



**Minutes of the Meeting of Handforth Town Council held on
Tuesday 14th September 2021 at 7:30pm, held at Handforth
Youth Centre, Old Road, Handforth.**

Present: Cllr Sam Milward, Cllr Susan Moore, Cllr Cynthia Samson (Until item 21/25/17), Cllr Julie Smith, Cllr John Smith (Chair of Handforth Parish Council) & Cllr Kerry Sullivan

Also, present Mr Comiskey Dawson, Town Clerk
Six members of the public.

The video can be watched on YouTube by following this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmNIRoV6ujZg24I634xDmhQ/>

- 21/25/1 To receive apologies for absence.
- Apologies received from Cllr Tolver (Dispensation granted until November 2021).
- 21/25/2 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).
- None.
- 21/25/3 Open Forum- Comment and questions concerning items on this agenda may be put to the Council by the public during this period. Matters which, in the Chairman's view require debate and/or a discussion will be referred to the next Committee/Council meeting, as appropriate. The Public Forum is restricted to 15 minutes, unless the Chairman allows otherwise.
- A member of the public commented on item 21/25/11 and noted that she was in possession of a restrictive covenant on usage in Meriton Road Park. The member of the public read a snapshot of the covenant indicating the restrictions on park use.

Councillors noted that the model railway was part of the CE MRP consultation currently underway and that it was well supported by both the public and CE.

A resident enquired as to item 21/25/10 and asked whether this was to do with the on-going CE investigation into historical councillor conduct matters and whether the contract specified was the responsibility of Cllr Tolver.

A resident enquired as to why the minutes of the July 2021 ExO meeting had not been published.

Councillors noted that it was on this agenda to be ratified and that following ratification the minutes would be published.

A resident enquired under item 21/25/20 as to whether their draft letter to the PCC had been circulated to councillors.

This was confirmed.

21/25/4 To approve and sign the minutes of the Handforth Parish Council meeting of 13th July 2021 – Part B.

Cllr Moore proposed, seconded by Cllr Julie Smith to approve and sign the minutes of the Handforth Parish Council meeting of 13th July 2021 – Part B.

Motion carried: Four in favour with two abstentions.

21/25/5 To approve and sign the minutes of the Extraordinary Handforth Town Council meeting of 10th August 2021.

Cllr samson proposed, seconded by Cllr Julie Smith to approve and sign the minutes of the Extraordinary Handforth Town Council meeting of 10th August 2021.

Resolved: Unanimously.

21/25/6 To receive a report from the PCSO.

The PCSO was not available to present a report.

21/25/7 To approve and sign the order of payments for September 2021.

Cllr Samson proposed, seconded by Cllr Sullivan to approve and sign the order of payments for September 2021 totalling £9,442.72.

Resolved: Unanimously.

21/25/8 MOTION: To agree the costs of the proposed traffic management scheme for the closure of Wilmslow Road for the 2021 Remembrance Day Parade up to the value of £2,500.00.

Cllr Julie Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Moore to agree the costs of the proposed traffic management scheme for the closure of Wilmslow Road for the 2021 Remembrance Day Parade up to the value of £2,500.00.

Resolved: Unanimously.

21/25/9 MOTION: To agree the cost of up to £400.00 to purchase additional lamp post poppies for Handforth village for Remembrance Sunday.

Cllr Sullivan proposed, seconded by Cllr Samson to agree the cost of up to £400.00 to purchase additional lamp post poppies for Handforth village for Remembrance Sunday.

Resolved: Unanimously.

21/25/10 MOTION: To discuss the recent correspondence from Avensure regarding a contract entered into by Cllr Tolver in January 2021.

There was an extensive description of events surrounding this item given by the chair, the full extent of which can be viewed on the HTC YouTube channel for conciseness

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmNIRoV6ujZq24I634xDmhQ/>

The salient chronology is as follows:

1. Cllr Tolver issues ExO agenda for the 18th of January 2021. No item regarding a contract
2. Cllr Tolver signed contract with Avensure on 19th January 2021. Nothing about entering a contract on the agenda.
3. Cllr Tolver guaranteed this contract and was paying from his own account according to Avensure.
4. Email trail retrieved under FOI in April 2021, indicating Cllr Tolver was aware no other Councillor knew about the contract.
5. Cllr Tolver stopped the Avensure DD. – date unknown.
6. Avensure Credit Control department are asking for payment from HTC mid-August (final demand received on 31st August).
7. Clerk and Chair have requested copies of the contract; however, the scans are barely readable, but have Cllr Tolver's signature on them.

