

HUNNINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Hunnington Parish Council held at 7.30 p.m., on Tuesday 21st March 2006, at the offices of Solus Garden & Leisure, Bromsgrove Road, Hunnington.

Those present: Cllrs. J Peeney (Chmn.) L Gough and S Harper.

Also in attendance: Clerk, Cnt. Cllr. E Moore and Mr A Talbot for N.Watch.

1. **Public Question Time** – There were no members of the public present.
2. **To Receive Apologies** – Apologies had been received from Councillors Bayfield, Fitzpatrick and Grove and from District Councillor Hancox. These were noted and accepted.
3. **Declarations of Interest** - There were no declarations of interest.
4. **Neighbourhood Watch Report & Purchase of Metal N. Watch Signs** – Mr Talbot Chairman for N. Watch gave a copy of his written report on the AGM to all present. This included the introduction of PACT (Partners and Communities Together) spearheaded by West Mercia Police and it was agreed that Mr Talbot and a Parish Councillor would attend these meetings in future to represent Hunnington. The police officer covering Hunnington is Christopher Lord and he is based at Hagley police station. It was further reported that in future the N. Watch newsletter would go out to residents 2 weeks prior to their meetings to encourage attendance and support. Clerk asked for a list of relevant police contact telephone numbers which will be advertised in the village notice boards. Mr Talbot left the meeting. It was resolved that the purchase of 10 metal N. Watch signs at £17.00 each plus an additional charge of £18.00 for delivery is agreed.
5. **Minutes** – All the minutes of the meeting held on 17th January 2006 were approved.
6. **Parish Paths Warden and New Definitive Map** – Warden for Hunnington Mr J Price had sent apologies for no-attendance to meeting to report on paths in Hunnington and had informed clerk that paths in Hunnington were being walked regularly and were generally in good condition but he has concerns regarding the footpath near to the former Hunnington Station and will be consulting with Worcestershire CC. Mr Price had stated he would try and attend the next meeting. Clerk then reported on attendance to Clerks Briefing on 30th January when all Parish Councils were given a copy of the new colour definitive footpath map for their Parish. In view of the cost of well over £60.00 to obtain an encapsulated copy of this map together with copyright issues it was decided that for the time being the previous footpath map would remain in the advertising board and the new one held by clerk.
7. **Enhancement of Grassed Areas** – To date two quotations for proposed work throughout the village had been received. Following letter to farmers within the village the Parish Council had received offers of farming implements which it had been intended to incorporate into this project but following consultation with insurers clerk had been informed they would not be willing to insure large items of equipment against any claims, although milk churns offered could be used. It was decided to defer any decisions on this matter until the next meeting.
8. **Grass Verge Strimming** – Clerk had received a verbal quotation from Mr Batty on strimming work for this year. He had intimated that because there had only been two

cuts undertaken last year the work had taken longer than he originally estimated and that the cost this year would be £300.00 per cut plus expenses. Councillors resolved to accept this quote with the provision that the grass cuttings are swept from footpaths.

9. **Vacancy for Councillor** – Clerk reported that Mr Smith had decided against being co-opted as a Councillor. It was agreed that Councillors would continue to find a suitable replacement.
10. **Progress Reports for information:-**
 - a. **Cricket Club viability of purchase** – This item was deferred until the next meeting.
 - b. **Requested New Footpath** – Both District and County Councillors had been asked to help with this item and both had been told there was no money available for any extra work to be undertaken and that there had been no increase in funding from central government since 1997. It had been suggested to the District Councillor that we should try again in three months and Cnty. Cllr. Moore indicated he would be willing to attend any meeting with the District Councillor and the HPU. Clerk would inform the District Councillor of this offer. Clerk was instructed to put this item on the July agenda.
11. **Mobile Speed Indicating Equipment** – Due to the weather conditions no trials had been undertaken prior to the meeting. These would be carried out as soon as possible. Equipment had been insured until April at a cost of £26.25 and clerk was instructed to contact insurers and ascertain the cost of 12 months insurance cover.
12. **Carol Evening Alternative Venue** – It was resolved that this year's Carol Evening will be held in Romsley Church Hall on 13th December. Residents of Romsley would also be invited to attend and Clerk was instructed to write and inform Romsley Parish Council as a matter of courtesy.
13. **CALC Meeting** – Clerk and Cllr. Gough had attended and clerk gave a written report to all Councillors which included a presentation from Chief Superintendent Howard on the position of West Mercia Police with regard to the government's intended mergers. It was also reported that West Mercia Police has one of the highest success rates in the whole country but is one of the lowest funded.
A copy of CALC Executives Officer's report was given to each Councillor which included reminder of Parish Councils legal duty to identify and manage risks in order to protect the public. It was agreed that this PC have most procedures in place and those remaining will be dealt with as soon as possible.
14. **Internal Auditor** – Mr I Fraser had resigned as internal auditor and recommended Mrs D Malley as a possible successor. It was resolved to accept Mrs Malley's offer to carry out the annual internal audit at the cost of £40.00.
15. **FINANCE MATTERS:-**
 - a. **Payment of Accounts** – it was resolved that accounts as listed below be paid:

