

Minutes of Hathern Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 24th September, 2018 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

Present: Councillors Dann, Murdoch, Clayton, Boyes and Neville, Mrs. Spencer – clerk, Borough Councillor K. Harris and 6 members of the public.

Apologies: These were received from Councillor Croft, County Councillor B. Newton and the Police.

Police Matters:

We received a report from the police saying there had been two incidents of petrol being stolen from the garage. Also an incident at the Leys when paint had been sprayed on to a new property. This information was not correct as graffiti had been written on a property and stones thrown at a garage door. We are to relay this information back to the police.

Public Participation:

A resident raised the issue of rubbish down Tunnel Lane. After the scrap yard site has been cleared, the hedges and ditches are covered in plastic. Despite calls to CBC and LCC they both seem to be passing the buck. Councillor K. Harris said he would speak to Matthew Bradford at CBC and try to get the lane cleared. The Chairman enlightened the public gallery what had been going on over the last few weeks with this site.

Declarations of Interest:

Councillor Neville declared an interest in the Hathern Band Grant application.

The Minutes of the last meeting were signed as a true record.

Matters arising from the Minutes:

Highway Issues:

Visibility of road markings on the A6 – Cllr. B. Newton/LCC:

The majority of this work has been completed. It has still to be finished at Hathern Turn. When the work was carried out there was traffic chaos due to poor communication and signage. Councillor Clayton has spoken to Councillor B. Newton about this issue.

Vegetation overgrowing road signs – Cllr. B. Newton/LCC;

This problem seems to have gone away at the present time due to the recent dry weather.

Grit Bin – Lammas Drive – Cllr. B. Newton/LCC;

We are still waiting for a response to this request. The clerk to chase LCC.

Asset Maintenance/Improvements:

Signage:

This work will be completed by the end of this week.

Green Spaces Maintenance; Cracks on the football pitch:

Idverde have already done a days work filling up the cracks but still more work needs to be done. We have got a quote from Idverde to do the extra work at £800 + VAT. It was agreed to ask Chris Betts for another quote before making any decision. These cracks are caused by the white liner that is used to mark out the pitches,

Councillor Murdoch to speak to Idverde about alternative material that could be used for white lining the pitch.

We have received a quote for cutting the hedge at the back of the allotments from Idverde, the quote was for £80.00 + VAT, this was accepted. Two further quotes were received from Idverde for levelling the cricket outfield, at a cost of £1330 + VAT, this quote was accepted. The second quote was to apply weed and feed and a liquid feed at a cost of £774 + VAT, this quote was also accepted. The clerk will place an order for these works to be carried out with Idverde. We are to speak to Idverde about closing the Park when the spraying work is undertaken for a few hours.

We have got one quote for some new bollards to be placed outside the Park gate, we are to get another quote before any decision is made.

We have received the Tree surgery report from S. Faulks, Councillor Neville is to check his report and report back to the F. & GP meeting. We have received the update on work being done by Kim Lawson.

East Midlands In Bloom:

Councillor Croft has had a meeting with a representative from this organisation and he suggested we enter the competition in 2019.

Asset Inspections:

The asset inspection forms have now been redrafted and the revised Service contract was agreed by all Councillors. The clerk will ask Chris Betts to sign the new contract.

2018 Celebrations:

Update:

All the recent events have been very successful and there are still more to look forward to before the end of the year.

Funding Applications:

Two funding applications were received for expenses incurred for 2018 Celebration events from Hathern Local History Society (£729) and the PCC (£50). Both were approved unanimously.

Financial Matters:

Website and IT Services Contract:

Following communication with our current Website and IT Services provider, Dave Bardell, it has become clear that he is no longer actively continuing his business (apart from providing services to ourselves) we need to establish an alternative provider to manage this risk. Councillor Clayton has researched this area and has identified a provider who exclusively specialises in web-site services for Parish Councils – 2Commune. A costed proposal to set up a new website and training for the Parish council has been obtained and circulated previously to Councillors along with a live demonstration attended by Councillors of the company's products and back up support.

Many local Parish Councils already use this provider and Councillor Clayton explained the key benefits of the proposal. The product is therefore tried and tested and essentially off the shelf whereas any other provider would need to develop a bespoke platform for us. Furthermore the core of the offering is of lower on-going cost than our current provider. Councillors agreed that we did not seek another alternative quote. The Chairman proposed that we accept this proposal, this was seconded by Councillor and voted on unanimously.

First year costs (including set up and training) will be £1,700 + VAT and then an annual £625 + VAT in future years.

Correspondence:

Councillor Bradford has resigned as a Parish Councillor and we are waiting for information from CBC whether we are to have an election or we can co-opt a new Parish Councillor.

We have received two applications for headstones to be placed in Hathern cemetery, these were approved.

We received a Grant Aid application from Hathern Band for £250.00 towards the cost of a buffet to welcome a band from Australia to the area. After a very lengthy discussion we voted on the application. The proposal was should we support the funding application from Hathern Band. Councillor Neville abstained from the vote because of his declared interest. Two councillors voted for the proposal, two councillors voted against the proposal, the Chairman used his casting vote against the proposal.

Accounts for Payment:

The following invoices were approved and cheques drawn:

Water Plus	Cemetery rates	£16.58
Community Heartbeat trust	2 new batteries	£465.00
Quadron services	GM contract	£517.32
Quadron Services	LCC Grass cutting	£1139.60
Coalville signs	Mobile Phone stickers	£24.00
Pest-away	Wasps nest at allotments	£90.00
Hyphen Ltd.,	Newsletter	£921.10
Chris Betts	Asset work	£475.00
HCLibrary	Delivering newsletter	£150.00
History society	2018 Celebrations	£729.74
Parochial church council	2018 Celebrations	£50.00
Maureen Spencer	Ink cartridges	£110.00
Kim Lawson	Gardening work	£462.66
Dave Bardell	Website work	£137.00

Highways and footpaths:

Nothing to report.

Meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.