

MINUTES of the Annual Parish Meeting of Exton & Horn Parish Council
held 12th May 2015

Present: D Palmer (Chairman), M Bell C Hagger, S Linsell T Connolly, H Campden, P Taylor, D Healy J Pitts.

Apologies: None

In attendance: Jo Downton - Clerk.

Declaration of Interests: None

Minutes: The minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on the 1st May 2014 were taken as read and signed as correct.

Parish Council Accounts for 2014/15: Unaudited copies of the informal accounts were circulated and the Clerk pointed out points of interest namely the small surplus for the year. Council was informed that some payments were still to be made for that previous year accounts. The Clerk informed council that as the Responsible Financial Officer she would put forward a financial report for council to consider either in June or July. Formal accounts will be put forward for formal adoption by council at the June meeting when they are in a format ready for the external auditor. Publication of dates for electors to see the official accounts, if they wish to, before the audit later in the summer have been posted.

Village Reports: the council received reports (copies of which are attached or available from the clerk in hard copy) from the following village organisations and including one from the chairman:

Exton & Greetham Primary school

The Parish Church

Exton Produce and Craft Show

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Web site

Village Hall

The Parish council expressed its sincere thanks to all the various hard working organisations which are a vital part of village life.

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Declaration of Acceptance of Office: All councilors present completed the appropriate form in the presence of the Clerk. Councilors were all presented with declaration of interest forms and were requested to return these to the Clerk within the next seven days. A warm welcome was offered to all new councilors at this their first meeting.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on the 1st May 2014 and 1st April 2015 were taken as read and signed as correct.

Election of the Chairman for the year ending May 2016: Mr Hagger proposed and Ms Linsell seconded that Mr D Palmer be elected. There being no other nominations Mr Palmer was elected.

Election of the Vice Chairman for the year ending May 2016: Mr Taylor proposed and Mr Bell seconded that Ms Linsell be elected. There being no other nominations Ms Linsell was elected.

Matters arising not dealt with in the main agenda: The Clerk reported that she had contacted Mr Wallace and informed him that council had no objection to him placing flower baskets on the war memorial railings.

The Clerk informed council that Ms Jarret had completed the internal audit and that additional work this year was required due to the new Transparency laws about to be introduced. The Clerk pointed out that this service was a valuable vital form of support for the council and the RFO and therefore recommended that this service was recognised by an increase from £20.00. to £25.00 in the form of a garden token. Proposal S Linsell Seconded C Hagger - approved.

Correspondence not requiring attention: Eon had been contacted by the Clerk after considerable efforts of the Chair concerning alternative cheaper forms of energy. It was agreed by the previous council that the Clerk and Chair could take the decision regarding this matter as it had to be dealt with before the 1st May. After a number of considerations it was felt that the council should remain with EON for the time being. It was also pointed out that energy bills appeared to have dropped in light of the recent purchase of LED lights.

Correspondence requiring action: The Clerk had received a letter from Mr and Mrs Whitworth voicing their concern about the overhang from the Village Pub wall into the

Oakham Road. They were concerned about obstruction of visibility for motorists at this particular troublesome junction. Council agreed that a letter to the pub asking for this issue to be considered should be sent.

Training was offered to new councilors and the council agreed to fund this – proposal Mr Hagger seconded Mr Bell. Councilors were to arrange suitable times for this in the coming months. The good councilor guide was recommended for new members.

Planning Applications: 5 Stamford Road Exton – Fell one spruce Tree – no objections. Land at The Avenue Exton - New Farm Buildings – A lengthy discussion took place in which this proposal was seriously objected to by the entire council. Firstly it was noted that again this proposal would potentially be another eyesore on the Avenue – a space which the PC feel is vital to protect. Secondly the issue of danger and additional traffic to the junction in question was raised and serious concerns voiced. Equally it was felt that the additional buildings were to be utilized potentially for storage from other locations thereby increasing heavy duty traffic at this important junction. It was also voiced how dangerous this location had become with the additional traffic since the previous building was erected. Moreover the previous winter council had been extremely concerned with the heavy use of traffic at this very junction churning up verges and mud being thrown across the roads concerned. The entire council totally opposed this application on the above grounds.

Items for the agenda of the next meeting of the Parish Council on the 3rd June 2015:
Provision of allotments.