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

**Parish Council held on Thursday 30th September 2021**

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

**Present:** Councillor A Maddocks Councillor A Castle

Councillor T Marshall Councillor J Yearsley

Councillor J Israel

Councillor W Bennett

**Apologies:** Councillor J McGill Councillor I Hodgson Councillor A Kirkbride

**Parish Clerk:** Samantha LaPlanche **Administrator:** Charlotte Leach-La Planche

**REGULAR MEETING**

**Public Participation:**  The Chairman read out a letter received from a local resident. The details of the content of the letter were discussed by the Parish Council but the resident asked for the details of the matter raised to be excluded from the minutes. These can be viewed upon request from the Parish Clerk direct.

**Declaration of Interest**: None.

**Minutes:** Cllr Castle proposed the approval of the minutes. Cllr Marshall seconded the proposal. Majority vote. The minutes of the meeting held on the Thursday 29th July 2021 were declared to be a true and accurate record.

**Matters Arising:**

**1. Planning Matters –** Application 21/01120/REMM Former Rugeley Power Station, the administrator stated that the Parish Council had no objections to this application. Cllr Castle queried if property 2 Pike Lane had applied for planning permission to erect a double garage, as work has commenced on the property. Cllr Marshall checked on the LDC planning portal but no application has been submitted. Cllr Marshall said he will contact the planning department to notify them of the building work.

**2. To consider reports from District and County Councillors –** Cllr Marshall reported that the majority of officers at the District Council were still working from home. Cllr Israel said the “fix my street” facility on the District Council website, was very efficient and they came out the next working day. Cllr Marshall said the Lichfield town centre was being reviewed to have shopping centre pedestrianised.

**3. Environmental Matters –** (i) Himalayan Balsam – the removalof the plant will be managed by the Parish Council by removing the stalks in spring 2022. (ii) Yeoman Way – The quote was presented to the councillors. Acme Tree Services Ltd said the Ash tree was of a significant age, extremely tall and situated very close to the property boundary wall. It could also be prone to the disease ash dieback. The Chairman said he had viewed the area and agreed with Acme, he proposed the Parish Council look at removing the tree based on safety grounds. Cllr Castle seconded the proposal. All agreed. The Clerk will contact Acme for a new quote and then send out for full approval. (iii) St Barbara’s play area – The quote for tree works was presented. Cllr Castle proposed the acceptance of the works. Cllr Yearsley seconded the proposal. Majority vote. The Clerk will notify the contractor. Charlotte said the dog bin on the towpath by the Plum Pudding has corroded and needs replacing. Canal & River Trust are denying its their property, so Charlotte will check with the District Council. Cllr Castle stated that there needs to be a bin at the location and proposed that the Parish Council replace if necessary. Charlotte will seek ownership then return this item to the agenda for another meeting.

**4. Community Speed Watch, Chairman’s update –** The Chairman said they have held 4 sessions around the Parish, over 3200 vehicles recorded in 4 hours with 185 speeding vehicles details sent to Staffordshire Police. Cllr Marshall and Cllr Yearsley apologised for not attending the recent training course.

**5. To review progress on the War Memorial project** –Cllr Castle stated that we are 3 weeks behind schedule but the area will be opened on Remembrance Day without the soft landscaping. The contractor has had trouble in the delivery of goods due to Covid, fuel crisis and staff illness. Further tree works are required to remove roots and these trees will be replaced, no TPO. We are still within the budget and the car park will be resurfaced in mid October. Cllr Maddocks will approach the PCC with regards to the 14th November and the parade from the Church to the memorial. Cllr Maddocks said the abandoned Fiat owner has not responded to our letters or home visits to remove the vehicle. Cllr Yearsley said he knows of the family and will endeavour to make contact.

**6. To review the design proposals for the play area signage –** Charlotte presented the designs and the councillors made comments for amendments and quantity required. Charlotte will return the amendments and quantities to the company for a requote.

**7. To review playground inspection training –** The Chairman said all councillors need Hi-Viz jackets and name badges when attending the play areas. He will setup new emails for all councillors and Charlotte will then send out the timetable for inspections.

**8. To report on the meeting with Axis Design over the proposed Pavilion upgrade** – Charlotte said Rob from Axis will prepare a report for the Parish Council but added that the building was not in a good state. He asked if the councillors could review how they wish the building to be reused before he will put a proposal together. He recommended a structural surveyor visit the building before any proposals take place.

**Financial Matters**

**9. To approve the cheque payments and bank balance for August & September 2021 –** Cllr Bennett proposed the councillors accept the payments. Cllr Marshall seconded the proposal. All agreed.

**Correspondence received.**

**8. Email from Diane Watkins –** The Parish Council will seek a quote for the equipment and installation.

**Dates of the next meetings –**

Thursday 28th October 2021 at 7.00pm.

Thursday 25th November 2021 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 Maddocks – Chairman

28th October 2021