*Cllr Warnock raised the issues surrounding the funding of the Hinton Martell Fountain at the February Full Parish Council Meeting. It was recommended that an agenda item is put on the March agenda where you could talk about and bring the group up to speed on the fountain.* ***It was subsequently deferred to the******April 16th meeting.***

***Subsequently, an e mail was received from the Clerk with suggested area that could perhaps be covered.***

***Clerks Questions in BLUE***

***Response in GREEN***

1. ***Fountain status*** 
   1. *Its construction history including initial construction and subsequent rebuilds and renovations. Sue has this information as per draft brochure, supplied. A further heritage Statement may be necessary.*

*This can be done if it is needed in conjunction with the architect.*

* 1. *Its ownership - Land Registry entry date when the title changed to the VoAPC? - Stuart has copy of LR Document TITLE NO - DT 351585 – Dated 31st May 2007- The HM Fountain is owned by VOAPC and is registered on the VOAPC Asset Register.*
  2. *Its conservatory status - is it listed? Is it a recorded heritage item? Or similar? The fountain is neither listed, nor registered as a Heritage Item. Conversation many months ago – Conservation office suggested that keeping a fountain was good and they would like it to continue – they have no jurisdiction of style, materials etc. I have recently tried to follow this up but am still awaiting a return of my phone calls.*

*.*

* 1. *What is the Conservation Officer’s involvement?  Does he/she have any status in the discussion? There are no Grade Listing restrictions, nor Heritage restrictions, the advice is therefore Advisory and not Mandatory. This applies to the fountain, despite the Village of Hinton Martell being a Conservation Area.* *However, as the fountain is in a conservation area approval may be needed if it is not replaced.*

1. ***Working group*** 
   1. *who are its members and what is the current group’s remit? A open public meeting was called by Sue Warnock, as the sitting Parish Councillor in June 2023 – 29 villagers attended and a working group was proposed and it was agreed to explore the options available to repair, refurbish, rebuild the HM Fountain.*

*List all volunteer members, to explore the refurbishment/rebuild of Fountain- Sue has the details.*

* 1. *How was it constituted? Volunteers from the Open Public Meeting June 2023 to act and explore possibilities on behalf of Hinton Ward. All members of the working group are from Hinton Martell or Uppington. The group is set up as an advisory group to the Parish Council as the de facto owners of the fountain.*

1. ***State of Repair*** 
   1. *is it reparable? Verbally No (Discussion with Matt Thorne and Structural Engineer Autumn 2023) The written report has been promised many times I believe, but the latest is that it will be in our possession for the meeting on 16th April.*
   2. ***Or does it need replacement?*** *So Yes - likelihood of replacement is the best option to future proof the fountain.*
   3. ***Who provided the analysis/survey for this conclusion? If so, what works are needed? And how much is the estimate?*** *Awaiting written Structural Engineer report (as above) We have been waiting for this for some time. Once the Structural Engineer’s report is available, we have an architect who will look at drawings, and from there we can approach the various construction companies we have already spoken to for firm quotation.*
   4. ***If replacement needed*** *– is the structure still safe (health and safety risk) – to either work or drain down? Yes, to the best of our knowledge.*
   5. ***Have drawings been done for new?*** *Not yet Has it got to be like-for-like? Not necessarily, but advice from Conservation Officer was that they would like it to be. And this is the strong feeling of most villagers.*
   6. ***Has a specification been drawn up?*** *Roughly by potential suppliers* ***And how much is the estimate?*** *In the region of £30,000, but we will not know until we have the structural engineers report and the architect drawings for the possible suppliers.*
   7. ***How long a period do you expect until the fountain is repaired/replaced/completed?*** *No Idea, subject to funding, designs, availability of builders etc.*
   8. ***Have other alternatives been investigated apart from a like-for-like replacement – if not what are the real or perceived constraints for this?***

*Alternatives have been considered, in terms of size, materials etc, but the overall feeling of the village is that we should where as much as possible replicate what is already there. This a very strong majority village view which we have tried to respect. WE ARE THE ONLY DORSET VILLAGE WITH A FOUNTAIN. And one of only a few in the whole country. Replacing then fountain with anything else was not felt to be appropriate. It has been suggested to replace the fountain with a tree – this was again not deemed to be appropriate and conservation approval would be unlikely.*

1. ***Funding - depending on answers to above,*** 
   1. ***what is the plan to raise funding?*** *PWLB 15 years @5% – subject to*
   2. ***And over what period?***

*For example: £30,000 over 15 years £2,850 per annum*

*£25,000 over 15 years £2.372 per annum*

*£20,00 over 15 years £1,896per annum*

*Open for discussion depending on support from VOAPC and to Village Support at a subsequent meeting following the VOAPC meeting.*

* 1. *What funds are Hinton residents likely to contributed to the Earmarked funds? Small amounts- when an appeal was put out in 2019 it raised £813 – there have been a few mentions of donations but none of it was substantive. We must be aware that unlike some parishes/wards Hinton is not generally considered to be wealthy. We must also remember that there are parts of the ward that are not even in the village of Hinton Martrell (Gaunts, Stanbridge, Hinton Parva)*
  2. *Is the structure eligible for any grants or funding (lottery/English Heritage, etc)? Unlikely after preliminary research. The Working Group have collectively contacted over 30 different funding bodies (Sue has the list) and because we are not a community group e.g., supporting children, elderly, community activity etc we are not deemed as eligible for much of the funding available. The application to the PWLB will be brought to a public meeting because of the impact on the Hinton Ward Precept.*

1. **The proposal to VOAPC is that of support in principle for an application to be made to PWLB. The process for this will take several months and will in addition be supported by DAPTC, who have some experience of these applications.**

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The **PWLB** lending facility is operated by the UK Debt Management Office (DMO) on behalf of HM Treasury. The facility provides loans to local authorities, and ...

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