MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE MANOR FIELD PAVILION, GRANGE LANE, THURNBY, ON MONDAY 14 MARCH 2016, AT 7.00 P.M.

PRESENT
Members: Mr H Gopsill (Chair), Mrs E Derrick, Mrs S Johnstone and Dr A Keller.
Clerk: Mrs S Bloy
Members of the Public: There was one member of the public present

16/44 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
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gies for absence were received from Mrs A Burrell, Mrs P Chamberlain, Mr N Garner, Mr I Harris and Mr J King.

16/45 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION FROM MEMBERS ON MATTERS IN WHICH THEY HAVE A DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTEREST
There were no requests for dispensation.

16/46 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2016
The minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2016 were approved and were signed by the Chair.

16/47 MATTERS ARISING FOR INFORMATION
It was reported that there had been no calls for an election following the posting of notices of a casual vacancy on the Parish Council. It was noted that the Parish Council is now able to co-opt to the vacancy.

16/48 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
A member of the public informed the meeting that they were attending to learn more about the operation of Parish Council, with a view to putting their name forward for co-option.

16/49 GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
It was agreed that there was no need for a meeting of the General Purposes Committee.

16/50 CLERK’S REPORT
The following outcomes of planning applications were reported:
   a) 15/01912/FUL – erection of single storey side extensions and the insertion of roof lights in the existing building (United Reform Church, 720 Uppingham Road, Thurnby) - APPROVED.
   b) 15/01955/FUL – erection of single storey extension to rear and side with associated internal alterations (8 Stirling Drive, Thurnby) – REFUSED
   c) 15/01981/TPO – works to trees (HDC TPO 142) (4 The Copse, Bushby) - APPROVED.
   d) 15/02017/OUT – erection of 18 dwellings (all matters reserved) (revised scheme of 14/01730/OUT) (Manor Field OS 126, Grange Lane, Thurnby) - WITHDRAWN.
   e) 16/00063/TCA – works to trees (742 Uppingham Road, Thurnby) - APPROVED.

16/51 COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS
There was nothing to report.
16/52 FINANCIAL MATTERS
It was proposed by Mr H Gopsill and seconded by Dr A Keller that the following payments, direct debits and purchases are approved and that in addition, membership of the Leicestershire Footpath Association should not be renewed for 2016. This was RESOLVED.

Payments:
1) P Richards Environmental Service (dog bins) - £109.25
2) Bains Travel (Taxibus) - £180.00
3) Leicestershire County Council (Grange Lane priority working trial) - £1,720.30 (£1,433.58 + 286.72 VAT)
4) DCK Beavers Ltd (Payroll) - £30.00 (25.00 + 5.00 VAT)
5) SSE (Unmetered supply for Christmas illuminations) - £16.02
6) Houghton Gardeners’ Club (Allotment levy) - £89.73
7) RCC (Membership) - £50.00
8) NALC (LCR subscription) - £17.00
9) 2Commune Ltd (Website set up, training, hosting, support, annual licence + 1 email account) - £1,290.00 (1,075.00 + 215.00 VAT)
10) S R Bloy (Salary) - £712.94
11) S R Bloy (Travelling expenses) - £45.09

Direct Debits:
1) Severn Trent Water - £62.61
2) British Gas - £50.82
3) SSE - £99.34

Purchases:
1) id-direct.co.uk – (photocards, lanyards, badge holders, artwork for logo) - £171.00 (142.50 + 28.50 VAT)
2) SLCC – attendance by Clerk at Charitable Trusts training (16 September 2016) – £114.00 (95.00 + 19.00 VAT) + travelling expenses + possibly overnight accommodation

As Mr H Gopsill was the only Councillor in attendance with signatory rights, it was further RESOLVED that Mrs A Burrell be the second signatory.

16/53 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a) 15/01916/PCD – discharge of conditions 2 (materials), 4 (foul and surface water), 6 (highways), 8 (landscaping), 10 (construction method statement) and 11 (ground investigation report) of 12/01325/FUL (land rear of 22 Station Road, Thurnby). This was noted for information.

b) 16/00157/FUL – removal of existing temporary portakabin and 2 poly tunnels and erection of new single storey office building with associated parking (J Coles Nursery, Uppingham Road, Bushby). It was agreed to SUPPORT this application noting the valuable contribution made by J Coles Nurseries to business and employment in the Parish.

c) 16/00164/FUL – erection of single garage to plot 90, 20 Cowslip Lane, Thurnby). It was agreed to submit a NEUTRAL response with no comment.

d) 16/00249/TCA – works to trees (68 Main Street, Bushby). Having consulted with the tree wardens it was agreed to SUPPORT this application. It was proposed by Mrs S Johnstone and seconded by Mrs E Derrick that he above decisions be approved. This was RESOLVED.

16/54 PLANNING ENFORCEMENT

It was reported that a case had been opened in relation to work to a property on Uppingham Road, Bushby for which planning permission was necessary. A planning application is to be submitted within a period of two weeks.

