

HUNNINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 p.m., on Tuesday 19th September 2006, at the offices of Solus Garden & Leisure, Bromsgrove Rd. Hunnington.

Those present: Cllr. J Peeney (Chairman), Cllrs., L Bayfield S Fitzpatrick, L Gough, C Grove and S Harper.

Also present: County Councillor E Moore, Mr A Talbot for N. Watch and Clerk.

1. **Apologies** had been received from District Cllr. D Hancox who is attending another meeting.
2. **Public Question Time** – one member of the public was present but no questions were asked.
3. **Declarations of Interest** – none were received.
4. **Minutes** – it was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11th July 2006 be signed as a correct record.
5. **Neighbourhood Watch Report** – In his written report Mr Talbot Chairman of N Watch stated there had been little reported crime in the village since their last meeting although Councillors reported at least two theft incidents had been made known to them. The report also stated that the N Watch had decided to distribute N Watch window stickers to all pensioners in the village. It was further reported that the West Mercia PACT initiative appears to have stopped with no meeting for this village having been arranged. It was decided that the Parish Council would write to the Chief Constable for this area asking for an update on the situation. The Chairman thanked Mr Talbot for his input who then left the meeting.
6. **Enhancement of Grassed Areas** – Cllr. Peeney apologised that no progress had been made on quotes received due to his other commitments and asked if anyone could take this project on board. Cllrs. Bayfield and Gough agreed and clerk was instructed to put this item on agenda for next meeting. It was further decided that more daffodil bulbs need to be planted and as this needed to be done before the next meeting it was resolved that a sum of £50.00 be used to purchase the bulbs and approximately £150.00 for planting. This item would be placed on the next agenda to be ratified.
7. **Freedom of Information Act** – Chairman explained the need for a policy on the destruction of draft documents and gave Cllrs. and clerk a copy of a suggested policy. Clerk was instructed to contact the Internal Auditor to ascertain what financial implications should be incorporated. Chairman also asked Cnty. Cllr. Moore if he could try to obtain notes from any other PC's. This would then be placed on the next agenda to be ratified.
8. **Chairman's Access to CALC Website** – Clerk explained the opportunities to access this website and each Cllr. had been given a copy of the protocol to this access. It was resolved that this protocol be accepted and CALC would be informed.
9. **Prejudicial Interests Policy** – The meeting was informed of the need for a policy and each Cllr. had been given a copy of a suggested policy to cover this. It was resolved that the policy document be accepted.
10. **Progress Reports:-**
 - a. **Unauthorised Travel Buses** – Clerk explained that these buses had been using the B4551 Bromsgrove Road to get to Bromsgrove. As there is a 7.5 ton weight

restriction clerk had written to the Birmingham Coach Company complaining. Reply received indicated company have instructed drivers not to use this route. Clerk would write to Company indicating contents had been noted.

b. Dovehouse Fields Farm – Clerk explained that reports of water leakage and damaged sheets of asbestos being found on this empty property and following telephone calls to South Staffs Water, the Police and Bromsgrove DC, the agents for the new owner, Messrs Ralphs and Janes, have been informed and will take the necessary steps to have these matters dealt with. Clerk also reported that the overgrown hedges fronting this property have been reported to Bromsgrove DC. Some of the hedges have now been cut back and clerk was instructed to contact Bromsgrove DC and report on the remaining uncut hedges.

c. Grass Verge Strimming – Contractor is in the process of this work and it was resolved that clerk could pay this account when completed satisfactorily and upon receipt of the necessary invoices. It was also resolved that clerk would arrange for the trimmer to be serviced. The problem of litter was raised and clerk had contacted Bromsgrove DC and requested a litter pick.

d. Vacancy for Parish Councillor – A resident attended the meeting and would inform the Clerk on decision whether to apply for vacant position.

11. **Hanging Basket/Container and Inter-Village Best Frontage Competitions** – winners of Hanging Basket Competition were first 359, second 343 and third 259 Bromsgrove Road and the prize-giving evening held on 1st August went well. Clerk had written to Mr Brown at Solus Garden & Leisure thanking them for donating prizes and sending thank you gift. Number 361 Bromsgrove Road represented the village in the Inter-Village Best Frontage competition.

