

**Hixon Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held**  
**on TUESDAY 18th February 2020**



**In attendance for all or part of the meeting:**

Cllr. P Hopcroft (Chair), Cllr. Mrs C Murdoch, , Cllr. Mrs C Finlayson, Cllr. Mrs H Lunn,  
 Cllr A Murdoch, Cllr. J Carmichael

Members of the public: Five people attended.

| Item Ref  | Item   | Action By       |
|-----------|--|-----------------|
|           | <b>Open Meeting</b>  | Chair           |
| 001/19    | Apologies received from: Cllr. B McKeown, Cllr. Mrs S McKeown  | Chair           |
| 002/19    | Declarations of interest: None   | Chair           |
| 003/19    | The minutes of meeting January 21st 2020 were accepted as accurate.  | Chair           |
| 063/19    | Borough Councillor's reports.  |                 |
|           | Cllr. Alex Brown said he had no real news, he had received 2 complaints about the proposed massive housing development in Hixon so far.  |                 |
| 008/19    | County Councillor's report.  | None            |
| 004/19    | Close meeting for Public Participation.  | Chair           |
|           | Gospel Hall Trust (GHT) are expecting an email from Cllr. B McKeown  | Cllr. B McKeown |
| 007/19    | Reopen meeting & agree date of next meeting (March 17th 2020).   | Clerk           |
| 005&6/19  | Chair's announcements and Parish Councillor questions.   |                 |
|           | When the A51 was closed due to flooding at the railway bridge, there was no signage in Hixon village telling people where the diversion went - lorries were having to reverse. Diversions need to be signposted.   | -               |
|           | The new houses off Church Lane - the spoil is going to the landowner as he has a waste licence. Wonderful Homes are doing the development themselves. Standard design as per plans, no changes proposed as yet.  | -               |
|           | The flooding that occurred at the bottom of Church Lane due to storm Dennis was cleared by residents who cleared debris from the surfaces of the drains so the water could get down them.  | -               |
|           | New Road is very bad for litter at the moment, a van was seen dumping stuff on New Road.   | -               |
|           | The new owner of the Babbage Building would like to purchase the land outside the site that leads up to the highway but can't get to talk to Highways about it. He wants to tidy the area up and mark out 7 parking spaces that would be available to parents with children at St Peter's. Would the PC support this and can we help with finding out who owns the land? Clerk to contact SCC. | Clerk           |
| 009&10/19 | <b>Planning Reports</b>  |                 |
|           | 19/31077/FUL Proposed shelter, stable, store for the keeping of horses and new site access, Land At Shirleywich Bridge To Ingestre London Road Shirleywich - Weston Parish   | Allowed         |
|           | <b>Agenda Items</b>  |                 |
| 055/19    | Proposals discussed at Assets Inspection in relation to environmental improvements. Includes grass mowing contract and tree liability report: Cllr.  | Clerk           |