16/55 HIGHWAYS MATTERS
a) Highways improvements: Court Road, Grange Lane and Main Street - It was
reported that a response is still awaited from LCC Highways to the issues raised at the Parish Council meeting held on 8 February 2016 (minute 16/25 refers) regarding the Grange Lane priority scheme and the request for detailed plans showing all signage, road markings, changes to the footway and associated matters. It was noted that there will be an up-front charge incurred in drawing up the detailed plans, but that this will subsequently be taken off the final costings for completion of the work.

b) Parking restrictions outside the Fernvale and St Luke's Primary schools – It was noted that there continue to be issues with drivers ignoring the parking restrictions, causing obstruction and parking without consideration. It was reported that the flashing lights on the 20mph signs at the approach to Fernvale School are still not working. This has been referred to the LCC Lighting Team and Fernvale School has been informed.

16/56 HILL COURT COMMUNITY CENTRE
It was reported that the EMH Group had confirmed its agreement to assign the lease for the Hill Court Community Centre (referred to as the Resource Centre) to the Parish Council. A site meeting had been held with a representative of LCC Property Services regarding the transfer to the Parish Council of the current licence between HDC and LCC Children’s Services. It was further reported that a meeting is to be held with the Parish Council’s solicitor. It is hoped that the lease and licence can be finalised for the end of April 2016.

It was noted that the lease includes a requirement for the premises to be redecorated every seven years and a quotation (£1,465.00) has been obtained. Issues relating to redecoration remain to be resolved between EMH, HDC and the Parish Council.

16/57 MANOR FIELD PAVILION
It was reported that correspondence had been received from St Luke’s outlining their position with regard to the Manor Field Pavilion. It was noted that a Working Party had been established and it was anticipated that this would make firm recommendations by the end of August. It was proposed by Dr A Keller and seconded by Mrs S Johnstone that the Parish Council reaffirm the resolution made at the meeting held on 8 February that the Council agree “in principle, to the establishment of a Charitable Trust comprising the Parish Council, St Luke’s Church, Humberstone Rangers Football Team and Harborough District Council with respect to the Manor Field Pavilion to be held either in a long lease or as freehold, with a head lease granted to St Luke's Church to run the premises at full cost” (minute 16/34 refers). This was RESOLVED.

In addition, the following were proposed by Dr A Keller and seconded by Mrs S Johnstone:
- the Parish Council would not wish to take on responsibility for the football pitch, in view of the financial implications, as has been communicated to Harborough District Council;
- once negotiations regarding the lease of the Hill Court Community Centre have been complete, the Parish Council’s financial responsibility for the ongoing upkeep of the Manor Field Pavilion would cease and responsibility would return to Harborough District Council as the freeholder.

This was RESOLVED.

16/58 PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE
It was reported that a “beta” site is being created. The Clerk will populate this with a view to making the new website live over the coming months, prior to the existing site being closed at the end of August. It was proposed by Dr A Keller and seconded by Clerk.
Mrs E Derrick that the new website should be for the sole use of the Parish Council in meeting its civic duties and that the community link facility be used to direct users to other provision within Thurnby and Bushby. This was RESOLVED.

16/59 HDC CONSULTATION ON THE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL OF THE HARBOROUGH LOCAL PLAN – SECOND INTERIM REPORT APPRAISING OPTIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF STRATEGIC DISTRIBUTION GROWTH (FEBRUARY 2016)

It was noted that the above consultation, which has a closing date of 16 March 2016, is available at http://www.harborough.gov.uk/consultation/info/26 and agreed that the Parish Council wished to make no representations.

16/60 CHANGES TO SCHOOL PROVISION IN LEICESTERSHIRE

It was agreed that the Parish Council should keep a watching brief on developments. It was noted that a number of residents had expressed concerns to individual Councillors, in particular with regard to exercising parental choice of schools and the potential cost of school transport.

16/61 ID FOR COUNCILLORS AND THOSE REPRESENTING THE PARISH COUNCIL

It was noted that a quotation had been received from a supplier used by Great Glen Parish Council for ID cards etc as reported on the Financial Schedule (minute 16/52 above refers). It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate further and that this be tied in with signage and publicity material associated with the move to Hill Court.

16/62 ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

a) Report from the Tree Wardens – A survey of trees prepared by Mr and Mrs Lord was noted, together with recommendations for further work. It was agreed that the Parish Council’s thanks for the detailed survey be conveyed and that other matters be referred to the Tree Wardens for consideration. Dr A Keller reported that he had received notification from Stepping Stones regarding a Walk in the Woods festival in May 2016 being organised by the Tree Wardens.

b) Litter – Thanks were expressed to a resident for reporting an extensive pile of food cans and other debris which had been abandoned at Manor Field and to HDC for their prompt action.

c) Dog bins – It was noted that notices are still to be placed by HDC on litter bins, indicating that they can be used for the disposal of dog waste.

d) Other environmental matters – there was nothing else to report.

16/63 LEICESTERSHIRE WALKS PROJECT

It was reported that the text and associated photographs for three walks to the south of the A47 had been submitted for inclusion in the above. Thanks were expressed to Mr H Gopsill and Dr A Keller for their work on this project.

16/64 AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

The following items were agreed:
- Co-option to the Parish Council.
- Queen’s 90th birthday celebration.

16/65 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 11 April 2016, commencing at 7.00pm, at the Manor Field Pavilion.

The meeting closed at 20:30

Chair, 11 April 2016