12. **Vandalised Notice Board** – Clerk reported that window of board near The Sun pub had been smashed and both the new handles broken off. Clerk had authorised Mr Male to deal with this. She had also obtained a provisional quote for glass to be replaced with unbreakable polycarbonate.

13. **FINANCE MATTERS:-**

a. It was resolved that the following accounts be paid:-

Clement Keys - external audit £141.00

Mr M Male – various maintenance work £110.00

Mrs L Teese – ¼ year salary July to September

Mrs L Teese – ¼ year expenses July to September

Mrs L Teese refreshments & thank you gifts re: Hanging Bskt. Comp.

(this amount is taken from the Chairmans Allowance) £29.90

Romsley & Hunnington Garden Society – promised donation £80.00

Clerk was given permission to pay Mr R Batty for strimming work being carried out at present at £300.00 plus line and fuel and Solutions Acrylic & Display Ltd (approximately £40.00) for replacement polycarbonate panels to vandalised notice board, both upon receipt of invoices.

b. External Auditor's Report – clerk reported having received completed annual return from Clement Keys and the necessary Conclusion of Audit had been advertised with a requested copy being sent to auditors.

c. Mileage Rates - Clerk reported receiving notification from CALC that from 1 April 2006 mileage rate is 39.7p per mile.

d. Quarterly Return – Councillors had been given a copy of the return sent to internal auditor together with copies a supporting bank statements. These were accepted.

14. **PLANNING MATTERS:-**

No new planning applications had been received since last meeting.

B/2006/0460 – 7 The Close. Rear extension

GRANTED

Planning Appeal re: 334 Bromsgrove Road – clerk informed Cllrs. that this hearing had been set for 22nd November at Bromsgrove DC and 2 Councillors agreed to attend.

Breach Farm - Planning Breach – Clerk had informed Bromsgrove DC of un-approved mobile dwellings on site. Enforcement Kath Burrell had visited the site and has requested owner removes caravan and mobile home with 28 days from 15th August 2006 and failure to do so would result in enforcement action. Ms Burrell will update clerk.

15. **District and County Councillor's Reports -**

District Councillor absent – attending another meeting.

The County Cllr., reported that the re-organisation of the Highways Agency is now complete but some appointments are still being dealt with.

16. **Urgent Decisions Taken** – Vandalisation of Notice Board reported in item 12.

17. **Clerk's Reports & Correspondence Not Referred To Elsewhere:-**

CALC Meeting report & copy of Executive Officers report.

Affordable Housing – clerk informed meeting that a person who owns land in Hunnington had contacted her asking for details. Clerk had contacted Mike Dunphy at BDC Planning who had informed clerk that to his knowledge no affordable housing was planned for Hunnington. Clerk asked land owner to contact Mr Dunphy direct.

Street Light in The Close – Clerk had received request from house owner in The Close to get the faulty light repaired. Clerk explained history concerning this light to resident and had also contacted Bromsgrove Street Lighting Dept who stated they have no record of this lamp on their files. Clerk is waiting on resident to come back to her with further information.

Contents of correspondence received were noted.

18. **Councillors Reports And Items For Future Agenda -**

A Councillors asked if it would be possible for bike riding signs to be put on pavements – clerk was instructed to write to BDC.

County Charter – Chairman raised this item and explained the thoughts behind signing up to this charter and it was agreed by a majority to sign up to the charter. This item to be placed on next agenda to be formally ratified.

Car Boot Sales – it was agreed that the total number allowed had been reached and clerk was instructed to inform Enforcement Dept. at BDC.

Carol Service – Clerk was given permission to write to Cadburys to obtain sweets for children attending this event. Illuminated Front of House Competition – this event will be held again this year and clerk was instructed to ensure that flyer is sent out in good time to advertise both these events.

19. **The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 21st November 2006.**

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman – Hunnington Parish Council