

**Minutes of the Handforth Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday 9th September 2014, 7:30 pm at Handforth Youth
Centre.**

Present: Cllr Chapman

Cllr Fox

Cllr Harrison

Cllr Thompson

Cllr Tolver (Chairman of Handforth Parish Council)

Also present Mr Brooks, Parish Clerk, CEC ward Cllrs Burkhill and Mahon plus 26 members of the public.

14/20/1 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr

Martin.

14/20/2 To note declarations of Members' Interests- none.

14/20/3 Open Forum

A member of the public made a suggestion that where there was a vacancy for a committee Chair, the skills of the nominees should be considered when councillors vote on the appointment.

Two linked questions were asked about the war memorial item 14/20/17, will Handforth Parish Council make a donation to the memorial fund and the second question how much will Handforth PC donate? Members of the War memorial working group responded that the creation of the war memorial was at an early stage, and that the project had wide spread support within the Council. However, any decision to make a donation to the fund and the size of such a donation would have to be voted on at a Full Council meeting. A resident asked that at future meetings of Handforth PC, progress on the establishment of the war memorial be reported. It was confirmed by the Chairman that residents of Handforth would be kept informed about progress on this matter.

A question was asked about how the sum of £3K referred to in item 14/20/13 was arrived at. Cllr Tolver informed the meeting that after consulting the group who would operate the food bank, this was the maximum figure he envisaged the Council spending on this item, in this financial year.

14/20/4 To approve and sign the minutes of the HPC meeting of the 8th July 2014.

Cllr Thompson proposed, seconded by Cllr Chapman that the minutes of the 8th July 2014 be approved and signed.

Motion carried: 4 for and 1 abstention.

14/20/5 To approve and sign the minutes of the HPC meeting on the 4th August 2014.

Cllr Tolver proposed, seconded by Cllr Thompson that the minutes of the 4th August 2014 be approved and signed.

Motion carried: 4 for and 1 abstention.

14/20/6 To receive a report from the Clerk.

The Clerk's report was noted.

14/20/7 To approve accounts for payment.

Cllr Harrison proposed, seconded by Cllr Tolver that the accounts for payment of £5431.01 be approved for payment.

Resolved: unanimously.

14/20/8 To receive nominations for positions on committees.

Cllr Thompson stated that he was prepared to join the Planning and Environment Committee and Cllr Tolver expressed an interest in joining the Finance Committee. It was unanimously agreed without a vote that these appointments be approved.

14/20/9 To elect a Chair of the Finance Committee.
Cllr Thompson proposed himself for the Chairman of the Finance Committee, seconded by Cllr Tolver. Cllr Harrison proposed himself for the same position seconded by Cllr Chapman.
The motion failed as both nominees received two votes; a decision was made to defer making this appointment until a later meeting.

14/20/10 To elect a Chair of the Employment Committee.
Cllr Thompson proposed himself as Chairman of the Employment Committee, seconded by Cllr Tolver.
Resolved: unanimously.

14/20/11 To consider a grant application for £1000 from St Mary' Church, Handforth.
Cllr Tolver, seconded by Cllr Harrison proposed that this grant application of £1000 be approved.
Resolved: unanimously.

14/20/12 To consider the establishment of a food bank working group.
Cllrs Tolver and Thompson explained how they envisaged that the food bank organised by the group Hampers of Hope would operate. There was a proposal from Cllr Tolver, seconded by Cllr Harrison that the Food Bank WG comprise of Cllrs Harrison, Thompson and Tolver.
Resolved: unanimously.

14/20/13 To approve the expenditure of up to £3,000 on supporting a food bank in Handforth. The authority to spend this sum to be delegated to the Food Bank working group.
Cllr Thompson expressed a degree of concern about delegating authority to approve expenditure to a working group. Cllr Tolver proposed, seconded by Cllr Chapman that the expenditure of up to £3K on the food bank and the delegated authority to spend this sum be approved.
Resolved: unanimously.

14/20/14 To consider the provision of Christmas lighting in Handforth, at a cost of up to £3,000.

The Clerk outlining how he envisaged that this money could be spent, namely a Christmas tree close to the Paddock, ten lamp post mounted Christmas lights and a number of wall mounted Christmas trees and lights. Cllr Thompson proposed, seconded by Harrison that the expenditure detailed by the Clerk up to £3000 be approved.

Resolved: unanimously.

Cllr Harrison informed the meeting that in the Council budget £5K had been approved, and if residents had additional ideas about Christmas decorations in Handforth they should contact either the Clerk or a councillor.

14/20/15 To approve the wording for the WWI POW camp memorial.

Councillors considered three documents concerning this item. Cllr Harrison proposed, seconded by Cllr Chapman that the wording circulated with the agenda be approved (the Clerk to check a date and amend if necessary).

Motion carried: 3 for and 2 abstentions.

14/20/16 To approve the quarterly work plan for the War Memorial working group.

Councillors recognised that there was a possibility that cash collections for the war memorial could clash with the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal and for this reason it was suggested that seeking such donations be delayed until after Remembrance Sunday.

Cllr Tolver proposed, seconded by Cllr Harrison that the work plan circulated be approved, subject to a change in the date when cash collections would commence. This proposal included the opening of a 'Handforth War Memorial' bank account.

Motion carried: 4 for and 1 abstention.

14/20/17 To approve the expenditure of up to £3,000 in connection with the design and associated costs for a war memorial in Handforth.

Cllr Tolver proposed, seconded by Cllr Harrison that the expenditure of up to £3,000 on this item be approved.

Resolved: unanimously.

14/20/18 To receive a verbal report on allotments from Cllr Fox.

Cllr Fox

explained to the meeting that Cheshire East Council was in the process of devolving their responsibility for allotments to parish councils, who in turn were passing responsibility on to allotment societies. The closest allotments to Handforth are off Lincoln Road, Dean Row, and from November 2014 they will be managed by the Dean Row Allotment Society. This group envisage that there may be 10 plots available when they take over management of the site.

As CEC are in the final stages of producing a local plan it is unlikely that they would release any council owned land for allotments until the site allocations process has been completed.

Cllr Tolver thanked Cllr Fox for the work she had undertaken in producing this report.

1420/19 To consider the establishment of a Newsletter working group.

It was agreed without a vote, that the final draft of a newsletter would be approved by Full Council prior to publication. Cllrs Fox, Tolver and Harrison agreed to join the Newsletter WG and it was proposed by Cllr Tolver, seconded by Cllr Chapman that these nominations be approved.

Resolved: unanimously.

14/20/20 To confirm that the next meeting of Handforth Parish Council will take place on the 14th October 2014.

It was confirmed that the next meeting of Handforth Parish Council will be held on 14th October 2014, 7:30 pm at Handforth Youth Centre.

The meeting closed at 8:45 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....