

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HINXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
THURSDAY 2nd JUNE 2016 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00 PM.

Present:

Mr R. Lewis (Chairman)
Mr R. Cobb (Vice- Chairman)
Mr N. Tiffin
Mrs W. Kitchener (Clerk)

Apologies:- Eris Sore and David Osmond (given at 20.05 on his arrival)

Other Person Attending:- Geoff Burrows for the War Memorial item.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting of 5th May were agreed by the Parish Councillors and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Richard Cobb and seconded by Nicholas Tiffin.

2. Matters arising not elsewhere on the Agenda: Dealt with under other headings.

3. Correspondence:

Fields in Trust Literature: To be contacted in respect of possible grants for the War Memorial repair.

Wendy Kitchener to investigate.

Ashwell's Celebration of the Queens 90th Birthday: The Parish Councillors, Clerk and their respective partners have received an invitation to attend the Church Service at St Mary's Ashwell on Friday 10th June at 8.00pm. **Wendy Kitchener to notify Patrick Forbes of those likely to attend.**

Letter to the Chairman from the Clerk: The Chairman is now dealing with this.

4. Finance:

Current Parish Council Funds: The Councillors agreed to the expenditure for the current month. Proposed by Richard Cobb and seconded by Nicholas Tiffin.

Annual Accounts 2015/2016: A copy of the annual accounts for 2015/2016 were circulated to the Councillors. These have been audited by the Internal Auditor. Those Councillors present agreed unanimously to adopt the accounts. They also accepted the Section 1- Annual Governance Statement for 2015/16, Section 2- Annual Accounting Statements 2015/16. They also agreed the Annual Internal Report 2015/16 questions A-E & G-J "Yes" and to question Item F not covered Item K N/A. These were then signed by the Chairman and the Financial Officer Responsible to be forwarded to BDO Stoy Hayward for the external audit. The Councillors conveyed their thanks to Jayne Whitfield for carrying out the internal audit of the accounts. **Wendy Kitchener to action.**

Annual Insurance Premium: Due to the escalating cost of the Council's current insurance provider the policy and the relevant cover has been reviewed. The Councillors therefore decided to accept a quote from Zurich Insurers at a premium of approximately some £350.00 less.

Barclays Bank Mandate: This has been amended to include Nicholas Tiffin as an authorised signatory.

5. Planning: Nothing to Report.

6. Highways:

Further to the "The Walk the Village Initiative" action taken to date is that the manholes/gullies have been jetted in New Inn Road and other areas in the Village.

Matters outstanding:-

Horse Riding Signs to be erected in the Village.

White lining for the roads.

Speed signage painted on the Roads.

Weed Killing between the kerbs and the roads.

7. Village Hall: Nothing to report.

8. Recreation Ground: Nothing to report.

9. The Tennis Court: Nothing to report.

10. The Allotments: Two allotment plots have been vacated. Jan Woodward Chair of HAG has been asked to provide an up to date plan of the occupied plots for audit purposes. **Wendy Kitchener to follow up.**

11. Any Other Urgent Business:

The War Memorial: Geoff Burrows advised that K. Buckingham Contractors who have revised their quote to the sum of £7300, this in his opinion allows for the addition cost of a more durable surface to the “external paving” area. The Parish Councillors accepted Geoff’s advice and therefore agreed to appoint K. Buckingham as contractors for the project. Geoff Burrows will contact K Buckingham on behalf of the Parish Council and report back.

The following have kindly agreed to part fund the project Barry Huber, Chair VHMC, Tony Hunter Hertfordshire County Councillor, Janine Paterson, District Councillor. Grant applications have been made to Tony Hunter and Janine Paterson and a letter has been sent to the VHMC. Hopefully £500 from each. Other funds will be from The Robert Clutterbuck Trust £1250.00 and The Parish Council also £1250.00. In total £4000. This will give a shortfall of £3300 which the Parish Councillors agreed to finance in the interim. It is hoped there will be further donations forthcoming and possible fund raising. **Wendy Kitchener to follow-up.**

Hinxworth Parish Council Website: Wendy Kitchener met with Joe Perricone. Subsequently a written proposal regarding the possible way forward has been put to the Parish Councillors along with his quote.

Russ Lewis will contact Joe Perricone to discuss further.

The Public Footpaths and Rights of Way: These are overgrown many areas including along by the allotments. **Wendy Kitchener to contact Hertfordshire County Council.**

12: Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday July 7th 2016 at **7.00pm** in the Village Hall. The meeting closed at 8.15pm.