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

**Parish Council held on Thursday 26th October 2023**

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

**Present:** Councillor T Marshall (Chair) Councillor I Hodgson

Councillor N Hawkins Councillor J Yearsley

Councillor J Israel Councillor W Bennett

**Parish Clerk:** Samantha LaPlanche

**Matters Arising:**

**1. To receive apologies –** J McGill, L Tandy and A Kirkbride.

**2. Public Participation -** None.

**3. To receive Declarations of Interest –** Cllr Hawkins, Cllr Hodgson, Cllr Bennett and

Cllr Marshall declared a prejudicial interest on financial matters point 2 Village Hall Committee.

**4. To receive requests for dispensations under the Localism Act 2011 –** Cllr T Marshall,

Cllr I Hodgson, Cllr W Bennett and Cllr Hawkins.

**5. To consider and agree the minutes of the meetings held on Thursday 27th July & 28 September 2023 –** Cllr Hodgson stated that Cllr Marshall & Cllr Hawkins had entered the meeting late and this should be included in the minutes for 28th September. The Clerk will amend the minutes accordingly. Cllr Hodgson proposed the approval of both minutes. Cllr Yearsley seconded the proposal. All agreed.

**6. Matters arising from the minutes not included in the agenda –** The Clerk said that contact with the Scout Association had been made but no return response had been made. Cllr Hawkins suggested contacting Wayne Mortiboys from the association direct. The Clerk will action.

**7. To receive reports from District and County Councillors –** Cllr Marshall said he attended a service at Lichfield District Council which was conducted by their interim Dean until January. They are looking for a new Dean. On 1st December BBC Radio 4 will be holding their question time again in the Cathedral, tickets are available. A temporary car park for 60 cars is being made available on Frog Lane, whilst the multi storey car park is being demolished. Gareth Hare District Councils arboriculturist is leaving to pursue work at Cannock Chase Council.

**8. To receive an incident report from Staffordshire Police –** PCSO Lisa Anderson has sent a monthly report via email and the Clerk distributed to the councillors. The Chairman asked the Clerk to contact the local PCSO to enquire about the parked caravan left near the War Memorial on a public road.

**9. To discuss the Planning applications received in October –** 23/00248/FUH Rose Cottage, Hood Lane is to be determined at District Council office on 30th October, speakers are invited to register to attend.

**10. Environmental Matters – To consider (i) An update from the Play Area subcommittee –** Cllr Hawkins said the MUGA new fence will be installed in late November. The caretaker will be clearing the loose gravel on the site and the office will order the new basketball boards and minor welding work required. The quote for two new pieces of equipment and safety surface underneath has come to £12,820.27 and the old skateboard track will need to be removed to accommodate the new equipment. Two quotes have been received from Acme Tree Services and Kestrel Tree Services to clear the hedges and overgrowth near to the play equipment. Cllr Marshall proposed we accept the quote from Acme Tree Services. Cllr Yearsley seconded the proposal. All agreed. The Clerk will create a spreadsheet for all budgets to include all play area sites and sent to the councillors. **(ii) Quotes for the new proposed boardwalk on Shropshire Brook –** Cllr Hodgson proposed the approval of a wooden board walk. Cllr Hawkins seconded the proposal. All agreed. Cllr Marshall offered to approach the District Council to see if planning permission is required for the structure. **(iii) Christmas tree & lights –** Cllr Yearsley produced the price for a 12ft Nordmann Fir tree to plant at the War memorial, he said he had met with GHL Ltd this morning to ask for a quote to install the tree and provide ducting under the path for the electric supply next year. The Clerk will forward on the quote when it is received at the office. Cllr Hodgson suggested approaching Tippers in Lichfield, as they install the Rugeley Towns tree every year. Cllr Yearsley will action this. Cllr Yearsley proposed the purchase of the tree. Cllr Marshall seconded the proposal. All agreed. The Clerk will action.

**11. A resolution to be proposed to exclude this item from public discussion - Employment Matters.** All approved.

**12. To discuss the presentation from the Armitage Community Speed Watch group meeting held on 19th October –** The minutes of the meeting have been sent to all councillors, members of the group and our local County Councillor. The Parish Council will approach HS2 ltd and SSRP/SCC to seek if funding is available to the Parish Council for Safer Road Initiatives, proposed by the members of the group at the meeting last week. The Parish Council agreed not to consider any future projects until the installation of the S.I.D. devices.

**13. To consider the spending of the Cil payment proportion from 6 St Barbaras Road –** Cllr Hodgson proposed the funds to be spent on the play areas refurbishment project. Cllr Yearsley seconded the proposal. All agreed.

**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

1. **To approve the Bacs payments, 6 month accounts and bank balance for October –** Cllr Marshall proposed the acceptance of the accounts. Cllr Hodgson seconded the proposal. All agreed. The Chair and Cllr Hawkins signed the account sheet and bank statements.
2. **To approve the Village Hall Committee request for S106 bacs payments for October –** Cllr Hawkins said only two payments were required this month for £95.00 and £295.48.

**CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

**7. Parishioner request for Parish Council to seek external funding for future projects –** This matter was covered under Point 12 of the agenda, as it was requested by the CSW group.

**8. Parishioner request for the hedge trimming at 9 Chestnut Close –** The Clerk stated that the Parish Council deeds around the footpath wasn’t clear on the boundary of ownership. The Clerk will write to the parishioner asking if a copy of their deeds can be provided to prove they do not own the area themselves.

The meeting was closed at 8.22pm.

The meeting was opened at 8.45pm.

The meeting was closed at 8.50pm. This concluded the business of the meeting.

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

Cllr T Marshall – Chairman

30th November 2023