



**Minutes of the Meeting of Handforth Town Council held on
Tuesday 18th July 2023 at 7:30pm, held at Handforth Youth Centre,
Old Road, Handforth.**

Present: Cllrs Tim Hardy, Elizabeth Hindle- Newman, Peter Moore, Susan Moore (Chair of Handforth Town Council), Tim Royle, Cynthia Samson, John Smith, Julie Smith, Roger Small & Kerry Sullivan

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

23/18/1 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Cllr Murray.

23/18/2 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 Julie Smith declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 23/18/10 and was granted dispensation to debate and vote on the item.

23/18/3 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 queried whether he would be allowed to comment on items 23/18/11 & 23/18/12 whilst they were being discussed.

Cllr Susan Moore confirmed she would allow this.

A resident thanked the council for including item 23/18/8 on the agenda as they felt recording council meetings enabled disadvantaged individuals to review HTC meetings.

23/18/4 To approve and sign the minutes of the Handforth Town Council meeting of 13th June 2023.

Cllr Hindle-Newman proposed, seconded by Cllr Royle to approve, and sign the minutes of the Handforth Town Council meeting of 13th June 2023.

Motion Carried: Six in favour with four abstentions.

23/18/5 To receive a report from the PCSO.

The PCSO's report was as follows:

Firstly, apologies for not being able to attend, I am day off today and unable to change my shift due to personal commitments. However, I will be changing my shift so I can attend next month's meeting.

If you have any questions, can you email them directly to myself & not Ashley, due to the lateness of the report I will do my best to reply before the meeting, but feel free to email me after as well.

Gareth.Harding@Cheshire.police.uk

Below is a break down of incidents in Handforth (Not including Colshaw) since the last meeting. The level of detail provided depends on what GDPR will allow & not compromising ongoing investigations.

- Burglaries – 2 – vehicles taken from both incidents, we have recovered one, the other is still outstanding.
- Theft From Motor Vehicle – 1 – VRM plate taken from a motor bike.
- Shoplifting – 0.
- Hate Incident – 0.
- Domestic – 8 – No violence used at any of them, only 2 repeat location (2 incidents at both). 1 of these was Mental Health & not domestic related.
- Criminal Damage – 0

- Concern For Safety – 17
All separate individuals or locations, ranging from mental health, drugs, suicide. When a member of the public or agency has a concern for an individual & calls the police.
In almost all incidents this is not a police matter or certainly not wholly a police matter and involves officers needing to get one or multiple agencies involved.
- Licensing visits were conducted around Wilmslow/ Handforth/ Alderley Edge on the 1st of July. On this occasion The Freemasons was visited and I'm happy to report no issues.
- The 2 young males responsible for damage to the tree in Meriton Park have been dealt with as per "Cheshire East" wishes, they have paid for the damage.

23/18/6 To receive any reports from Ward Councillors.

Cllr Julie Smith reported the following:

There were currently two active consultations taking place, the first was the Cheshire East libraries consultation which was proposing a reduction in the opening hours of Handforth Library. Cllr Julie Smith had submitted some proposals for later opening in the mornings and to close earlier on the libraries late opening day. This was to stop it closing on any further days. The second consultation was regarding the proposals to close all the railway ticket offices across the north-west, which will be debated later in this meeting; however, Cllr Julie Smith encourages all residents to participate in these consultations.

Also noted was the cancellation of the litter pick due to take place on Saturday 15th July, owing to the poor weather forecast, this will be rescheduled in August for the School holidays. On Sunday 23rd July there will be a free CPR session taking place at the Youth Centre run in conjunction with the British Heart foundation; and also, there will be a Town Council sponsored Skip Day on Meriton Road on Monday the 24th of July.

Cllr Julie Smith also reported that following incidents of residents using a pedestrian only access track to the Fairway's site, Anwyl have now installed bollards to prevent this. It is also proposed that bollards will be installed along the Clay Lane bridleway to prevent fly-tipping along this section of Clay Lane. Finally, trading standards have now concluded their investigation into the American Vape shop in Handforth and have been found guilty of selling vape products to minors and have been fined £1,144.00 by trading standards.

