

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HADDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2014 at 7.30pm at the Arkenstall Village Centre, Station Road, Haddenham, Cambs.**

**Attendance:** Cllrs Bush, Goddard, Haigh, Hugo, Lyon (Chairman), Norman, Page, Parr, Smith, Tindall, G Wilson and P Wilson

1. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** having been circulated to all councillors were taken as read. Cllr Tindall proposed and Cllr Haigh seconded that the minutes should be signed as a true record of the meeting subject to the following amendment: **Item 18 para 7** should read Chewells **Close** not Lane. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **MATTERS ARISING (For Information Only)**

a. **Trees at Station Road:** (See Minutes FC 06/2014 Item 9G): The Highways Officer had advised that trees should be a minimum height of 15 metres if they overhang a carriageway but even if they were found to be lower than this the County Council would only consider enforcing trimming if they were posing a danger to passing traffic and sweeping straw off onto the road does not constitute a danger. They would not pursue enforcement for trimming, as this would be very costly. If the trees were unstable or dropping branches on the road then it would be a different situation but as things stand Highways would not be prepared to carry out trimming themselves either. This information had been reported back to the resident in Station Road.

b. **Haddenham War Memorial:** (See Minutes FC 06/2014 Item 18 para 9) The Clerk had received a donation of £25 from Hibbitt & Sons as compensation for the damage caused to the plants and grass and this will be passed on to the Arkenstall Centre at the request of Mr & Mrs Chapman.

3. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from County Cllr Hunt.

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr James Morris wished to thank the Parish Council, on behalf of the British Legion and the people of Haddenham, for having the war memorial cleaned.

6. **CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR TO FILL VACANT SEAT**

Cllr Lyon advised that three applications had been received plus one late application received on 5<sup>th</sup> July after the specified deadline of 5pm on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July. Cllr Parr proposed and Cllr Smith seconded that the late candidate should be allowed to stand making a total of four candidates. Motion carried unanimously.

The four candidates, Mr Toby Bush, Mr Stephen Cheetham, Mr Richard Marsden and Mr James Morris were in attendance and Cllr Lyon invited each one to introduce themselves and answer any questions the Council might have. He then asked them to leave the room whilst a secret ballot was carried out.

The outcome of the first ballot was a tie of 6 votes each for Mr Bush and Mr Cheetham, thereby eliminating Mr Marsden and Mr Morris.

It was agreed a second ballot should be held between Mr Bush and Mr Cheetham and the result was again a tie of 6 votes each and the Chairman then used his casting vote to elect Mr Cheetham.

The candidates were informed of the result and all thanked for their interest. The three unsuccessful candidates were advised that there will be a full council election in May 2015 and were all urged to stand again at that point.

Mr Cheetham then signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the Council at the table for the remainder of the meeting.

