

Hixon Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting Thursday April 13th 2017

In attendance for all or part of the meeting:

Cllr. B McKeown, Cllr Mrs S McKeown, Cllr A Murdoch, Cllr Mrs C Murdoch, Cllr. M Kelly, Cllr. P Hopcroft, Cllr. N Baxter, Cllr. Mrs M Aberley

Held In Camera

Ref	Item	Action
001/17	No Apologies Received: All Parish Councillors present..	-
002/17	Declarations of interest: None	-
003/17	Minutes: No minutes to agree	-
004/17	To consider allowing Hixon Parish Council allotments plots to be occupied by people living outside Hixon Parish. Following much discussion, the following was agreed: 6 plots of size 15m x 5m will be made available to people living outside Hixon Parish. The Parishes that the plots can be offered to will be the parish of Stowe by Chartley (Stowe by Chartley village, Amerton, Chartley, Grindley, Drointon and the outskirts of Gayton, Gratwich, Lower Loxley and Lea Heath) and the Parish of Weston with Gayton. It was suggested that these plot-holders take on a plot lease for a minimum, of 2 years. HPC will provide every assistance to market these plots to the two additional parishes, Clerk's contact details to be provided as well as those of Secretary to WFAA. Residency within the parish will need to be proven - HPC Clerk to be notified of potential plot holders to allow checking of electoral role via other PC Clerk. If not on electoral role, another form of proof or residency will need to be provided e.g. utility bill. This arrangement will be reviewed by HPC as and when necessary. Need to check that allowing residents of parishes other than Hixon to have a plot is not prohibited under the Big Lottery funding application - if so, would need to contact them seeking permission to extend the permissible area.	Clerk/Chair
005/17	To consider motions submitted by Cllr Andrew Murdoch (see appendix attached).	
	Motion 3: The points raised on Motion 3 were discussed and as most of them are covered in the existing agreement between HPC and WFAA, it was decided that no action was required for this Motion. Councillors thanked Cllr. A Murdoch for raising these points for discussion. WFAA Committee must keep to the original agreement re reporting back to HPC on an annual basis.	Chair
	Motion 2: After much discussion on the best way forward to foster an amicable relationship with WFAA committee, the following was agreed: The HPC Chair will contact the Chair of WFAA committee to arrange a meeting between the HPC Chair and two of the Councillors who are not plot holders or married to plot-holders (namely Cllrs. A Murdoch and M Kelly) and WFAA Committee representatives. This is not a sub-committee and may or may not go forward to become a meeting on a regular basis. The purpose of this meeting is to "clear the air" and to give the opportunity for both HPC and WFAA Cttee. to discuss and remove all perceived problems between them.	Chair
	Motion 1: Again after much discussion: the following was agreed: When discussing allotment issues at Hixon Parish Council Meetings, if the Clerk decides that that a Councillor who is an allotment plot-holder (or married to one) has an interest in the issue being discussed, the councillor(s) will not take part in the vote.	Clerk
	Motion 4: Following on from item 004/17, the following was agreed: HPC will not pay for any vacant plots, 6 plots will be made available to residents of the 2 parishes stated above, WFAA Cttee. can apply for a grant/donation from HPC in line with other groups within Hixon, the ring-fenced allotment funds are also available for use by the WFAA within reason.	Clerk
006/17	Chairman's announcements:	None
007/17	Councillor Questions	None
008/17	Date of next meeting: 18th April 2017	
009/17	AOB: Cllr. Baxter suggested that all HPC Councillors have PC email address to use when contacting people on PC business - this would make it clear whether they were speaking/acting as a Councillor or as an individual/resident (in which case their own personal email address would be used). This was agreed as being a good idea and will be taken forward by the IT sub-committee.	Chair
010/17	Correspondence received: None	

Meeting finished at 10.00 pm.