**Minutes of Hathern Parish Council meeting held on Monday 16th January, 2023 at Hathern**

**Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.**

**Present**: Councillors Dann, Bennett and Farmer, Mrs. Spencer – clerk, Borough Councillor K. Harris.

 Sergeant C. Wharton and 4 members of the public.

**Apologies:**

 These were received from Councillors Neville, Murdoch, Clayton, Boyes for medical

 reasons and this was approved, County Councillor B. Newton, Borough Councillor

 E. Ward and Mr. Yates.

**Police Matters:**

 Sergeant Wharton is new to the Beat and he introduced himself giving us a background

 to his career in the Police Force. He reported that thee had been 2 burglaries in the

 village. A theft of a catalytic converter was avoided as the thieves were disturbed.

 The problem of parking on the pavements was raised especially on the A6 opposite

 The Anchor, he is going to get his P.C.S.O’s to monitor this area.

**Public Participation:**

 A resident spoke about parking on the pavements and this was picked up by the police.

**Declarations of Interest:**

 None were declared.

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

**Matters arising from the Minutes:**

 ***Highway Issues***:

 *Overgrown footpath near Hathern Turn*:

 The clerk to chase this up as it has been reported twice and no action has been taken.

 *Litter bin at A6 Bus stop – Narrow Lane*:

 Councillor Clayton has got permission to remove the bin from CBC. It was agreed that

 we remove the bin and put it in storage. We will then monitor the other bins in the

 area and then decide whether to put the bin back in the same location or re-site it.

 We have to keep CBC informed of a location when agreed. We are to ask C. Betts

 to remove the bin. We have got permission to place a bin on Daisy Bank so that could

 be a possible location.

**Asset Maintenance/Improvements**:

 ***Green Spaces Maintenance***:

 *Meadows and Pasture Lane verges:*

 M. & BG Ltd have not fulfilled the contract and a site meeting is to be arranged

 a.s.a.p. We have to formally set in place a dispute to resolve this matter.

 We are to withhold payment of their invoice until this matter is settled. We are

 to write to them and arrange a meeting within 7 days. Pasture Lane verges have

 only been cut back to the junction with Tunnel Lane and the Cemetery Wildflower

 area has been cut down but not raked. This is not the first time we have had these

 problems.

 *Wildlife Area – signage:*

 The sign notifying of a deep pond on the wildlife area has now been installed.

**Planning Development**

 ***Adoption Process – Daisy Bank:***

 This is now very close to being finalised. Our solicitors are happy with the draft and

 have gone back to William Davis for clarification. William Davis agreed just before

 Christmas to ask LCC Forestry Department to replace the 30+ dead trees at a cost

 of £8,000. The contractors from LCC will commence this work on the 26th January

 and it should take approximately 2/3 days.

 ***Solar Farm/Battery storage – Oakley Grange/Long Whatton***;

 A zoom meeting has been arranged with Endurance Energy on 19th January to

 discuss Community Funding, i.e. how it will work, necessary criteria etc. In the

 first instance the Parish Council will most likely have to be involved in the process.

 We understand a planning application will be submitted for the proposed battery

 storage unit to CBC.

**Community Woodland:**

 The woodland has been fully planted apart from some fruit trees which we are

 donating. 1,700 trees were planted by volunteers and the rest were planted

 contractors organised through CBC. Just before Christmas we had some bad weather

 and many of the trees planted by the contractors were knocked over as they

 had not been staked correctly. The parish council would like to thank the volunteers

 that went back on to site and re-staked many of these trees. Jerry Trill from

 CBC reported at a recent site meeting that the contractors will be back on site very

 soon to rectify this problem and re-plant any uprooted trees. We are going to

 donate approximately 40 fruit trees from the Wildlife Group and CBC have given us

 permission to plant the trees in the woodland.

**Financial Matters**:

 ***On-line Banking:***

 This has now been set up with Barclays and we have four signatories on the account.

 The Chairman to speak to Councillor Clayton about moving over to online banking.

 ***Allotment rent review***:

 This was discussed at our recent F. & GP meeting and it was proposed that we

 increase the rents by 5%. After a short discussion it was agreed that the rents would

 increase by this amount for 2023.

**Correspondence:**

 An application to add an inscription to an existing stone was approved.

**Planning Matters**:

 There is a meeting on 18th January with CBC to discuss issues regarding the

 Garendon Park Development.

**Accounts for payment:**

 The following invoices were approved and cheques drawn up;

 C. Betts Repairing swing chains and 90.00

 damaged bollard.

 Sign Shop Pond sign 68.40

 R. Dann Clerks printer ink 21.95

 Chris Betts 3 months asset work 529.00

 Community Heartbeat New battery – defibrillator 318.00

 Hathern Library Delivering Hathern Herald 300.00

 M. & BG Contract work 797.51

 Cheque withheld as per earlier minutes.

**Highways & Footpaths;**

 A large pothole going the width of the Leys footpath is to be reported to LCC.

 The clerk has asked for a quote for a new Cemetery sign.

 We are to get a quote for replacing the damaged small bollards at the top of

 Wide Street.

 The state of Pear Tree Lane due to machinery using it is not in a fit state for

 pedestrians to use. The Chairman is to raise this issue with CBC at the meeting

 on 18th January.

 The problem of dog mess was raised once again. We may consider putting an

 item about this on our Facebook page.

 Meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.