#### Minutes of Hilmarton Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 5th September 2018 in Hilmarton Community Room at 8.00pm.

#### Councillors Present

J Henly, J Files, L Hays, D Rhodes and W Leaning
Clerk: Jacquie Henly

Visitor: There were 3 members of the public present

Cllr Henly opened the meeting by explaining that due to an accident M Wilkins the Chairman, was unable to attend tonights meeting. He then welcomed David and Wendy, as new Parish Councillors, to their first meeting.

**Item 1 Apologies for absence**
1.1 Apologies were received from M Wilkins, JMcFadzean, R Fry and M Jeary

Wiltshire Cllr Christine Crisp also sent apologies.

The meeting was then adjourned to take questions from members of the public.

A request was made for the speed limit in Goatacre to be reviewed, as there have been a number of accidents on the sharp bend by the telephone kiosk. It was agreed the Clerk will highlight the concern to WC Highways, Cllr Files will also bring the matter up at the next CATG meeting and Cllr Leaning will contact Cllr Wilkins to enquire about the possibilities of reinstating Community Speed Watch.

The meeting was reconvened

**Item 2 – Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda**
2.1 There were no declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

**Item 3 – Minutes of the last meeting**

3.1 Minutes from the Parish Council meeting dated 4th July 2018 were approved by all present and signed by the Chairman.

**Item 4 – To discuss items on the Clerks Report previously circulated to members**

4.1 Reported to Wiltshire Council Planning department comments from the Parish Council relating to planning

applications received at the meeting held in July.

4.2 Contacted the New Parish Councillors asking them to arrange to sign the Acceptance of Office book on their return.

4.3 Posted new adopted documents and policies to the Parish Council web site.

4.4 Wrote to the School and Mrs Smith asking for hedges to be trimmed back where they are overhanging the pathway adjacent to the School field in Poynder Place. Both have confirmed they will get the hedges cut back.
4.5 Wrote to the School requesting a progress report on the School Travel Plan. Feedback from the School states they are awaiting contact with PCSO Cook.

4.6 Discussed with Val Procter the procedures that need to be followed regarding the siting of new benches for the dementia walk and the relevant permission required before any work commences.

4.7 Applied to WC for a license for planting wild flower seeds on the wide verge alongside Compton Road.

4.8 Contacted Kevin Iles to obtain prices for installing two benches.

4.9 Applied to WC for permission to put two benches on their land.

4.10 Contacted a local farmer to get advice on what action needs to be taken to get the best results for planting a Wild Flower verge.

**Item 5 – To discuss the continued production of the Parish Newsletter**

5.1 As Cllr Wilkins was not present this item was deferred to the next meeting.

**Item 6 – To consider the support of a campaign to put pressure on the National Trust to restore the structure of the Lansdowne monument at Cherhill**

6.1The monument has been under scaffolding for 8 years and all Councillors present felt this was far too long and therefore supported the proposed Campaign.

**Item 7 – Finance**

7.1 Account balances inclusive of all cheques written and deposits made up to Current Account: £1198.06

Deposit Account: £18651.75

7.2

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Cheque No | Payee | Amount |
| 402 | Jacquie Henly – Clerk Salary – Apr-June | 931.02 |
| 403 | Kevin Iles House and Garden – Grass cutting | 192.00 |
|  |  |  |
|  | Paid In | Amount |
|  |  |  |

7.3 It was resolved the Clerk can use online banking to make payments on behalf of the Parish Council, the invoices will still need to be authorised and signed by two cheque signatories before the payment can be made.

7.4 The purchase of a Parish Yew Tree for the copse at Mile Elm was discussed. The Clerk explained that the purchase of any kind of memorial by a Parish Council is unlawful, so could not proceed.
7.5 The contribution of £100 for maintenance of the copse was also discussed. Although Councillors thought it to be a good idea, they were uncomfortable to commit paying maintenance for 100 years. WALC had suggested a commitment should only be made for a 5 year maximum term and reviewed after that time. As we were now unsure if the project would continue, due to the purchase of the yew trees being unlawful, no decision was made regarding the long term maintenance agreement. Concern was also raised regarding access to the proposed copse site.

7.5 Members had already received an outline proposal from Val Procter regarding the siting of benches for a dementia walk around Hilmarton. It was agreed to seek permission from WC to site one on the grass verge at the entrance to Poynder Place and another on the grassed area close to the entrance of the new houses in Poynder Place. We are currently awaiting a response from Matt Perrot at WC. The cost of installation for the benches would be approximately £300.

7.6 The development of a wild flower area along the Compton Road was discussed and the work involved in creating such an area. The Clerk had sought advice from a local farmer and a gentleman who works with a Community Group advising on how best to establish wild flower areas. The preparation of the ground, planting and work required in the early stages of development are estimated to be around £1200. The proposal also includes the suggestion of placing planters next to the new benches, which will be under planted with spring bulbs and sown with wild flowers seeds. The proposal is to apply to Calne Area Board for a grant of £1500 to support both the above projects. The walk, the wild flower area and planters.

The Clerk has already applied for the required license from WC for planting wild flower seeds on their land.

**Item 8 - Planning**

8.1Updates on planning applications had previously been circulated.
8.2 Planning Application Number 18/06929/FUL Retrospective application for Gypsy traveller pitch and associated works including: mobile home, touring caravan, conversion of stable to dayroom and
drainage (resubmission of 17/09303/FUL at Brewers Pit Hilmarton
A draft letter had previously been circulated to members as a response to the consultation request. This letter was discussed and approved with a few amendments which came up during the conversation.

A very strong objection will logged with Wiltshire Council Planning Department.

**Item 9 – Exchange of Information**
9.1 Cllr Files reported that the street light in Church Road outside of number 31 was not working, he has reported it to WC and it should be fixed shortly.

9.2 Cllr Hays reported the bench on the Green at Goatacre was looking very tired and perhaps needed some attention. It was agreed we need to establish whom the bench belonged to before any action can be taken.

9.3 Cllr Hays also asked where the benches for the dementia walk had come from and who had suggested the wild flower area in Hilmarton, as she felt residents of Goatacre may question why they were not having the same considerations. It was explained that both proposals had been suggested by a resident of Hilmarton, she had worked with various groups and charities to source the supply of the benches for the walk free of charge, a proposal for a wild flower area had been put forward for the Parish Council to consider. Similar proposals can certainly be considered for Goatacre, but the initial proposal/suggestion has to come from someone prepared to follow the project through and identify areas for consideration.

**Item 10 – Date of the Next Meeting**
10.1 The next meeting of Hilmarton Parish Council is scheduled for 5th December 2018.

**Item 11 - Close of the Meeting**

11.1 The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Signed ……………………………………………. Date …………………………………..

Chairman