**Hinton on the Green & Aston Somerville Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 06th July 2022 at 7.30pm in Aston Somerville Parish Hall**

**Present:**

Cllr R Giddy RG

Cllr W Luckhurst WL

Cllr S Harrison SH

**In attendance**

L. Gerber Clerk to the Council LG

43/22 **Apologies for Absence** – Apologies received from Cllrs Joscelyne, Davis, District Cllr Kearsey and County Cllr Eyre. These were accepted by the Meeting.

44/22 **Declarations of Interest** – None received.

45/22 **Requests for Dispensation** – None received.

46/22 **Co-Option** – No applications received.

47/22 **Minutes** – A proposal was made by SH and seconded by WL to accept the Minutes of the Meeting held on 04th May 2022. The Minutes were therefore duly signed.

**Public Question Time:**

No attendance.

48/22 **Progress Reports:**

Hinton Play Area – No report received.

Aston Somerville Play Area – No issues to report.

Lengthsman – Request for hedge trimming on Church Road – SH agreed to undertake this.

Police Report – No issues raised.

Footpaths – Some issues have been reported relating to a recent footpath diversion at Princes Farm, A/S. The matter has been reported to the Public Rights of Way Officer. The Clerk will pursue this issue.

Traveller Site – No report received.

Purchase of additional waste bin – (end of Church Road, near the entrance to the Churchyard). The bin has still not been installed. Clerk will continue to pursue this matter.

49/22 **County Councillor’s Report:** Appendix 1

50/22 **Correspondence for Information:**The Meeting considered the 20’s Plenty Campaign (a proposed motion to normalise 20mph within Worcestershire parishes). On consideration, it was agreed that the recent addition of the VAS sign is working well and that this initiative is more suited to an urban environment.

51/22 **Highways:** Bus shelter maintenance (Hinton) – to be discussed at the next Meeting (due to absence of Hinton Councillors).

52/22 **Finance:**

Payments –

Clerk £645.60

Lengthsman £272.50

Smart Cut Ltd £970.20

Mike Honour Windows Ltd £113.40

A/S Parish Hall £85.00

WDC (annual bin cleanse) £7.23

**£2093.93**

A proposal to accept the above payments was made by WL and seconded by SH.

Bank Balances – These were accepted.

53/22 **Planning:**

**Applications discussed between Meetings:**

22/01022/HP New House Farm, Cheltenham Road, Hinton – Lime render to existing building to make good the poor brickwork. No objections.

22/00673/HP 1 School Road, Aston Somerville – 2 storey side extension and single storey extension to rear. No objections.

22/00869/HP The Croft Broadway Road, Hinton Cross, Hinton – Proposed annex and loft conversion. No objection.

**Approvals:**

22/00704/HP 1 Bank Cottages, Station Road, Hinton – proposed drive access.

5 Church Road, Aston Somerville – proposed first floor extension, dormer bungalow, pitched roof to replace flat roof over garage, altered porch and single storey rear extension to garage. Gravel driveway to front lawn.

22/00673/HP 1 School Road, Aston Somerville – 2 storey side extension and single storey extension to rear.

54/22 **To note/agree the following documents:**

Risk Register – agreed to update (relating to playground inspection). Clerk to prepare a monthly checklist.

Code of Conduct – New Code accepted by all councillors present.

Assets Register – Accepted, no further changes.

Transparency Code – Accepted.

Standing Orders – Accepted, no further changes.

Financial Regs – Accepted, no further changes.

55/22 **Purchase of Defibrillator (Hinton):**

To be discussed at the next meeting (due absence of Hinton Councillors).

56/22 **Station Road, Hinton:** Station Road, Hinton – change of road name: Cllr Liz Davis has agreed to carry out a consultation on name change to all properties on Station Road. The findings will then be presented to Wychavon District Council.

57/22 **Clerk’s Salary:** A proposal was made by SH to raise the Clerk’s salary by one scale. This was seconded by WL and agreed by all.

58/22 **Councillors Reports and Items for future Agenda:**

59/22 **Date of Next Meeting**- The next Meeting and this will take place on 07th September 2022 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 8.00.

