

HAMPSTHWAITE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on Monday 14 May 2012 at 7pm.
In the Village Room.

1. Election of Chairman. D. Collett, proposed by G. Howard, seconded by J. McPartlan. D. Collett agreed to continue in office for a further year.
2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 9 May 2011 having been circulated were approved as a true record of that meeting. The Chairman duly signed the minutes.
3. Chairman's report. The Chairman firstly expressed his thanks to all his fellow Councillors who had served during the past year. He considered that we have a very active, committed and conscientious Council and was therefore especially sorry that 2 Councillors had decided not to stand for re-election Messrs Atkinson and Bastow. Bill Atkinson had served on the Council for 8 years taking a particular interest in the village footpaths and was always diligent in seeking to keep our lovely village spruce and tidy. He had also been the Council's representative on the Village Society. Dennis Bastow although serving for a shorter period of 4 years had made an important contribution during his time in office being out Y.L.C.A and Two Ridings Community Fund representative as well as taking an active role in many practical issues. We shall sorely miss their valuable contributions.
It is regrettable that despite publicity in the Spring Parish Newsletter, no nominations were received to serve on the Parish Council. With the Council now reduced to 4 and a quorum being 3 it is imperative we strengthen the Council by co-option as quickly as possible if we are to be an effective body in the forthcoming year.
Turning to the major events of the past year, the Chairman remarked on the continuing improvements to the Feast Field with the upgrading of the portakabins, improved access to the children's playground and ongoing maintenance. Our thanks go especially to Geoff Howard for leading all of this work and playing a very significant practical role.
Intensive housing development adjacent to Brookfield Estate remains a real threat and a survey of residents in Autumn 2011 reinforced the overwhelming view of residents that they oppose any development on this site.
It is disappointing to note that despite much effort and attention little progress can be recorded in seeking a 20mph speed limit through the village, or improving Broadband. We are however hopeful of some progress on both fronts in the next few months.
The community life of the village remains one of its attractions and this year has seen the introduction of "Screen Hampsthwaite" the showing of films in the Memorial Hall. The Feast Committee continue their very active and much appreciated role in our community and we look forward to the special events planned around the Diamond Jubilee weekend.
The Council has dealt with the usual number of planning applications, has sought to improve the state of the village roads and solve drainage problems as well as concerns over dog fouling, not always with much success.
Finally I would encourage all residents to read the Council minutes on the website or the Notice boards, to attend Council meetings when possible and to read and respond to our Newsletters.

Thanks also to all the grant funders for the work associated with the Feast Field improvements including Harrogate Borough Council ,North Yorkshire County Council , WREN, Two Ridings Community Fund, all the resident volunteers, H.A.C.S and all involved with the project.

Thanks once again for electing me as Chairman and I will do my best to serve the Village in this capacity

- 4 . Annual Accounts, having been previously circulated were approved , proposed by G. Howard and seconded by J. Carney.
5. Election of Officers
Vice chairman. G. Howard proposed by D. Collett seconded by J.Carney
Y.L.C.A. None. Two Ridings Community Fund D.Bastow
Safer Neighbourhood Group. J. McPartlan
Footpath Representative. J. Carney
Village Society. G.Howard
6. Parishioners observations. Thanked Margaret Dowson for her support.
7. Date for next meeting tba. Meeting closed at 7.15pm.

Signed:

Dated: