**Minutes of the meeting of the Armitage with Handsacre**

**Parish Council held on Thursday 31st March 2022**

**at 7:00pm at the Village Hall**

**Present:** Councillor A Castle Councillor W Bennett

Councillor J McGill Councillor R Cross

Councillor T Marshall Councillor J Yearsley

Councillor J Israel Councillor N Hawkins

Councillor A Kirkbride

**Apologies:** Councillor I Hodgson Charlotte Leach-La Planche

**Parish Clerk:** Samantha LaPlanche

**REGULAR MEETING**

**Public Participation:**  A resident from the new housing estate on Tuppenhurst Road, asked why his road sign had been recently changed and spelt incorrect. The Chairman explained that our local County Councillor has requested the Parish Council apply to the District Council to have this changed as the original submission of the road name was mis-spelt of the family name. The resident said that he and his fellow neighbours would all like it to be changed back, as all their mail and house names would need to be changed, at a considerable cost, to make the changes. Also, he added that they had not been consulted over the proposed changes to the spelling. Cllr Marshall proposed the Parish Council apologise to the District Council for the sign to be changed as originally erected. Cllr Kirkbride seconded the proposal. Majority vote in agreeance. The Clerk will contact the District Council for the changes to go ahead. The resident thanked the Parish Council for their care and thought on this matter.

**To receive Declarations of Interest**: None.

**To receive requests for Dispensations under the Localism Act 2011** – None.

**Minutes:** Cllr Marshall proposed the approval of the minutes. Cllr Yearsley seconded the proposal. Majority vote. The minutes of the meeting held on the Thursday 27th January 2022 were declared to be a true and accurate record.

**Matters Arising:**

**1. Planning Matters –** Application 20/00800/COUM Hawkesyard Estate Armitage Lane, Erection of 10 holiday lodges and associated use of the land for tourist purposes. All the councillors felt this needed looking into more as they had strong objections to the application going ahead. Cllr Castle said he would prepare a statement of objection and send for approval to the councillors this week, for submission to planning next week. The Clerk stated that there were 7 applications received this week and asked the councillors to stay behind at the meeting to submit their individual comments for submission.

**2. To consider reports from District and County Councillors –** Cllr Marshall said the LDC have been nominated for the Best Council for Recycling in the Region. Ukrainian flags have been lit up on the Lichfield Cathedral. DCllr Pullen has planned another visit to the Ukraine to offer their support. The LDC Ecological Team have received an award and the apprenticeship scheme is going well at the main offices. DCllr R Cross said he is still new at the LDC but has attended a meeting for the Licensing Review, where alcohol licenses are now not required for the raffling of alcohol at local fetes or fairs. Also, CCTV requirements has been removed off the taxi’s license.

**3. Community Speed Watch Group –** Samantha Lee spoke about the work the team has been completing within our Parish. They now can cover 4 main roads in the village. When HS2 closed the A38 slip road some weeks back, 800 cars per hour were passing through New Road.They have 5 permanent volunteers trained 2 volunteers in training and 1 waiting for training. They are keen for the Parish Council to approve the cost of the permanent signs as this will save them time and energy, having to carry the heavy case around the village and the wearing of the Hi-Viz jackets. Cllr castle proposed that the Parish Council accept the quote for the signs sent by SSRP and Amey. Cllr Marshall seconded the proposal. All agreed and the Clerk will notify the SSRP. Samantha said the HGV’s passing through with no access permission, is still very much a problem, which they hope to address to the relevant authorities direct at their public meeting set for the 7th June. Public and authority members will be invited to attend.

**4.**  **To review the completion work on the War Memorial project –** (i) Electrical connection - Cllr Yearsley said the forms are ready to submit to Eon/Western Power (ii) Notice Board and (iii) Height barrier – these still on order by Wigwam Ltd and should be arriving in April. Cllr Castle proposed that the Parish Council all agreed to the signing off a completion document with the architects Axis Design and to continue with Wigwam Ltd for the above mentioned, as these were by separate agreement. Cllr Marshall seconded the proposal. All agreed and the Clerk will contact Rob Annabelle and Jez Saunders.

**5. To Bowls Pavilion –** (i) To review the survey report – In summary, the building is stable in its present condition but the report concluded with 3 options for the Parish Council to consider on any works. The Chairman proposed a sub committee to work through the report and decide on a plan for the works and usage of the building. Cllr Hawkins, Cllr McGill and Cllr Kirkbride all volunteered to sit on that sub committee. The Scout Group have asked via Cllr Castle, if they can tap into the electric supply from the Pavilion and have a sub metered supply, so that they can power some lighting and air conditioning to the containers on their site. The quote they have received for the re-instatement of supply on their site is astronomical and not achievable through their funds. The Clerk said that the group would need to address the Parish Council via email for their request to be considered officially. Cllr Yearsley offered to meet with the group at the site, to offer support and conclude if any other options were available to the group.

**6. To review the quote for works to the footpaths within the Parish –** The quote was sent to the councillors before the meeting. The councillors noted that the works covered a large area and so the quote cost was quite high. The councils all requested a second quote for comparison. The Clerk will action the request.

**7. Additional appointment of the sub committee, Parish Forum representatives** – Cllr Hawkins and Cllr Bennett volunteered to support the Parish Council at these meetings. Cllr Hawkins and the Parish Clerk will attend the first meeting on Monday 25th April at the Village Hall.

**8. To review the request by Acme Tree Services Ltd for an additional charge of the increased fuel costs –** Cllr Marshall said this is for the supply of red diesel used in the mowers. The costs have now come down in the last few weeks, so he is confident that an extra charge made by the company, would not be as high as predicted.

**Financial Matters**

**9. To approve the cheque payments and bank balance for March 2022 –** Cllr Castle proposed the councillors accept the payments. Cllr Kirkbride seconded the proposal. All agreed.

**10. To review the National Association of Local Councils Salary Awards 2021.2022 –** The Clerk left the meeting. A majority vote was achieved by all councillors, to accept the back dated increase to the Clerks and administrator’s salaries for 2021.2022. The Clerk returned to the meeting. The clerk will action the changes to the salaries.

**Correspondence received**

**6. HS2 meeting with Balfour Beatty –** Cllr Castle and Cllr Marshall proposed a meeting date of Thursday 21st April at 10.00am at the Plum Pudding Restaurant. The Clerk will contact Liz Davis with this new date.

**8. Reeve Close –** The Chairman asked all the councillors to view the area this week and return their thoughts on how the Parish Council can solve this issue.

**9. WI request –** All councillors agreed to the group using the Parish Council land for this event. The Clerk said that she had spoken to the group organiser stating that the Parish Council land is covered by public liability insurance from the Parish Council but the group would need their own cover for the event and public attendance.

**10. Rugeley Town Council –** The councillors would not be able to provide the tables for the event, due to Bowls matches taking place over that weekend. The Clerk will notify the Council Clerk.

**Dates of the next meetings –**

Thursday 28th April 2022 at 7.00pm

The Meeting closed at 9.00pm. This concluded the business of the meeting.

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

Cllr Thomas Marshall – acting Chairman

28th April 2022