

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HINXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
THURSDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2017 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00 PM.

Present:

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

Other persons present:- Steve Jarvis Hertfordshire County Councillor (he left the meeting at 7.30pm)

1. The Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting of 6th July were agreed by the Parish Councillors and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Russell Lewis and seconded by Eric Sore.

2. Matters arising not elsewhere on the Agenda: Nothing to report.

3. Correspondence: Nothing to report.

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 External Audit 2016/2017: The BDO external audit report has been returned agreed and signed. As a "Smaller Authority" with annual income of less than £25K it is now not necessary, due to Government legislation, for the Parish Council annual accounts to be audited externally. An Internal Audit only will be required for 2017/2018 onwards.

5. Planning: Nothing to report.

6. Highways:

Potholes: Further to Chairman reporting thirteen potholes along with photographs to Hertfordshire Highways in July they have not all been repaired. Hertfordshire Highways supposedly has a computer system in place to report back as to the status of the repairs reported. The Chairman reported this appears not to be working. Steve Jarvis responded that there are problems and he is monitoring the situation and improvements to the reporting system are underway. Likewise he will follow up those potholes that have not been repaired.

Overgrown Hedges: Further to the reporting of overgrown hedges in New Inn road these still require cutting back. Steve Jarvis is to follow-up.

Various Blocked Drains: Steve Jarvis has notified the Hertfordshire Highways Contractor of this ongoing problem. They are now investigating and will report back.

Speed Signs:- Further to the report last month regarding a "smiley face" portable speed sign it has been agreed the Parish Councillors will discuss the matter further. Steve Jarvis will confirm he could make a possible 50% contribution of the estimated cost for the sign of £4.5K. The Parish Council could then apply for the grant by November to be allocated from the Hertfordshire Highways 2018-19 budget. To be discussed further at the October Parish Council meeting.

Addition Highways Issues:- Due to the number of issues, some detailed above, the Chairman again requested that Ringway (the Hertfordshire Highways Contractors) Steve Jarvis and the Parish Councillors meet "to walk the Village" to identify the problems. Steve Jarvis is again asked to arrange.

7. Village Hall: The Village Hall Management Committee continue to fund raise for the refurbishment of the kitchen along with other ongoing funding initiatives. A meeting between the VHMC and the Parish Council as suggested in July's minutes has yet to be arranged.

8. Recreation Ground: Following the report in the July minutes of the "wheelie" incident. The Parish Councillors agreed to meet up to discuss further a barrier to be installed at the far end of the car park at the entrance to the recreation ground. The Councillors will report back at the October meeting.

9. The Tennis Court: Eric Sore reported he has applied a cleaner to the tennis court surface but it appears to require further attention. The surface in the long term made require resurfacing. To be investigated further.

10. The Allotments:

Additional Allotmenters:- The Chairman and the Clerk signed three further licence agreements. There are now fourteen allotments occupied and six vacant. The Councillors agreed for the licence to be amended for all future allotment holders to provide their home address. Those current allotmenters whose home address is not already on record with the Parish Council will also be asked to provide their address. Wendy Kitchener is to liaise with Hilary Perricone.

11. Any Other Urgent Business:

Hinxworth Parish Council Website: Joe Perricone and Russell Lewis are to meet up to discuss the progress of the website. As it appears to have momentarily stalled due to no fault of either of them.

Merchant Navy Flag Day: The Parish Councillors convey their thanks to Graham White for arranging for the appropriate flag to be flown in the Village on Merchant Navy Flag Day on September 3rd.

Broadband for the Village: The Parish Councillors acknowledged the amount of time and effort Patrick Forbes has put in to successfully bringing superfast broadband into the Village. They therefore unanimously wish to thank him for his efforts.

The War Memorial Clock: Maintenance of the War Memorial Clock is now due. This last took place in May 2014. **Wendy Kitchener is to contact A. J. James of Saffron Walden.**

12: Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday October 5th 2017 at **7.00pm** in the Village Hall.
The meeting closed at 8.10pm.