

## HAMPTON LUCY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2008 in the village hall at 7.30 pm

Present:

Councillor Michael Woodman (Chairman)

Councillor Huw Williams

Councillor Paul Waterworth

Councillor Niven Conchar

Councillor Sue Main

Alan Scaife, Clerk

(+ 6 members of the public)

1. Apologies had been received from Cllr Hobbs.
2. There were no declarations of interest in items in the agenda.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting (16 January), copies of which had been sent to and accepted by all the councillors, were signed by the Chairman.
4. Slot for County and District Councillors: Councillor Main reported that she had passed on the complaint about the road flooding at Sal's Grave and Hatton Rock bend to Mervyn Hancox (WCC), who promised to look into it. She had also passed on a suggestion made to her by Mr Scaife's for a county-wide scheme to periodically clean road signs and cut back obscuring branches, but this did not elicit a response. She had written to NFUM at Ryon Hill and asked them to ask their staff not to speed through the village. The Avon House building should be finished in May and she had walked round with Jeremy Rodway Smith (who also lives next to the site) to see what was to be done about light spillage. NFUM proposed to plant trees but it seems they would never have grown tall enough, and were asked to fit blinds. They promised to gradually alter all the external lamps to ensure that their light is directed downwards. The office lights should go off at 9 p.m.
5. Matters arising (a) Mr Scaife reported that he had applied to the High Sheriff's fund for £4,400 to create a tarmac footpath beside the Stratford road to the Spinney. (b) regarding the playground safety report, the inspectors have now accepted that the skateboard ramp has been refurbished, and have sent a revised report. Some items are still to be dealt with. Mr Scaife pointed out that the goal posts are rusting and Ivor Birch agreed to send a quote to sand blast them, with a view to our repainting them.
6. The Chairman reported on the present situation regarding our entry for the national round of the Calor Village of the Year competition. Representatives from various village groups will meet on March 25 to plan their approach to the judges' visit on April 24.

7. There was a discussion about the fact that Miss Creak has just sold most of her land round the village, but not the parish field, the spinney, or a big triangle between The Langlands and Stratford road. It was agreed that we should write to her to say how much we appreciated the use of the parish field and the spinney, which had helped us to win the Warwickshire round of the Calor competition, and that we were glad that she had not sold them. It was also agreed to write to Bomfords' successors to complain about the dirty shredded plastic blowing off their fields and lodging on our hedges.

8. Muddy verges in Bridge street: a letter had been received from Jackie Williams about these. Cllr Williams said that the provision of the new parking layby in Stratford road had solved the muddy verge problem at that end of the village, but we needed to do something similar at the Bridge street end. The Chairman thought the solution would be to widen the road. Cllr Waterworth suggested tidying up the SDC parking space between houses 2 and 3, and if necessary put bollards opposite Church street, where the worst of the mud is, and where parked cars obscure the view of drivers approaching the bend. Mr Scaife to approach SDC about the possibility of our leasing the parking space from them, as they have suggested in the past. Cllr Main suggested the use of "Grass-crete" (perforated concrete) to park on.

9. Mr Scaife described a recent incident in the playing field when Mrs Chedham had reported a fire, apparently on the skateboard ramp. He had been to see what was happening. There was quite a crowd of youths there (mostly from Wellesbourne) and he had called the police, who had said they would attend in about an hour. In fact the fire turned out to be a barbecue next to the ramp. The youths had left lots of litter which they said they would clear up, but didn't. No suggestions were forthcoming as to what to do on such occasions.

10. Jackie Williams has suggested that we should have a defibrillators in the village which could be used by qualified first aiders in the event of somebody having a heart attack. The council favoured this idea. Mr Scaife to find out what is involved. Three volunteer first aiders are thought to be needed.

11. The councillors agreed to have their telephone numbers (only) put on the village website run by Alan Jacobs.

12. Cllr Waterworth suggested that representatives of the various village groups (VEG etc) should be invited to attend the Annual Parish Meeting in May. It was agreed that Mr Scaife would do this as an item in the Grapevine.

13. Mr Scaife reported that he had obtained a £150 grant from the Tree Council to plant 1000 native bluebell bulbs in the spinney. This will be done in late summer. He had also been given 6 quite large (2-3m) ash trees by SDC which he had planted on 25 February (helped by Jeremy Whyman).

14. He had attended the Clerks' and Chairmen's Meeting at SDC on 13 February and suggested that we need to know much more about schedules for road sweeping, litter picking, mowing etc. They seemed to have taken to point by sending out the litter picking programme. All Hampton Lucy's roads should be litter picked by SDC every

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, counting from 11 March. The road sweeping lorry should come four times a year.

15. The following payments were authorised:

- (a) Grapevine £140
- (b) Bluebells etc £150
- (c) Clerk's half-year salary £500 + year's expenses £101.76, = £601.76
- (d) Cllr Williams: playing weekly field safe + litter pick: £100
- (e) PCC; mowing of churchyards: £300
- (f) Charities: (£75 already given to Firefighters' Fund); Shipston Home Nursing £50; Air Ambulance £50.

16. Planning applications passed round council:

- (a) Ryon Hill Park; NFUM; Installation of generator; no objections
- (b) Mr and Mrs Arrow Smith, 4 Hatton Rock; various extensions; no objections

17. Correspondence etc received:

- (a) Jackie Williams; see (8)
- (b) SDC 20 Feb; Planning application validation checklist consultation. Read out.
- (c) WCC 25 Feb 08; Changes to Minerals and Waste Development scheme. Partly read out.
- (d) Audit Commission; 28 January; Clement Keys reappointed as our auditors for 5 years.
- (e) WCC ; Implementation of part 6 of Traffic Management Act 2004.

18 Financial statement as at 1 March 08 (excluding recent interest):

Savings a/c	£2753.64
Current a/c	£672.18
Playing Field a/c	£686.78
Total	£4112.60

19 Any other business (information only): Ivor Birch complained about the huge number of cars parked outside Speed's garage at Blackhill. Cllr Main agreed to approach a Snitterfield councillor about this. He has stopped a Fortress lorry crossing our bridge and they have promised not to do so again. Brian Buckley raised the ongoing problem of the continued illegal use of the bridge by overweight vehicles, possible sent here by satnavs. He suggested additional signage on the main roads [but has now (21 March) agreed that it is satisfactory]. It was commented that without specific evidence there was little more that the PC could do. Jeremy Whyman asked whether SDC were still discussing navigation on the river. Cllr Main replied that they were not. Concern was expressed about cars parked on both sides of Church street at school run time, but Cllr Waterworth thought this helped to slow down the traffic.

The next meeting was fixed for Wed 21 May.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.