



**Minutes of the Meeting of Handforth Parish Council held on  
Tuesday 09<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 7:30pm, The Youth Centre, Old  
Road, Handforth.**

Present: Cllr Burgess, Cllr Samson (Chair of Handforth Parish Council), Cllr Smith, Cllr Sullivan, Cllr Thompson & Cllr Tolver

Also present Mr Comiskey Dawson, Parish Clerk  
Eleven members of the public.

19/10/1 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Cllr Clark.

19/10/2 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).

None.

Cllr Tolver raised a point of order re item 19/07/7. There was a comment during that meeting to the effect that he should not take part in the debate on that motion because he had (quote *verbatim*) "a prejudicial interest under the disclosure of interests". Clearly this was not a pecuniary interest. The Code of Conduct says that we must declare "any private interests, both pecuniary and non-pecuniary, that relate to your public duties".

Cllr Samson stated that she thought Cllr Tolver should have declared an interest.

19/10/3 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. The Public Forum is restricted to 15 minutes, unless the Chairman allows otherwise.

A resident wished to make a comment in the open forum; however, it was not related to an item on the agenda. The chair gave permission to allow the comment.

The resident stated that he was very proud to have attended the visit by the government minister to Handforth Station, this happened because the Access for All awards had been announced and that Handforth was to receive a share of the government funding to improve disabled access to the station. The resident also thanked HPC, CEC, the local MP and the government minister for their involvement and assistance in securing this grant. It was a fantastic team effort and he thanked all who were involved.

A second resident also wanted to pass on their gratitude to HPC for all the work the Parish Council had done over the last four years in works progressed and improvements made in Handforth.

19/10/4 To approve and sign the minutes of the Handforth Parish Council meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

Cllr Smith proposed, seconded by Cllr Sullivan to approve and sign the minutes of the Handforth Parish Council meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

**Motion carried: Four in favour, one against and one abstention.**

19/10/5 To approve and sign the order of accounts for payment for April 2019.

Cllr Sullivan proposed, seconded by Cllr Smith to approve and sign the accounts for payment for April 2019 totalling £4,995.53.

**Resolved: Unanimously.**

19/10/6 To receive a report from the Clerk.

The clerks report was received by all present.

Cllr Smith asked for the following report to be included in the minutes, regarding the Transport Ministers visit to Handforth Station on Thursday 04<sup>th</sup> April:

As liaison between HPC and FoHS, I'd like to present a short report on the events of Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April at Handforth Station, in order that a note of the Parish Councils involvement is recorded in the minutes.

It was announced on BBC TV news at 6:30 am on 4<sup>th</sup> April that the application for grant assistance for full access to both platforms at Handforth Station had been successful.

Information came to FoHS that Andrew Jones, the Under Secretary of State at the Department for Transport responsible for the railways would be visiting Handforth Station, along with the MP for Tatton Esther McVey.

Both spoke of the determination that has led to the grant from the Access for All scheme being secured and congratulated all those involved, particularly those very long serving members of FoHS.

The proposed bus/rail interchange at a newly created car park on land between the HYC and St. Benedict's church was also shown to Mr Jones. CEC is on board with this development and is looking to place a pedestrian crossing over Station Road from the car park to a newly created footpath to allow wheelchair access to the station from the interchange.

Esther McVey has been involved in seeking support from the Secretary of State for Transport, Chris Grayling to secure backing for this grant at the highest level, but also in May last year raised the question of HPC assisting with funding for the GRIP2 survey. Without this survey, the bid would not go ahead.

Following completion of the survey the grant application was made. The rest as one might say is history.

The final figure has not, to my knowledge been published as yet. I am advised that the budget cost envisaged is in the region of £2,000,000+.

The current plan being to install 2 lifts to enable those with pushchairs, wheelchairs bicycles or luggage etc., a safe passage onto the platforms and back up to street level at the end of their return journey.

The next stage will involve the specialists from Network Rail and Northern Rail planning the preliminary stages of this project. Obviously a completion date has not yet been published, but I'd caution any rash estimates of which year etc., until the scope of the project has been completed.

19/10/7 MOTION: To sign section 1 - the annual governance statement 2018/19 of the year end 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 Annual return.

Cllr Tolver proposed, seconded by Cllr Sullivan to sign section 1 – the annual governance statement 2018/19 of the year end 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 Annual Return.

**Resolved: Unanimously.**

19/10/8 MOTION: To sign section 2 – the accounting statements 2018/19 of the year end 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 Annual return.

Cllr Sullivan proposed, seconded by Cllr Smith to sign section 2 – the accounting statements 2018/19 of the year end 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 Annual Return.

**Resolved: Unanimously.**

19/10/9 Notices and Correspondence.

Cllr Sullivan informed all members that the SPB would be meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> April to discuss and decide the BMW garage application.

Cllr Samson thanked the public for all their support over the last four years and wished councillors and candidates luck in the upcoming elections.

Close of meeting.

The meeting closed at 7:55pm.

Chair.....

Date.....