

Minutes of the meeting of the Armitage with Handsacre Parish Council held on Thursday 25th March 2021 via Microsoft Teams at 7:00pm.

Present: Councillor A Maddocks Councillor A Castle
Councillor T Marshall Councillor J McGill
Councillor J Yearsley Councillor J Israel
Councillor I Hodgson Councillor A Kirkbride
DCouncillor R Cox DCouncillor N Binney
CCouncillor M Tittley

Apologies: Charlotte Leach-La Planche - Administrator

Parish Clerk Samantha LaPlanche

REGULAR MEETING

Public Participation: John Malchin from RPS Angling Club have received funding to help the group support people suffering from mental health issues. The funds will be used to coach and teach people over the age of 65 and they have 8 places available for a 12 week course. The Chairman said it was a wonderful scheme and offered to help advertise the courses on the Parish Council website and notice board.

The Friends of Holly Walk gave a short presentation on the work of the group, which was setup in July 2020. They are searching for the new owner of the field as they believe it is being sold for development and the group's main aim is to get the field registered to a "village green" status for the benefit of the community. The group are seeking support from the Parish Council.

Declaration of Interest: Cllr Maddocks, Cllr Castle and Cllr Israel declared an interest under public participation, The Friends of Holly Walk.

Minutes: Cllr Hodgson proposed the approval of the minutes. Cllr Yearsley seconded the proposal. Majority vote. The minutes of the meeting held on the Thursday 25th February 2021 were declared to be a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising:

- 1. Planning Matters** – Application 21/00058/FUL 27 New Road, the councillors objected to this application on the basis that the extended dwelling would be too close to neighbouring properties and the zebra crossing. Application 21/00399/FUL 10 Proctors Road, the councillors had no objections to the application.
- 2. To consider reports from District and County Councillors** – DCouncillor Binney said the SCC and PCC elections are due on Thursday 6th May at the Village Hall, Armitage. The District Council appoint their new chief executive on 21st May. Burntwood Leisure Centre has been awarded £1 million pounds in grants to support an energy saving scheme. CCouncillor Tittley said at the Handsacre junction with HS2 Ltd there is an engineer meeting scheduled to discuss the high volume of thousands of lorries using the B5014 and A515. Staffordshire comes top of the tables for sending out the Covid vaccinations. DCouncillor Cox said Beacon Park pavilion has received a grant for the energy saving scheme. The Friary Grange Leisure centre will open on 12th April. Our Chairman thanked CCouncillor Tittley for his support to the Parish Council over the years and wished him a relaxing retirement from Local Authorities.
- 3. To discuss the proposed matters raised by The Friends of Holly Walk** – The councillors all agree to the Parish Council supporting the work of the group.
- 4. To advertise the Casual Vacancy position** – The Clerk confirmed the notice is advertised on the District Council and Parish Council website, on the village notice board and at the Village Hall.
- 5. To discuss the Ford Way rejuvenation project** – The Chairman confirmed that the Clerk had consulted with SCC land charges and they confirm they do own the land around and the brook. Cllr Marshall offered to speak with the resident of 25 Old Road to confirm whether they own the hedge and footpath behind the brook.

6. To consider the 6 Community Speed Watch signs - All councillors agreed and approved the signs and the proposed locations by the Staffordshire Safer Roads Partnership. The Clerk will inform the partnership.

7. To review the costings and designs for the gated village entrances – The Chairman said he is in the process of designing a gate for the village. Councillor Tittley said there is no restriction from the Highways department, on height or design but there is on width next to a highway.

8. To consider the tender and specification for works at the War Memorial – The Parish Council all approved the tender information forms for the architects to send out to the contractors. The Clerk confirmed that the architects are still waiting to hear back from the planning department on their application. The Chairman read out a letter from the Chair of the Women's Institute, unfortunately after 90 years they are finishing the group due to lack of attendees. They would like to purchase a bench and memorable plaque and have it installed around the cenotaph. All the councillors agreed to the proposal and the Clerk will inform the architects.

9. Environmental Committee – (i) All councillors agreed to the rota system for the play area inspections. Charlotte will send out the maps and sheet for completing to all councillors. **(ii)** The Clerk has sent 3 emails but still no response, she will try again this month to get a reply to the Parish Council request. The Clerk said Charlotte had completed a survey of all the litter and dog bins in the village. They have been catalogued and compared to the District Councils collection list. There are a significant number of dog bins that need replacing and litter bins that need painting. The councillors all approved for a quotation of works and/or purchases, to be provided for the councillors to consider. The Clerk will ask the administrator to action.

10. Update on Hawksyard Community building – The Clerk confirmed the District Council had responded to her email request and are requiring further documentation before making a final decision. The Clerk will respond.

Financial Matters

11. To approve the cheque payments and bank balance for March 2021 – Cllr Castle proposed the councillors accept the payments. Cllr Marshall seconded the proposal. All agreed. The Clerk presented a copy of the approved precept budget and reserves. No concerns from the councillors, currently.

Correspondence received.

6. Letter from the Armitage Bowls Club - The councillors requested the Bowls Club complete a grant request form and provide an accounts statement before making a decision of a grant. Cllr McGill said she would inform the group of the request.

7. Letter from Village Hall Committee – The councillors requested the committee provide a 3rd quotation before making the decision, as the other two quotes were vastly different in costings.

8. Email request from Ben Rayner – The councillors agreed to the request and the Clerk will forward the information.

Dates of the next meetings – The Parish Council will not be able to hold its Annual Assembly meeting in April due to the current Covid restrictions. The meeting will be considered later in the year, if restrictions are lifted.

Thursday 29th April 2021 at 7.00pm.

Thursday 27th May 2021 at 7.00pm

The Meeting closed at 9.20pm. This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed and approved on behalf of the Armitage with Handsacre Parish Council

Cllr Maddocks – Chairman

29th April 2021