Worcs. CALC - Clerks Gathering 30.1.06	£20.00
Worcs. CALC - Chmn. & Clerks Briefing 21.2.06	£41.13
Mrs Teese – mileage incurred re. travel to Worcester on 31.1.06	£15.48
Mrs Teese – mileage incurred re. travel to Worcester of 21.2.06	£15.48
Romsley Methodist Church N. Watch meetings x 2	£30.00
Allianz Cornhill Ins - ins.cover re. mobile speed equipment on loan	£26.25
NALC – subs. To Local Council Review	£14.00

Herefd. Jarvis Services – purch. of 10 N. Watch signs + del.chg. £188.00
 Worcs. Cnty. Cncl. – photocopying at St Kenelms School £49.70
 Mrs L Teese – ¼ yr. salary Jan. to Mar.
 Mrs L Teese – ¼ yr. expenses Jan. to Mar.
 Worcs. Cnty. Cncl. – hire of sch. hall for N.Watch AGM 16.3.06 £10.92

b. **Romsley & Hunnington Gardening Society Annual Show** – it was resolved that Hunnington Parish Council would donate £80.00 to this year's event.

c. **Concurrent Functions** – Bromsgrove District Council has written to confirm that this Parish Council will receive a concurrent function payment of £843.00 for 2006/7.

16. **District and County Councillors reports** – The District Councillor had informed clerk that there is no money available for extra work projects mainly because costs have increased by 5% but the District Council have only been able to ask for a 4.99% increase. Also he is attending a special meeting this evening when all District Councillors will be informed of the facts on unitary authority and will report to the Parish Council at the next meeting.

County Councillor reported attending a meeting which was addressed by the Chief Constable on the possible merging of rural and urban policing. A unanimous vote to remain separate was taken. Also reported was that the HPU is likely to be split into two areas only within the county with one maintenance depot being based at Lydiate Ash. The Primary Care Trusts in the county are being merged into one.

17. **PLANNING MATTERS** – the following applications have been received :-

Appeal Re: B/05/0557 - 208 B'grove Rd. against planning refusal by BDC

Appeal Re: B/05/0567 - 334 B'grove Rd. against planning refusal by BDC

B/2006/0126 – 2 St. Kenelms Rd. conv. of shop front to living room & 2 stry. Rear ext. to kitchen & bedroom. **No objection**

B/2006/0172 – 165 B'grove Rd. grnd. & first floor ext. to front, rear and sides.

Clarification needed in some areas otherwise -

No objection

B/2005/1043 – Breach Farm – new dwelling.

Site visit to be made.

18. **Clerk's Report and correspondence for information** – a list of correspondence received was given to each Councillor. This was noted and no comments made. Clerk had received a verbal invitation from Mr & Mrs Yealland of Solus Garden & Leisure for all Councillors to visit the recently refurbished original Blue Bird building. It was decided that clerk would try and arrange a visit for a Monday afternoon.
19. **Clerk's report on urgent decisions since last meeting** – no urgent decisions had been made.
20. **Councillors' reports and items for future agenda** – clerk was instructed to put the implementation of a Complaints Procedure on agenda for next meeting.
21. **Date of next meeting** – Tuesday 16th May 2006 at St. Kenelms School. (Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting).
22. **Exclusion of public and press** – report on pensions and gratuities briefing from Chairman and discussion and possible implementation. Clerk left the meeting.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman – Hunnington Parish Council