Cllr John Smith reported that he has been spending a lot of his time finding out how Ce works, this is usually through courses, either face to face or on Teams. He has also been dealing with a large volume of planning queries from residents. He will be attending a workshop to understand the working of the CE finance sub-committee and will be enquiring about the reallocation of S106 funds in the area and how to access them.

Cllr John Smith also noted that he had to sign the action of restitution on behalf of CEC regarding the vandalism of trees in Meriton Road Park as it required CEC sanction.

23/18/7 To approve and sign the order of payments for July & August 2023.

Cllr Samson proposed, seconded by Cllr Sullivan to approve, and sign the order of payments for July & August 2023 totalling £14,006.94.

Resolved: Unanimously.

23/18/8a Under SO 10(ix) Motion not requiring Notice:

Cllr Sullivan proposed, seconded by Cllr Samson that Cllrs Roger Small & John Smith be elected to the finance committee.

Resolved: Unanimously.

23/18/8 MOTION: To discuss and agree whether HTC will continue to record council meetings and upload them to YouTube.

Cllr Susan Moore proposed, seconded by Cllr Small that Cllrs Hindle-Newman and Peter Moore will look further into live streaming of HTC meetings, and that in the meantime, audio recordings of council meetings will be taken and made available to the public.

Motion Carried: Eight in favour and two against.

23/18/9 MOTION: To discuss HTC involvement with the Time Out Group's Summer event in the Paddock and agree a £250.00 donation towards activities on the day.

Cllr John Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Julie Smith to approve a donation of £250.00 towards activities at the Time Out Group's Summer event to be held in the Paddock and that HTC will be involved with the event and possibly have a stall.

Resolved: Unanimously.

23/18/10 To discuss ideas for HTC involvement to support the 80th anniversary celebrations to commemorate D-Day on or around 06th June 2024.

It was agreed without a vote that the clerk would look into the possibility of using the Youth Centre to hold a picnic with live 40's band and singers from the community on Saturday 08th June 2024 to include military vehicle(s) from the time if it can be obtained. Once costings are established it can be discussed and voted on and included in the 24/25 Budget.

23/18/11 MOTION: To purchase and install one additional notice board on the Fairways development for £815.00 plus VAT.

Cllr Julie Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Royle to purchase, and install one additional notice board on the Fairways development for £815.00 plus VAT; it was also agreed that HTC approach Anwyl to see if they were willing to make a contribution towards the notice board.

Resolved: Unanimously.

23/18/12 MOTION: To receive recommendation from the HTC finance committee in respect of a grant application received from 1st Handforth Scouts. Grant requested £1,000.00.

The finance committee had recommended refusal of the application to the full council on safety grounds.

Cllr Samson proposed, seconded by Cllr Susan Moore to accept the recommendation of the finance committee, and refuse the grant for £1,000.00 to 1st Handforth Scouts.

Motion Carried: Six in favour, one against with three abstentions.

Grant refused for £1,000.00.

23/18/13 To receive further information from Cllr Peter Moore regarding the HTC website. Cllr Peter Moore.

It was noted that if any councillor wished to join the working group formed by Cllrs Hindle-Newman and Peter Moore should email the clerk to confirm.

23/18/14 MOTION: To review the Northern Rail Ticket office closure and provide a response to the consultation on behalf of HTC.

Cllr Small proposed, seconded by Cllr Peter Moore to accept the letter of objection to the closure of Handforth Railway ticket office as circulated which the clerk would submit to the appropriate body.

Motion Carried: Eight in favour with one against and one abstention.

23/18/15 To receive notices and correspondence.

Cllr Susan Moore noted that she had been on the CE code of conduct training and that the new CE code of conduct adopted by CE would be circulated over the summer to all councillors to review with a view to it being adopted by HTC at their September meeting.

23/18/16 To agree the date of the next HTC meeting to be held on 12th September 2023.

It was agreed without a vote that the next HTC meeting would be held on 12th September 2023 at 7:30pm.

The meeting closed at 8:57pm.

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