

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HINXWORTH PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
THURSDAY 5th OCTOBER 2017 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00 PM.

Present:

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

Apologies: Mr Russell Lewis

Other persons present:- Steve Jarvis Hertfordshire County Councillor.

1. The Minutes of the last meeting: The minutes of the meeting of 7th September were agreed by the Parish Councillors and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Nicholas Tiffin 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 Nicholas Tiffin and seconded by Eric Sore.

5. Planning:

Planning Application ref: 17/02142/1 Hill Cottage, Arnolds Lane – 10 Metre Telegraph Pole.

The Parish Councillors agreed to “no objection” to this Planning Application. NHDC has been notified.

Planning Application ref: 17/02312/1HH and 17/02313/1HH – The Knole, New Inn Road.

The Parish Councillors agreed to “no objection” to this Planning Application. NHDC has been notified

Planning Application ref: 17/01865/1PN Manor Farm, Chapel Street. Change of use of building from Agriculture to B1/B8 use.

The Chairman stepped aside for this application as he had forwarded his comments to NHDC as a private resident of Chapel Street Hinxworth.

The remaining three Councillors discussed the application and objected to it on the following grounds:-

1. The change of use of the building is too “broad brush” and a full understand of the intended use is required to make further assessment on the appropriateness of the change of use.
2. The application details the change of use of the curtilage surrounding the property, this is not and should be defined.
3. Chapel Street, that leads to Manor Farm is a narrow lane, it contains a number of listed buildings and many properties a front the road. These residents have no option but to park as they do as no other parking is available to them. The change of use could mean heavy vehicles could now use Chapel Street, this would therefore lead to congestion and possible danger to residents and their vehicles, the road and its available width was not constructed in a way to accommodate business related traffic.
4. Chapel Street, is in a conservation area with approximately fourteen dwellings some being historic listed buildings. Should heavy vehicles be allowed, on a regular basis, to use Chapel Street to access Manor Farm this will have a detrimental effect on these listed buildings.
5. The vision ability for vehicles to exit Chapel Street to the High Street is grossly impaired by the siting of the houses at the end of Chapel Street.

6. Chapel Street is a narrow rural lane whose construction is not conducive for the use of heavy vehicles and other vehicles for the continuous use as an entrance to Manor Farm. As outlined in the Planning Application, it appears Manor Farm intends to become a rural business park placed on the edge of a quiet Village whose only access would be through the Village
7. Hinxworth High Street and its surrounding roads are narrow and not fit for the purpose to support the extra traffic this development would bring to the area.
8. It is not an argument to say that farm related vehicles will be removed/replaced. The surrounding fields will still need to be maintained and although this involves at times some large machinery it is seasonal and would be compounded by additional traffic should the approval be passed.
- 6. Highways:** A meeting has been arranged for October 16th with Gary Henning Hertfordshire Highways Assistant Highways Manager- North Herts. The Parish Councillors, Steve Jarvis and Gary Henning are to "Walk the Village" to identify the outstanding highways problems.

The "Smiley" Face Speed Sign: The Chairman confirmed the Parish Council is prepared to partially fund the sign for the sum of £2500.00. Steve Jarvis has kindly agreed to fund the balance from his 2018/19 Hertfordshire Highways Budget allocation.

7. Village Hall: The "Race Night" organised by the Village Hall Management Committee was a resounding success raising £2000.00. This amount will be added to the fund for the refurbishment of the Village Hall kitchen.

The Christmas Supper/Dinner: The VHMC has decided not to go ahead with this event this year.

8. Recreation Ground: The Parish Councillors agreed to meet on October 16th on site to discuss further a barrier to be installed at the far end of the car park at the entrance to the recreation ground.

9. The Tennis Court: The Parish Councillors will review the area when they meet on October 16th at the recreation ground.

10. The Allotments: There are now fourteen members and 6 vacancies out of the twenty plots.

11. Any Other Urgent Business:

Hinxworth Parish Council Website: This is ongoing.

Brown Bins: The Parish Councillors were notified the brown bin refuse collection is to cease. The Chairman has written to NHDC Councillor Michael Weeks (Executive Member for Waste Management, Recycling and Environment) of Hinxworth Parish Councillor's concern of the withdrawal of this facility. It appears a number of councils have raised their concern with Councillor Weeks also.

The War Memorial Clock: The maintenance of the clock has now taken place and a programme to continue the maintenance on an annual basis has been put in place.

Steve Jarvis - Hertfordshire County Councillors Report:

The Local Transport Plan: This is likely to go ahead. It does not affect Hinxworth as the Village has no bus services, only a bus stop.

Brown Bins: Speaking in his capacity as a District Councillor the "Brown Bin" issue is to be discussed at NHDC within the next couple of weeks.

12: Date of the Next Meeting: Thursday November 2nd 2017 at **7.00pm** in the Village Hall.
The meeting closed at 7.55pm.