

## UNAPPROVED DRAFT

### HORMEAD ANNUAL MEETING of the PARISH

#### Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Thursday 11 May 2017 at 8pm in the Meads Pavilion

**PRESENT:** 6 members of the public

In attendance: Colin Marks, Clerk to the Parish Council

**17/APM/1**

**Welcome and opening comments**

Cllr Jayne Denham, Chairman of the Parish Council and being present, chaired the meeting. She welcomed everyone, and in opening, she said:

This meeting fulfils a statutory requirement for all parishes and town councils and as such there are some procedures to be followed.

The agenda aims to give parishioners a voice on any topic to do with or affecting the Parish during the last year or indeed looking forward to the future. Anyone and hopefully everyone present who is a parishioner but not necessarily an elector, will be able to ask a question or merely make a statement of concern or a viewpoint that they would like to air.

Understandably only parishioners are allowed to speak and any disruptive behaviour may lead to adjournment of the meeting.

I will endeavour to answer all questions but will pass you to one of my colleagues when needed. I will take one request at a time.

Thank you for listening.

**17/APM/2**

**Apologies for absence**

None

**17/APM/3**

**To approve and sign the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 19 May 2016.**

Copies of the Minutes of the 2016 Annual Parish Meeting were available and following a vote, **the Minutes were unanimously approved as an accurate and true record.** They were signed by the Chairman.

**17/APM/4**

**To receive a personal review of the year 2016-2017 from Cllr Jayne Denham, Chairman of the Parish Council**

*Chairman's disclaimer: The following remarks are my own views and opinions and do not necessarily represent those of the Parish Council.*

I would like to start with a big thank you to all my fellow Parish Councillors who have supported me in my fourth year as Chairman.

We have for the past year had a full complement of Councillors. As a council, we have been busy this past year and have tried to address the points raised by residents and to look after the villages.

In June 2016, we held an event to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, this event was well attended and a great time was had by all. The Braughing Choir came and sang for us and this included a "Happy Birthday" to the Queen and the National anthem. We were also joined by the local popular jazz band "Ad Lib" and there was lots of dancing late in to the evening. To celebrate this national milestone, we presented both Hormead School and Leapfrogs with 90<sup>th</sup> birthday coins, the left-over coins were given to local children who do not attend the local schools.

I now have a list of "thank you's": -

To Councillor Richard White for his continued maintenance of the repairs on the Meads, and pavilion, also to his wife Yvonne for her support at events and in particular for the leaflet drop for the Neighbourhood Referendum. Councillor Teresa Marks for her able management of getting grants to help with the play area. Councillor Robert Denham

## UNAPPROVED DRAFT

received an email of special thanks from Buntingford Neighbourhood Plan team for all his hard work over the last few years.

I myself have been honoured to represent the council on several occasions over the last year, I always feel especially proud and honoured to lay the wreath at War Memorial on behalf of the Council in November. I was asked by the Rev Kate Peacock to read at the St Nicholas church carol service on behalf of the council in December, which I felt privileged to do.

Special thanks to our volunteer and his stand-in who continue to empty the dog waste bin that the county council team cannot get to. On behalf of the council and the "dog walking community" we are extremely grateful.

And last but not least my I want to thank our Clerk, Colin Marks for his hard work and conscientious attitude, we are lucky to have him and without him much of the work would not be carried out. Colin as always continues to go above and beyond his duties as our very able Clerk.

I am pleased to say that before my fourth year ends we have a last found a cleaner for the pavilion my "duties" as cleaner are now done.

My hope for the future is that the Council will work together for the good of the parish and parishioners in the coming years.

*Cllr Jayne Denham, Chairman of Hormead Parish Council*

17/APM/5

### **To receive reports from Parish group leaders and Hertfordshire Police**

#### **Village Hall Report for 2017 Parish AGM given by Matthew Reeves-Hairs**

As you know the village hall has now been open for just over one-and-a-half years since it was rebuilt.

The committee over the last year have worked very hard since then to ensure the hall can provide what the community wants, most of the request were around providing fitness type classes.

We have been very lucky to win the business of Bounce Fit, who now run 6 x 1 hour classes a week., and from this group of people we have had 5 private bookings from outside the village. We also have engaged with, Active fit through East Herts council for a Zumba class once a week.

Other groups we were able to welcome back were The Garden Club and the over 60's and we would love to engage with other groups, and the cricket club are looking to use the hall for events.

Over the last year, we have also been able to address some of the teething problems I reported at the last Parish AGM, the crossover has been completed, the driveway has been regraded and a problem with the lights in the hall blowing the led drivers due to overheating has now been resolved.

Parking was still a problem, and Highways are now going to be using the S106 money, which was allocated as part of the build to install Double yellow lines, outside the hall.

Despite these I am happy to report that at COP Mar 2017 we still had over £10k in the bank.

This has been helped by the fantastic work done by my fellow committee members bringing in a gross income of £5,484 over the last 12 months, compared to pre-build use income of between £2-3K.

Sheila has been able to secure some addition grant funding, not part of the previous figures, for work on the upstairs meeting room. Development on the meeting room will continue, but it is intended that only grant funding will be used.

We continue to receive great feedback from the groups and private people that hire the hall, and on a personal note, I have received great comments from member of the community for the work we do.

Over the coming year, we hope to be able to start running our own events again, for

**UNAPPROVED DRAFT**

example a race night sometime in September.  
*Matthew Reeves-Hairs, Chairman, Hornead Village Hall Management Committee*

**Police:** No report presented.

**17/APM/6 Parish Council's Financial Report for the year ending 31 March 2017**

*Report given by the Clerk*

The Clerk reported that, despite some challenges, the Council had achieved a better result than had been anticipated. Total income for the year was up £,4640 to £28,106. This included £2,420 insurance payment for flood damage to the pavilion, and an unprecedented income of £907 from the two events held during the year. Meads hires had also generated £440 more income than anticipated. This was against a total expenditure of £25,221, which included £2,670 initial costs for the flood damage. The year started with a bank balance of £4,056 with a budgeted projection of £4,110 at the year end. In fact, the year ended with a bank balance of £6,941 which, when unrepresented cheques are taken into account, gives a cashbook balance of £5,836 available to the Council. A VAT reclaim for of £1,105 yet to be received.

A detailed breakdown of the monthly transactions is included in the Minutes of each Parish Council Meeting, which may be viewed on the PC's website. The Annual Return has been approved by the Parish Council and will be submitted to the external auditor in June. Audit finances will be available for inspection upon request under the exercise of public rights from 23 June to 3 August and the approved audit, due by 30 September, will be displayed on the notice boards and on the website.

*Colin Marks, Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer, Hornead Parish Council*

**17/APM/7 Open Forum – open session to receive questions and motions**

- A parishioner asked whether there was any police report that gave an indication of comparative reported crime levels in the parish. The Clerk said that the police had not submitted a report for this meeting, but they were invited to every Parish Council meeting and frequently attended to presented reports. The reports were always included in the Minutes of those Council meetings. There followed a discussion on general policing topics that had been raised during the past year.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and invited all to stay for coffee and biscuits. The meeting was closed at 8.25 pm.

**Signed**.....**Dated**.....