**Appendix 1**

**Funding for community projects** WORCESTERSHIRE County Council hosted 28th June, ahead of Crowdfund Worcestershire launching its largest round of funding an event for potential project creators and funders. The County Council, along with Malvern Hills and Wychavon district councils, has partnered with crowdfunding platform Spacehive to create Crowdfund Worcestershire which gives organisations who have ideas to improve their community, the opportunity to gain much-needed funding. So far, Worcestershire County Council has backed 24 successful projects on Spacehive with £97,000. These community groups raised an additional £258,000 from thousands of backers across the county. The County Council has allocated a dedicated fund of £92,000 to encourage local groups to put forward their ideas, with pledges of up to £10,000 available per project. **The deadline to submit an idea for the next round of funding is 28 September.**

Anyone is welcome to crowdfund on Spacehive, but to pitch for additional funding from the county council, projects should fit one or more of the following themes:

Food and fuel poverty; Social isolation and befriending; Supporting people into employment; Community capacity building e.g. recruiting volunteers, start-up costs for groups, pilot activities etc; Healthy Communities – activities to improve the health and wellbeing of the local community

**Commonwealth Games 22nd July 2022**  In the build-up to Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, the Queens Baton Relay (QBR), like the Olympic Torch Relay, will be passing through Wychavon on Friday 22nd July. It will pass through both Broadway and Pershore, on Friday 22nd July.

**Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) -** The County’s recent ambitious bid to the UK Government for an £86m investment into the network in Worcestershire was not funded others were funded to the tune of £87.9m but Worcestershire’s plan was awarded £0. Our network urgently requires such investment. Diamond Buses, First Bus and Johnsons etc all are finding it challenging running bus services. The situation is bleak, and with funding to offset the impact of COVID-19 coming to an end the network is at risk of reverting to a reliance on the commercial viability of routes to ensure their survival unless alternative funding can be located.

The Department for Transport made it clear they want to see Enhanced Partnerships (EP) as defined in the Bus Services Act 2017 as a key feature within how bus services are managed across England. Outside of London and other metropolitan mayoral authorities, franchising remains an option and that has led to the vibrant Transport for West Midlands brand which benefits from significantly higher demand for bus travel with over 248m passengers in the 2019/20 period. COVID-19 may have abated but it still Impacts passenger confidence to travel on buses remains, with just 50% of concessionary pass holders using the buses compared to pre-pandemic levels. The County Council continues to fully review the network and report again to the Department for Transport by 1 July, work with current operators, explore the result of the Bromsgrove Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) trial to ascertain if this is a viable model for rolling out across Worcestershire, and establish an Enhanced Partnership with our operators but the tools at the County Council’s disposal are limited as demand is either low or not in a form to fit how bus services traditionally work. I have asked to sit on a **Bus Travel Task Force for Worcestershire** which willtravel around the county, hosted by each constituency Member of Parliament or a substitute, to work closely with all the key partners to hear about the challenges and opportunities and to help us to forge new solutions and ideas for both my division and further afield. Again, I am committed to doing all I can to try and find new solutions for my division.

**A46 -** A six-mile stretch of the road between Evesham and Beckford has seen nine deaths and almost 50 accidents in the last five years. Local villages and I have lobbied National Highways for the section from Hinton Cross to the Teddington roundabout, to be improved e.g. the addition of speed indicator signs, and improved lining. In addition, on June 14 a 20-year vision to “future-proof” the busy A46, cut congestion and reduce the number of serious accidents, was revealed by the Government transport body Midlands Connect. Congestion in Evesham has previously been highlighted by Midland Connect as a major issue that was having a “detrimental impact” on the town and acting as a “hindrance to growth.” Improvements will be made to ease congestion around the A46/B4035 roundabout in Evesham as part of a multi-million-pound bid in ‘levelling up’ money to the government by Wychavon District Council. Midlands Connect said the improvements to the 155-mile route between Gloucestershire and Lincolnshire would boost the economy by more than £7 billion over the next 60 years. As many as 600,000 new residents, 150,000 new jobs and 250,000 new homes are expected along the route by 2041.

**The new bridge linking Hampton to Evesham town centre** project, to boost walking and cycling, is moving forward. The planning application to build the new bridge over the River Avon has been submitted and papers are now published on the council's planning web page.

**Local Aston Somerville**

**Posts** – those near the houses are on private land, those opposite are on Highway land. The issue ongoing.

**Hinton on The Green:** Traveller site cleared still no sharing of info re the costs of doing this and how the CCTV suggestion/work is progressing.