South Mimms Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Thursday 1st November 2012 at South Mimms Village Hall

Present:	Councillor Mark Edwards	Chairman
	Councillors Kenneth Swayne, Paula Goodenough and Yvonne Harverson	
	Mrs Helen Rook	Clerk
	12 members of the public	

149/12 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Councillor Paul Binstead.

150/12 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6TH SEPTEMBER 2012

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 4th October 2012 were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

151/12 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were no declarations of members' interests.

152/12 SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

A Schedule of accounts as follows (attached) were **RECEIVED** and **CONFIRMED:-**

1st November 2012 - Cheques 123-124 - £1,703.02

153/12 BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 2013/14

Councillors reviewed current spend for 2012/13 and NOTED that approximately £3,000 would be spent from reserves on projects undertaken during the year. Consideration was given to future spending and the options available - increase income, reduce expenditure or wind down the small reserves set aside for future projects. Councillors considered whether they could justify an increase in the Precept to part fund the running costs of the Village Hall and a 10% increase in the precept was suggested. Councillors agreed to review again at the January 2013 meeting.

154/12 MEETING DATES FOR 2013

A schedule of proposed meeting dates had been circulated to Councillors and the dates were approved as per Appendix 1.

155/12 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no new planning applications to consider.
The following planning applications were previously considered by the Parish Council and decisions reached by Hertsmere Borough Council

TP/12/1847 – Dancers Hill Farmhouse, Dancers Lane, EN5 4RX. Demolition of greenhouse, sheds and carport and erection of single storey pool building. Permission Granted.

Appeal – New Grange, Blanche Lane, South Mimms. Animal shelter. Appeal decision not yet made.

156/12 HIGHWAYS

New Highways Service – A new highways service has been announced by Hertfordshire Highways which will be delivered by the contractor, Ringway, who will now be directly responsible for the delivery of routine maintenance services. The Parish Council has received new contact details and the outstanding issues (overhanging trees in Gowar Field and missing sign in St Albans Road lay-by) have been reported to the new contractor.

M25 – SBBJV have advised that Footpath 31 is open along its original route (from St Albans Road across the bund, ending at the edge of the motorway). Hertsmere Borough Council are making the application to divert the footpath with Herts County Council and further information is awaited from Hertsmere.

157/12 HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY

There was a good turn-out at the property marking event held in the Village Hall on Saturday 20th October by PC Kourtoubelides. Neighbourhood watch representatives were also present and residents expressed an interest. It is hoped that neighbourhood watch representatives will attend the Annual Parish Meeting in March to assist in getting a local operation up and running. Councillor Goodenough has purchased SmartWater – the property marking material for small items and gave a demonstration. Another property marking event is proposed in the Spring.
PC Leach has carried out several speed surveys in Blanche Lane and more are planned in the near future to get a full picture.
There has been a recent daytime burglary in Brookside and residents were asked to be vigilant.

The next CSP meeting will be on Tuesday 11th December at 7pm at the Wyllyotts Centre and the meeting is open to all residents.

Councillor Edwards wished it to be noted that the South Mimms Protection Society has a limited amount of funds.

158/12 COMMUNITY SOCIAL EVENTS

Councillor Harverson confirmed the winter outing on 9th December is now fully booked.
The Locality Budget Grant Evaluation Form for the summer outing has been completed and returned to Herfordshire County Council.

159/12 WARD INITIATIVE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

The application to Hertsmere Borough Council for £1,000 grant to purchase a PA System has been successful and Councillor Edwards thanked Councillor Wayne for supporting the application. The PA System has been ordered and it is hoped will be delivered in time for Remembrance Day.

160/12 SOUTH MIMMS VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Councillor Edwards was unable to attend the previous meeting of SMVHMC however, Councillor Wayne reported that although the 3 additional parking spaces at the village hall had been approved by Hertsmere Borough Council, Hertsmere have advised there are no funds available at this time to carry out the work.

161/12 'VILLAGE DIARY'

A list of village events is now being printed in the Parish Newsletter and all local organisations are requested to provide details of upcoming and future events to southmimmspc@btinternet.com . It is hoped that this will avoid date clashes and events will be better supported.

162/12 BROOKSIDE MEADOW RESTORATION PROJECT

Countryside Management Services have advised that the restoration works on Brookside Meadow were started in October but due to the wet weather have had to be put on hold until the Spring. If works continued there would be a risk that the ground would become damaged resulting in the site looking unsightly all winter and the seeds would struggle to germinate and probably rot in such wet conditions. Further updates will be provided when the project is back on track in the Spring.

163/12 REMEMBRANCE DAY

All arrangements are now confirmed. Councillors **RESOLVED** to fund an additional wreath on behalf of the village for ex-servicemen if sufficient donations are not made to the collection at the White Hart.

164/12 PUBLIC SESSION

Councillor Wayne is still chasing Hertsmere BC regarding the football goal nets on the Glebeland.

The public phone box in Blanche Lane has again been reported to BT and photos of the damage have also been sent.

165/12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of the Council is Thursday 10th January 2013 at 7.30pm in the Back Room at South Mimms Village Hall

188/12 CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

Chairman ……..…….

Date …….