



**Minutes of the Meeting of Handforth Town Council held on
Tuesday 14th February 2023 at 7:30pm, held at Handforth Youth
Centre, Old Road, Handforth.**

Present: Cllr Sam Milward, Cllr Susan Moore, Cllr Ribia Nisa, Cllr Cynthia Samson, Cllr John Smith (Chair of Handforth Town Council), Cllr Julie Smith & Cllr Kerry Sullivan

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

The video can be watched on YouTube by following this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmNIRoV6ujZq24I634xDmhQ/>

23/05/1 To receive apologies for absence.

None.

23/05/2 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).

Cllrs John Smith & Julie Smith declared an interest in item 25/05/9 – residents of Ferndale and would not vote on this item.

Cllr Julie Smith also noted a non-pecuniary interest in item 25/05/9 – Friends of Handforth Station & Handforth Junior Youth clubs, but dispensation was granted to allow her to vote on these items.

Cllr Milward declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 25/05/9 – Handforth Grange School, but dispensation was granted to allow him to vote on the item.

23/05/3 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. Items not pertaining to the agenda may also be taken at this time at the Chairman's discretion. The Public

Forum is restricted to 15 minutes and strictly 3 minutes per person unless the Chairman allows otherwise.

A resident commented on item 25/05/9 and noted that they would take any questions, if required, in relation to the application from the Friends of Handforth Station.

The same resident commented on item 25/05/11 and noted both their personal support for the item as well as that of the Friends of Handforth Station.

A resident enquired as to who the group was involved in item 25/05/10, the Chair noted that he couldn't give any details out contained in the grant application but would allow questions when the item came up for debate.

A resident questioned item 25/05/11 but was reassured when this motion would have zero financial impact on the Town Council.

23/05/4 To approve and sign the minutes of the Handforth Town Council finance committee meeting of 17th January 2023.

Cllr Sullivan proposed, seconded by Cllr Moore to approve, and sign the minutes of the Handforth Town Council finance committee meeting of 17th January 2023.

Resolved: Unanimously.

23/05/5 To approve and sign the minutes of the Handforth Town Council meeting of 17th January 2023.

Cllr Julie Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Samson to approve, and sign the minutes of the Handforth Town Council meeting of 17th January 2023.

23/05/6 To receive a report from the PCSO.

This item was deferred without a vote as the PCSO had not submitted a report and was unable to attend this meeting.

23/05/7 To approve and sign the order of payments for February 2023.

Cllr Samson proposed, seconded by Cllr Julie Smith to approve and sign the order of payments for February 2023 totalling £6,483.82.

Resolved: Unanimously.

23/05/8 To receive a report from Ward Councillor Julie Smith.

Ward Councillor Julie Smith gave the following report:

We have had two very successful community skip days in February. Residents came out in force, and both were filled to capacity. Paul and Ashley also cleared a fly tipped sofa and mattress from a grass verge on Spath Lane. We are hoping to do some more in the coming weeks in association with Onward.

I've received many reports concerning dog mess around the village. In particular, Meriton Road Park where there were reports of 15 incidents that had been left on two occasions in one week. I'm pleased to report that following a post I made on social media requesting the dog warden to patrol, the problem appears to have reduced significantly with only three incidents occurring in the park. It is unacceptable that dog owners do not clear up after their pets. Faeces can be particularly hazardous to children should they inadvertently get it on themselves. We now have a dedicated CEC community warden who can be contacted regarding problems of this nature in the future.

I spent two hours last week driving around Handforth with a CEC Highways Manager. All white lining I requested has now been carried out, except that at the Bluebell lights and Tesco express, as these both require road traffic orders. In the case of the Bluebell, temporary traffic lights would be necessary to safely complete the work. At Tesco Express a road closure would be necessary. This would probably be done on a Sunday. We also identified more locations which require pothole repairs, several trees requiring attention, road sign replacements & new drop kerb installations.

Still on the subject of Highways, I have recently been contacted by a number of residents asking me about the possibility of designated parking spaces or double yellow lines outside their properties. CEC no longer install H bars outside properties and the police have stated that they would not condone double yellow lines on residential estates.

