining the HNPSG. Officers of group elected – Roger Small (RS) as chairperson, Alan Murdoch (AM) as vice-chairperson, Ashley Dawson (AD) as secretary and RFO.

2nd December

Tom Evans (TE - CEC Neighbourhood Planning Manager) encouraged HNPSG to submit an application for the Designation of a Neighbourhood Plan Area and suggested using the application written by the parish of Eaton as a model.

HNPSG subsequently informed TE that it would like transposition of site CS49 from the Styal neighbourhood area to that of Handforth. TE replied that HNPSG needed to negotiate with Styal PC.

5th December

AD wrote to clerk of Styal parish council requesting transposition of site CS49 from neighbourhood area of Styal to that of Handforth.

7th December

HNPSG drafted neighbourhood area application using TE's model. Knowing that HNPSG wanted to include all the land within the parish borders, TE provided the appropriate map.

AD sent application for designation of Handforth neighbourhood area to TE together with a covering letter explaining that Handforth wished to negotiate with Styal re: inclusion of site CS49 (between Sagars Road and Clay Lane) in the Handforth Neighbourhood area.

12th December

TE wrote to say that the Handforth application has been processed and that it would be mounted on CEC website for a period of public consultation ending on 13th January. (The period of public consultation was later extended to 20th January to allow for the Christmas break.)

28th December

Styal parish clerk wrote to say that Styal parish council were unwilling to transfer site CS49 to the Handforth neighbourhood area.

26th January.

Meeting between several members of the NPSG and TE at Youth Centre. TE was asked whether there have been any objections to the proposed Handforth neighbourhood Area. He replied "No". This response was later confirmed in TE's report (3rd February) that announces CEC's removal of the NCGV site from the neighbourhood area. It would therefore seem that removal of a substantial piece of land from the neighbourhood area by CEC does not comprise an objection to the original application!!!

3rd February

HNPSG was informed by Councillor Ainsley Arnold (portfolio holder for housing) and by TE that:

1. CEC have removed site of NCGV from the Handforth neighbourhood area.

In many ways this may make the task of the HNPSG somewhat easier, but raises questions with respect to finances:

Assuming that CEC have adopted the CIL levy rather than the S106 system, what will Handforth receive in terms of CIL monies from the NCGV? We will certainly not be getting a 25% share of the CIL money because planning applications for the NCGV will have been submitted before any neighbourhood plan for Handforth comes into force. Under the law Handforth, as host parish to the NCGV, should get the 15% share of CIL (estimated at £1.5 million) under Statutory Instrument (2013) No. 982 para 59A – this is irrespective of whether or not we submit a neighbourhood plan!

2. The referendum will extend to areas outside Handforth

“The location and scale of the development (NCGV) at this site, its proximity to multiple settlements across two Local Authorities and the way in which benefits and impacts will extend beyond Handforth is considered unique to this site and **is likely to give rise to a requirement for a referendum on the neighbourhood plan to extend over a much wider area than the parish and across local boundaries.**”

This could mean that many persons who have not contributed to our neighbourhood plan will be able to pass judgement upon it.

7th February

NHPSG sent a letter to Councillor Arnold requesting responses, in writing, to a number of issues.

13th February

HNPSG received a reply from Councillor Arnold - important elements of which include:

- a) “The council is currently working on its CIL levy and anticipates adoption of a charging schedule early in 2018. CIL can only be levied on those applications that are determined after the charging schedule has been adopted. For those schemes dealt with beforehand, development contributions will be sought through Section 106 agreements. If the site is subject to a CIL levy, 15% of such a levy will be paid directly to the Parish Council for investment in local infrastructure projects.”
- b) “At the end of the neighbourhood plan process, a local referendum will be held and an external examiner must assess whether the referendum should extend beyond the neighbourhood area ...”
“Excluding NCGV (*from the neighbourhood area*) avoids this potential situation whereby residents in other communities will be asked to vote on the Handforth Neighbourhood Plan.”

In summary

It seems that a neighbourhood area has been imposed upon us - and the map of Neighbourhood Plans in Cheshire East tends to confirm this. However, the CEC website for the Handforth Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 7 Neighbourhood Area Designation shows "Stage not Reached". We asked for clarification as to whether further action is required by CEC or by our steering group and have been told that no further action is necessary. As of today, the CEC website still reports "stage not reached".

Roger Small

pp Handforth Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

13th February 2017