

**Minutes of the Extra-ordinary meeting of Handforth Parish
Council held on Tuesday 22nd April 2014 at 7:30pm, The Youth
Centre, Old Road, Handforth.**

Present: Cllr Chapman

Cllr Fox

Cllr Harrison

Cllr Martin

Cllr Small

Cllr Thompson

Cllr Tolver Chairman of HPC

Also present Mr J Brooks, Parish Clerk, CEC Cllrs Burkhill and Mahon and 16 members of the public.

14/08/1 To receive apologies for absence- None.

14/08/2 To note declarations of Members' Interests.

Cllrs Martin and Harrison

declared a prejudicial interest in item 14/08/6

14/08/3 Open Forum

The Open Forum was split into two parts the first concerning the Local Plan Submission and the second all other agenda items. The forum opened with a presentation from Mr P Goodman, the planning consultant that HPC had engaged to assist councillors in producing the representation to CEC. He explained the legal process that CEC would have to follow in order for the Local Plan to be adopted. He then went on to examine the content of the HPC representation.

There was a question from a resident about a lack of consultation with residents, particularly with reference to the provision of rented (social) homes within the Local Plan. Mr Goodman responded that 30% of the

new homes would have to be 'affordable'. Cllr Tolver said that the level of social rented housing was 10% of total houses in such large developments as Handforth East, but that this number would not be exclusive to Handforth residents, but would be available to residents from elsewhere in the Borough as well. Furthermore, recent Government policy meant the level of affordable and social housing could be reduced if the developer demonstrated it was not financially viable. Cllr Burkhill pointed out to the meeting that there had been occasions in Cheshire East where the number had indeed been reduced for financial reasons, at the request of developers.

There was a single question from the remainder of the agenda; item 14/08/6, is Handforth Craft Fair a charity? Ms Burgess responded that it was not a charity.

14/07/4 To consider the Handforth Parish Council response to the Cheshire East Council Local Plan (Submission version).

There was a proposal from Cllr Fox, seconded by Cllr Harrison that the HPC Representation be approved and forwarded to CEC.

Resolved: unanimously.

14/08/5 To approve and sign the Annual Audit Return.

As all councillors had seen copies of the Annual Audit Return and had the opportunity to see the accounts that the return was based on, it was agreed unanimously without a vote that the Annual Audit Return be approved and signed.

14/08/6 To consider a grant application for £1500 from Handforth Craft Fairs.

Cllrs Harrison and Martin left the room at this point.

Cllr Small stated that he was pleased to see a grant application from a local business that would help the wider community in Handforth. However, he was concerned about the tone of the supporting documentation that suggested that if HPC did not award the grant, then the applicant would just set up the operation in another area. There was some debate as to the nature of the applicants business, Family Events UK, and it was determined that this was not a charity.

The Chairman called for a proposal on this item, as no support was forthcoming the grant application was deemed to have failed.

Cllrs Harrison and Martin returned to the meeting at this point.

14/08/7 To consider a grant application for £1844 from the Friends of Handforth Station (Over by Christmas Event).

Cllr Martin stated that she was minded to support this application as HPC had not previously supported any art within Handforth. Cllr Harrison also expressed support for the application. Cllr Thompson expressed concern about the cost of converting the cycle lockers. The grant applicant was not at the meeting to provide councillors with additional information. Cllr Harrison proposed, seconded by Cllr Martin that this grant application be approved.

Motion carried: 6 for, 1 abstention.

14/08/8 To consider a grant application for £600 from 1st Handforth Scout Group to purchase tents.

The applicant had stated that the tents would be available to other Handforth community groups, for example schools, provided the 'borrowers' took full responsibility.

Cllr Martin proposed, seconded by Cllr Harrison that this grant application be supported.

Resolved: Unanimously.

The meeting closed at 8:30 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....

Chairman.....