MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HANKELOW PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN HANKELOW METHODIST CHAPEL SCHOOLROOM, HANKELOW ON 2 JULY 2012

PRESENT:	Councillor G Fo	ster	Chairman
	Councillors G Cope, I Jones and A Lee		
IN ATTENDANCE:	Val Morrey Local residents	Chairman of Ha	ankelow Amenities Group
APOLOGIES:	Councillor C Ainley		

[It was noted that Borough Councillor R A Bailey was unable to attend on this occasion.]

13 CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

The Chairman thanked the former Clerk, Ann Jones, for her contribution to the work of the Parish Council over the previous 5-years, following which she was presented with a planter of flowers on behalf of the Parish Council.

Carol Jones, who had been appointed Clerk with effect from 1 July 2012, was welcomed to the meeting.

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[Note: At this point in the proceedings, the meeting was suspended to allow members of the public to address the Parish Council.]

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14 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members were invited to declare any personal or prejudicial interest which they had in any item of business on the agenda, the nature of that interest, and, if necessary, to leave the meeting prior to the discussion of that item.

No declarations were made.

15 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 14 May 2012 be approved as a correct record.

16 MATTERS ARISING

16.1 Hankelow Green

Councillor Cope reported on correspondence with Hibberts LLP in respect of registration of Hankelow Green. Mr Young (solicitor) had requested further information and the Clerk was asked to follow this up.

16.2 Bench at Park View

Councillor I Jones¹ had researched via the Internet, suppliers of wooden benches. He tabled information and photographs for Members' consideration. The preference was for a hardwood bench which would be more resilient in the longer-term than a softwood bench.

¹ After closure of the meeting, Councillor I Jones undertook to purchase the bench, following which he would be reimbursed with a Parish Council cheque.

There were two options: (1) Oak bench 5 ft long @ £399 (plus vat); or (2) Oak bench 6ft long @ £499 (plus vat).

RESOLVED: That arrangements be made for the provision of a 5ft Oak bench at a cost of £399 plus vat.

16.3 Cheshire Community Action's Community Spirit Competition

It was reported that the judges in the Community Spirit Competition would be visiting the village on Thursday, 12 July at 2.00 pm, (assembly in the Methodist Chapel). It was important for parish councillors and representatives of local organisations to be in attendance. The judges were keen to hear from local residents about village activities which contributed to the community cohesion in Hankelow.

The Clerk undertook to prepare a post for the website and a poster for the notice-board.

16.4 Speed Limit

There was no further information to report on this item. A decision from the Cheshire East Council Strategic Director was awaited.

17 PROGRESS REPORTS

17.1 Police Cluster Meeting

There were no matters to report.

17.2 Burial Board Meeting

The Chairman had not attended a meeting since that reported on 14 May 2012. The memorial for those whose remains had previously been placed in unmarked graves (Minute No. 6(c) - 14 May 2012) was now in place.

18 OUTSTANDING MATTERS

18.1 South Cheshire Way

It was reported that the bridge had been built, new gates had been installed and the problem of overgrown vegetation on the footway had been resolved.

18.2 Aggressive Dog – Hall Lane

This matter had been resolved.

18.2 Reinstatement of Permissive Footpath to Audlem

It was recalled that one of the aims of the Parish Plan was a safe footpath between Hankelow and Audlem. Currently, there was no continuous, safe walking route between the two villages, following the large-scale development at Corbrook Court Care Home. Prior to this there had been a permissive footpath through the grounds of Corbrook Court but this had ceased during the development of the site. The walking route to Audlem was now via the tarmaced footway up to the boundary of Corbrook Court, where it terminated on a blind bend for approximately 500 metres. The footway then re-commenced on the opposite side of the road leading into Audlem.

Councillor A Lee (as Chairman of the Parish Plan Steering Group) had written to the owner of the Care Home to alert him to the survey results in the Parish Plan which indicated that residents wished the permissive path to be reinstated.

The Clerk was asked to write to the Head Office of Morris Care. It was agreed that, initially, a draft letter be prepared by the Clerk for circulation to parish councillors, to ensure that all relevant information was included.

RESOLVED: (a) That the Clerk prepare a draft letter for circulation to Members, outlining the Parish Council's request for the reinstatement of the permissive path between Hankelow and Audlem; and

(b) That, subject to the contents being satisfactory, the Clerk issue the letter to the Head Office of Morris Care.

19 FINANCIAL MATTERS

19.1 Authorisation of Payments

RESOLVED: That the following payment be authorised:

£325.26 Mrs Ann Jones – salary payment for the period to 30 June 2012.

19.2 Statement of Accounts

The Parish Council received a statement of accounts showing the financial position at 2 July 2012. A balance of £4,781.52 was noted.

20 SHARED ITEMS

Parish Councillors were invited to share information or request the inclusion of items on the next agenda. No agenda items were requested.

.....Chairman