

Hixon Parish Council
Minutes of Parish Council Meeting Tuesday April 17th 2012

In attendance for all or part of the meeting:

Cllr B McKeown (Chair), Cllr G Tummey, Cllr P Hopcroft, Cllr J Carmichael, Cllr Mrs S McKeown, Cllr R Tonge.

Members of the public: See list of people signing as In Attendance.

Ref	Item	Action
001/11	Apologies received from: Cllr Mrs C Hassall, Cllr. Sephton and from members of the Public: Cllr Mrs J Tabernor, Cllr A Stafford-Northcote, Cllr. A Perkins, Cllr L Bloomer .	-
002/11	Declarations of interest were made by Cllrs Mrs S McKeown and Cllr B McKeown on item 008/12 .	-
005/11	Minutes of meeting March 20th 2012 were accepted as accurate.	-
067/09	Speed and Highway Safety in Hixon. Includes Lea Heath (081/09). Speedwatch campaign should start fully late April, equipment received, training completed and equipment demonstrated at meeting. Public exhibition of proposals (after agreement with Chris Mitchell etc.) will take place at a weekend. Chair has written a letter with all the proposals plus identified sites etc. on maps - these will be sent to Chris Mitchell to invite formal comments and prices for proposals from Highways. Cllr. Tummey authorised to book Memorial Hall for Speedwatch meetings if necessary. Cllr. Tummey to find out details of Homezone requirements for next meeting.	Chair and Cllr. Tummey
026/10	Survey on Rural Exception Housing from Housing Plus and Stafford & Rural Homes: Awaiting feedback from Stafford & Rural Homes and Housing Plus.	-
021/09 and	Playing Fields Report. No problems. Waiting for Fresh Air Fitness's representative to look at equipment again. Rust problem needs to be sorted properly, not just painted over.	Clerk
097/07	Allotments: Allotment society have requested that the sponsor signboard is put on the vehicle gate, facing outwards. Could it be put on posts a side of gate, so it can be seen from outside when gate is open? Waiting for Sponsor sign board to be made.	Clerk
063/08 & 043/09	Walk leaflets: Leaflets have been updated with details provided - changes to walks now provided, Clerk to compare the wordings of the walks across the airfield estate .	Clerk
201/06	Disputed Land at Hammonds Croft: Householder has provided plans supplied by mortgage lender. Cllrs. Carmichael and Mrs C Hassall to draw map showing piece of land transferred.	Cllrs Carmichael and Mrs C Hassall.
046/09	Publicity for Compass magazine - Chair to provide monthly articles by 2nd Monday in the month. Chair to write article re Sycamore Drive Play Area for Compass. Cllr. Tummey has offered to help e.g. by preparing information on Speedwatch and preparing a resume of the PC meeting for Compass.	Chair/Cllr Tummey
074/09	Revamp of playing field play areas: Waiting for Sponsor sign board to be made. Invite Staffs Environmental Fund representative along to unveil the board.	Clerk

094/09	Land Registry: Checking which bits of land are registered as owned by Hixon Parish Council. Clerk and Chair may need to visit William Salt library to find reference to playing field as it is unregistered. Hammonds Croft and Sycamore Drive land title registers purchased - OK. Ridgeway OS is registered, Lauder Grove is unregistered, Church Road is unregistered, Meadow Glade is unregistered. Car Park is registered, Greenfields and Featherbed Lane are unregistered. Need to change some title registers from Stowe PC to Hixon PC. Clerk and Cllr Sephton to look through old files stored at back of Memorial Hall. Are the original Hammonds Croft estate plans there? Can throw away anything over 5 years old (tax etc. 7 years) and any brochures, trivia etc. that there is no need to keep at all.	Clerk/Cllr Sephton
101/09	Car Park light: Agreed to pursue low level (bollard type) light. Quote for work now received, Cllrs. thought it was too high. Clerk to try and obtain a further quote, havig difficulties finding people to quote.	Clerk
051/10	JBM - use of outside storage area, pylons, lighting - planning application. Planning permission was given, objection being made by resident. Minutes of meeting with Environment Agency and 2 residents have been circulated. EA sent on a "letter" from JBM re increasing the height of the chimney stack and consulting residents - it was decided to go back to the County Council asking about the proposed liaison committee. Responses on the Hixon-JBM website can be made as individuals, Parish Council will not make comments.	Clerk
061/10	HR Working Group: Cllrs Tummey, Sephton (and Hopcroft if available) will meet with Chair to finalise.	Cllrs. Tummey/Sephton,
064/10	Bus service changes - Cllr Mrs S McKeown and Cllr B McKeown attended a meeting discussing a combined bid for funds for Community Transport from County Council (awarded by the Lottery Fund) on January 25th. It is a Ring and Ride scheme with volunteer drivers. Person requesting the ride pays the volunteer, volunteer passes money to the organisation and the organisation pays the volunteer's mileage plus a little bit over. Tixall with Ingestre, Hixon and Colwich present. Stowe by C may be interested. Could operate as different schemes with one (paid) co-ordinator. Questionnaires are being produced to establish the interest in the village. It was agreed to wait and see the questionnaire and then decide whether to proceed. Clerk has sent a copy of the minutes of the meeting to Weston PC and see if they want to join the group of interested villages. Awaiting questionnaire.	Cllr Mrs S McKeown
046/11	Encampment at side of canal in Pasturefields: Canal boats set up a camp on the canal at Pasturefields, a Romany caravan is also there. SBC Planning are looking in to this and also static caravans parked at the side of the canal. SBC have asked for help from residents to record movements etc. at the encampments over a 28 day period. Two possible volunteers to do this. Chair will ask one person to keep a log. Planning Enforcement are following procedures with a view to enforce planning permission application - boat owners say that boats are not in the water as the bank has eroded and the boats are on land. British Waterways have not given permission for boats to be moored. A report will go to SBC planning on 28/3/12 to get formal approval for enforcement action. Enforcement action is going ahead.	-