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|        | Hopcroft had reviewed the quotes for the work and decided that one contractor looked the best for all the work as they had provided a much more detailed breakdown of costs. He proposed: to ask contractor if the playing field and Ridgeway open space are in a suitable state for scarification and tree planting at the moment or if the land is too wet. Ask for advice as to when would be the right time to scarify and plant. Proposed to go ahead with Sycamore/Bath Lane corner improvements (undergrowth and block paving) and to ask WFAA if they want to go ahead with LHS allotment edging at £385 from ring-fenced funds - All in favour of these proposals.  |                               |
| 056/19 | Speed and Highway Safety Proposals and Village Gateways Features Update: Have received prices from two contractors. Highways have said that Amey will purchase and install the Pasturefields Gateways and take the costs from the Section 106 funds. The situation with regards these funds and what they are covering/whether HPC will get any to use elsewhere in the Parish is confused. Cllr. B McKeown to meet with John Francis when he returns, Highways should be involved as well. Agreed to get quote for 3 and 4 poles and solar panels and 1 SID device. Agreed to check that proposed wording of "Welcome to Pasturefields Part of Hixon Parish" will fit OK and if so, take forward with Highways. Ask Highways to come to Hixon to discuss SID pole positions and to get an update on all Highway safety proposals. | Cllr. B McKeown/<br>Clerk     |
| 097/07 | Allotments: Plans for storage areas - WFAA are taking this forward.  | Clerk                         |
| 050/19 | Situations regarding future of Bank House Pub: Lewis Partnership and the owners (Coopers) both receptive to idea of having an ACV on the building. Cllr. Mrs C Murdoch to take forward. Bank House is looking to recruit a chef.   | Cllr. Mrs C Murdoch           |
| 039/13 | Walk Leaflets: Cllrs. Murdoch need to take new photos - leave until weather improves.  | Cllrs. Murdoch                |
| 065/17 | Welcome to Hixon signs: Chair to get a price for the mock-up of the pillar.  | Cllr. B McKeown               |
| 059/19 | Litter Picking: Letters to businesses have all gone out. Hixon Green and Clean group are trying to get out litter picking on a regular basis. Cllr. Mrs C Murdoch to pass on GHT details (at the request of the GHT representative present) to main contact of Hixon Green and Clean. Give the group a chance to get the village cleaned up before instructing the contractor to start litter picking.   | Cllr. Mrs C Murdoch/<br>Clerk |
| 067/19 | Archiving: Use of the Memorial Hall's room as a meeting room/office: Memorial Hall receptive to the idea of HPC using the room. They are however planning on buying a portacabin to put alongside the existing portacabins and to set it up as an office. They have offered this to HPC to use. Decided to wait and see what the portacabin is like and what the proposals are. Equipment and consumables from Stowe by C PC currently stored in HPC portacabin - these items will be discussed at next Stowe by C PC meeting and the old equipment disposed of ASAP if agreed.  | -                             |



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| 071/19 | Local Plan Review: Clerk to send slides of recent meeting held at SBC to all councillors. Cllr. Hopcroft has earmarked which pages in the sites document are most relevant to Hixon. Councillors to meet at about 6.30pm on Wednesday during the drop-in session to agree plan for Saturday 29th's public meeting. Take a list of attendees at the Drop-in session and where they are from. Need to know what SBC's real plans are and details of infrastructure timetables etc. | -       |
|        | <b>Projects, Task Groups, and External Meeting Reports</b>   |         |
| 054/19 | Trent-Sow Parklands and Cannock Chase AONB HS2 Group: The proposed area of woodland at the end of Church Lane (Farley Corner) has met with a refusal from the land owner. Another possible site is on the A51 in Pasturefields by the motel. Chair will take forward. The path linking Ingestre to the showground may be taken up by SCC.  | Chair   |
| 055/15 | IT Group: SCC say they have been working on the new website and will be in touch this week.  | Clerk   |
| 072/19 | Parish Council Collaboration Group: Minutes from meeting discussed. Paper copies distributed to those that wanted them, Cllr A Murdoch requested electronic copy. Clerk to request a list of gullies in Hixon Parish and emptying schedule from Highways.  | Clerk   |
|        | <b>Finance / Administration / Legal</b>  |         |
| 011/19 | Bank Reconciliation  | Done    |
| 012/19 | Schedule of Agreed Payments  |         |
|        | C Gill salary February (Net tax/NI). Local Gov act 1972 s111.  | £800.87 |
|        | Reimbursement C Gill (costs: working from home) - February. Local Gov act 1972 s111  | £59.50  |
|        | Reimbursement C Gill mileage (22 miles @ £0.45p/mile). Local Gov act 1972 s111   | £9.90   |
|        | Reimbursement C Gill stamps 12x1st class and 12x2nd class. Local Gov act 1972 s111   | 15.72   |
|        | Reimbursement C Gill for purchase of Brother printer (£157.51) and ink (£6.75)   | £164.26 |
|        | Graham Crisp for painting of Back Lane bus shelter   | £100.00 |
|        | drs for newsletters  | £163.00 |
|        | Hixon Memorial Hall - donation for use of room at weekend 4/5th January  | £50.00  |
|        | HMRC for income tax (£5.60) and NI payments (employer £13.72 and employee £11.93) February = £31.25  | £31.25  |
|        |  |         |
|        | List of reports: None  |         |
|        | Correspondence received in mail: Stowe by Chartley parish newsletter   |         |

Meeting ended 9:50 pm