Following a number of calls and messages from residents, I have written to the Police Crime Commissioner regarding the increasing instance of ASB in the village and the problems with the VAPE shop. My queries have been passed to Cheshire Police for comment and investigation. The PCC will be visiting Handforth Junior Youth Club and Onward housing representatives later this month to see the newly installed floodlights installed with funding from Onward Housing and the PCC. I intend to further discuss the ASB issues with him at that time.

Earlier this month, I received several calls and messages from Clay Lane residents as a number of trees and hedgerows were being cleared from an area of privately owned land. The residents had been informed that a development of 65 houses was planned. Following extensive research and

discussions with Planning Enforcement, the principal arboriculture officer and the neighbourhood planning manager and interim environmental planning manager who all confirmed that the site has no status in the local plan, other than the policies which apply i.e. Green Belt. It was also confirmed that the trees and foliage which had been cleared was not subject to any Tree Protection Orders, but if the remaining mature trees were to be felled, then a felling licence would have to be obtained.

I have asked Cheshire East Parking enforcement for a more regular presence in the village. In particular around the village centre, where parking is at its worst. Also, at the top of Meriton Road, School Road and the full extent of Sagars Road. I am pleased to report that they have been patrolling the village today.

I will be arranging a community Litter Pick on 11th March, as there is a growing problem with littering in our village.

Finally, I received an email from a fellow Ward councillor from Congleton who had been contacted by a Handforth Town Councillor regarding a matter on which I had reported on to the Town Council last year. Can I please ask that if any Town Councillor requires information on any work I am involved in, in my Ward, that out of respect, they direct their enquiries to myself in the first instance.

23/05/9

MOTION: To review and agree any received King's Coronation Award applications.

- South Acre Drive Residents - £250.00

Cllr Julie Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Samson.

Resolved: Unanimously.

Mobility Access Group - £300.00

Cllr Julie Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Milward.

Resolved: Unanimously.

- Handforth Grange School - £300.00

Handforth Grange School had sent along several representative from their School Youth Council to present their application to the Town Council. Councillors were impressed with the eloquence of those that spoke to the application and admired their support for the coronation and the plans that had been laid out to mark this celebration.

Cllr Julie Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Nisa.

Resolved: Unanimously.

- NAAFI Break Hub - £300.00

Cllr John Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Samson to defer this item until the next meeting, once they had had a chance to meet with a representative from the group.

Resolved: Unanimously.

- Residents of Ferndale - £300.00

Cllr Sullivan proposed, seconded by Cllr Samson.

Motion Carried: Five in Favour with Two Abstentions.

- Friends of Handforth Station - £300.00

Cllr John Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Nisa.

Resolved: Unanimously.

Handforth Youth Clubs - £300.00

Cllr Samson proposed, seconded by Cllr Sullivan.

Resolved: Unanimously.

- Henbury Road Supported Living Advocacy Group - £200.00

Cllr Julie Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Sullivan.

Resolved: Unanimously.

23/05/10

MOTION: To receive a grant application from NAAFI Break Hub towards the cost of holding a summer fete in the grounds of Handforth Youth Centre this year. Grant requested: £1,000.00.

Cllr Samson proposed, seconded by Cllr John Smith to defer this item until the next meeting (again so councillors could meet with a representative from the group).

Resolved: Unanimously.

23/05/11

MOTION: To support application to Cheshire East Council to have the Railway Hotel considered an Asset of Community Value.

Cllr Sullivan proposed, seconded by Cllr Julie Smith to support any application made to Cheshire East Council to have the Railway Hotel considered an Asset of Community Value.

Resolved: Unanimously.

23/05/12 To receive notices and correspondence.

Cllr John Smith noted that the HTC newsletter was currently with the printers and will be distributed in late February / early March.

A local business has contacted the Town Council to offer some free anti littering and dog fouling stencils.

Noted that the Handforth Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday 07th March at 6pm at the youth Centre, Handforth.

23/05/13 To agree the date of the next HTC meeting to be held on 14th March 2023.

It was agreed without a vote that the date of the next HTC meeting would be 14th March 2023.

The meeting closed at 8:22pm.

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