050/11	Joint Section 53 application for airfield estate, with Stowe-by-Chartley Parish Council: Chair will be liaison person with John Lameris and Stowe by C PC for section 53 matters. John is trying to get statements from walkers/users of the airfield footpaths for the past 20 years. Once application submitted, if it is granted (say in several years time), then land would have to be put back to how it was at the time application submitted. Council agreed to support a joint section 53 application with Stowe by Chartley Parish Council. Application is with County Council, awaiting approval. Letter from Roly Tonge re usage of airfield for walking etc. has been received. Application has been approved by SCCand has been put in as formal application.	-
032/11	Consider Website update/revamp: Chair has met up with student and work has commenced. A charge of £50 to cover costs has been requested, this was approved by Councillors. A forum on the PC website was discussed - agreed that this could be useful but there is a problem of who would moderate it and reply to any questions.	Chair
004/12	Children's poster judging: Posters were distributed to judges, to be judged and returned to Clerk ASAP.	
005/12	Community competition 2012 - agree expenditure on prizes for posters. It was agreed to spend up to £100 on prizes.	
006/12	Flower bed maintenance and weed killing in Hixon plus Millennium Green: prices for flower beds and weed killing from current contractor are being kept the same as last year - it was agreed to award contract to same contractor for 2012. Price for maintaining Church Lane planter with Spring and Autumn plants of £60 was agreed, as was monthly weed/tidy/watering (price of £8 per month agreed).	Clerk
007/12	Walnut Crest - assistance for residents. Chair will contact Mrs Burt to find out what help she provides and what additional help the residents require.	Chair
008/12	Queens Jubilee celebration by Millennium Green and Memorial Hall - request for money. Put on next agenda, need to know how much money is required. Clerk to contact Len Bloomer re his offer of funds.	Chair/Clerk
009/12	Damage to Lea Heath notice board: It was agreed to get a price to repair the latest damage (perspex pushed in) and Clerk to put a sign on board asking for information.	Clerk
010/12	It was agreed to use Ken Jones as auditor for 2011-2012 accounts	Clerk
011/12	Consider renewal of membership of CPRE for £29: Clerk to ask what the benefits of membership are and report back.	Clerk
012/12	The Financial Risk Assessment for forthcoming year was read out for comments and then signed off (dated) as agreed.	Clerk
013/12	Consider Wicksteed play area inspection at £45 for unaccompanied visit: Agreed.	Clerk
014/12	Empowering Town and Parish Councils - Request to contact MP to ask for the Sustainable Communities Act regulations to be speeded up: It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the local MP.	Clerk
015/12	Revised Code of Conduct: it was agreed to ask the SPCA how the changes would effect the Council. Also, ask SPCA again about conflicts between being a Parish Councillor and being on the Millennium Green Trust, want answer on record.	Clerk
016/12	Consider renewal of subscription to LCR magazine at £15.50: Agreed.	Clerk

012/11	Chairman's announcements:	
	The Chair would like to thank Cllr. Tummey for all the hard work he has put in to get the Speedwatch campaign off the ground.	-
	The Parish Council needs to reply to the LDF on Re-use of rural buildings, Urban design, and Shopfronts and Advertisements. Send link again to all Cllrs., a separate meeting to discuss may be required.	Clerk
	The e-mail from the Chair on the Waste Core Strategy should be added to the website.	Clerk
013/11	Councillor Questions:	None
014/11	Date of next meeting: May 15th 2012.	Clerk to book Memorial Hall
003/11	Public Participation	
	What is the Community Transport scheme? - ring up and request transport, payment involved, volunteers get a mileage payment.	
	There may be volunteers in the village who would act as moderators for a website forum.	
015/11	Planning Applications: Application below as not on the agenda as received after agenda was published.	
	12/16993/FUL Retrospective planning permission for farmworkers storage and messing in a moveable container in connection with pig farming, Hixon Airfield Estate.	Object
016/11	Planning Reports	
	12/16711/FUL Industrial Building (B1/B2), Project Fire at rear of existing building, Pasturefields Industrial Estate	Permitted
017/11	Bank Reconciliation.	Performed
018/11	Schedule of agreed payments	Paid as per below:
	C Gill salary - April (gross). Local Gov act 1972 s111.	£622.26
	C Gill expenses - April. Local Gov act 1972 s111	£48.50
	Reimbursement C Gill mileage (10 miles @ £0.45p/mile). Local Gov act 1972 s111	£4.50
	Reimbursement of C Gill for stamps (12x2nd class and 12x1st class)	£9.84
	Fenns - ink	£63.38
	SPFA membership renewal	£15.00
	SPCA membership renewal	£385.92
	Memorial Hall: Jan - March 4@£16 and 1 @12.80	£76.00
	Acer Garden Landscapes for March's mowing (less retention)	£570.93
	Reimbursement B McKeown mileage (66 miles@45p per mile)	£29.70
	Severn Trent Water 1st Oct 2011 - 1st April 2012	£197.43
019/11	Correspondence Received: Invitation to Mayor's Charity meals x 2 on May 4th and 16th April, SLCC courses, SPCA newsletter, Wicksteed survey request, confirmation of payment of precept and concurrent function allowance from SBC, audit commission paperwork.	

Meeting finished at 9.20 pm.