Noted that this is a HR services contract, and the contract period is for 5 years and at a cost to the taxpayer of £7,500.00 in total.

Councillors felt that HTC should not be made liable for this and wished to seek some legal advice, beginning with NALC legal. For the time being the clerk was instructed to refer Avensure back to Cllr Tolver.

Cllr Julie Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Samson.

Resolved: Unanimously.

21/25/11 MOTION: To discuss the recent grant application from Handforth Model Engineering Society for the installation of new low level carriage sheds for the requested amount of £1,000.00

Cllr Julie Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Moore to grant the full award to the Handforth Model Engineering Society for the requested amount of £1,000.00 on the proviso that if they run into any problems regarding restrictive covenants with CE they return the money to HTC.

Resolved: Unanimously.

21/25/12 MOTION: To set up a working group to discuss the current NALC model standing orders and recommend any changes to full council.

Cllr Samson proposed, seconded by Cllr Moore to set up a working group to discuss the current NALC model standing orders and recommend any changes to full council.

Resolved: Unanimously.

21/25/13 MOTION: To agree the following immediate insertion into the HTC Standing Orders:
'Any councillor unable to attend a meeting should inform (in writing e-mail to suffice) the clerk & chairman of their absence and reason for this absence'
The council should then vote at the meeting on the absence & reason.

Cllr Samson proposed, seconded by Cllr Moore to amend the wording to:
'Any councillor unable to attend a meeting should inform (in writing e-mail to suffice) the clerk & chairman of their absence' The council should then vote at the meeting on the absence.

Resolved: Unanimously.

21/25/14 MOTION: To agree to make the proposed changes to the NALC model financial regulations adopted by HTC. (Proposed changes in Agenda Pack)

Cllr Julie Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Milward to defer this item.

Resolved: Unanimously.

21/25/15 MOTION: To agree the revised Accessibility Statement for the Website.

Cllr Moore proposed, seconded by Cllr Sullivan to agree the revised Accessibility Statement for the Website.

Resolved: Unanimously.

21/25/16 MOTION: To agree the revised Privacy Policy for the Website.

Cllr Sullivan proposed, seconded by Cllr Julie Smith to agree the revised Privacy Policy for the Website.

Resolved: Unanimously.

Cllr Samson had another appointment and left the meeting at this point (8:50pm).

21/25/17 MOTION: To delegate a public relations officer for the council from within or bring in outside advice.

Cllr Moore proposed, seconded by Cllr John Smith to set up a working group to pursue this idea further.

Resolved: Unanimously.

21/25/18 MOTION: To agree to ringfence £2,000.00 from the Youth Provision budget line for requests from CE youth support services to support the recovery of youth services provision post-pandemic, requests higher than £500.00 to be referred back to full council. Amounts under £500.00 at the clerk's discretion.

Cllr Sullivan proposed, seconded by Cllr Milward to agree to ringfence £2,000.00 from the Youth Provision budget line for requests from CE youth support services to support the recovery of youth services provision post-pandemic, requests higher than £500.00 to be referred back to full council. Amounts under £500.00 at the clerk's discretion.

Resolved: Unanimously.

21/25/19 MOTION: To agree to use up to the maximum budgeted amount of £2,000.00 towards the Christmas tree and Christmas lights switch-on event and form a Christmas events working group.

Cllr Julie Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr John Smith to agree to use up to the maximum budgeted amount of £2,000.00 towards the Christmas tree and Christmas lights switch-on event and form a Christmas events working group.

Resolved: Unanimously.

21/25/20 MOTION: To agree a letter to be sent to the Police Crime Commissioner regarding the A34 speeding issues in advance of his meeting at Wilmslow Parish Hall on 23rd September.

Cllr Julie Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Moore to agree a letter to be sent to the Police Crime Commissioner regarding the A34 speeding issues in advance of his meeting at Wilmslow Parish Hall on 23rd September.

Resolved: Unanimously.

21/25/21 MOTION: To allow a 15-minute discussion forum for items not pertaining to the agenda.

A resident indicated that they wished to submit a number of responses on behalf of themselves family members and a group they were involved in from the same email address and whether this would be possible.

21/25/22 To receive notices and correspondence.

A message was received and circulated from the Waggon and Horses bowling club to inform the Town Council that the defibrillator which was purchased via a Council grant had been loaned to Wilmslow first responders and taken out on 300 occasions during the lockdown, whilst the Waggon and Horses pub was closed.

21/25/23 To agree the date of the next HTC meeting to be held on 12th October 2021.

The date of the next HTC meeting to be held on 12th October 2021 was agreed without a vote.

The meeting closed at 9:08pm.

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