

HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held at

7.30pm on Monday 24th April 2017 in the Village Hall, Hunsdon

Present: - Cllr B Toll (Chairman), Cllrs D Gibbs, B Dunthorne, S Oliver, & C Page.

In attendance: - J Robinette (Clerk) B & J Carthy (PPP Wardens), Cty Cllr R Beeching & 12 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence.

- a. Dist. Cllr R Brunton & Cllr F Maule. The clerk stated that Cllr had resigned but the Chairman had asked her to reconsider.

2. Approval of minutes of the parish council meeting held 20th March 2017.

- a. Minutes approved by Cllrs and signed by Chairman.

3. Matters arising.

a. Buses. The PC had received no further commination from Trustybus nor HCC regarding the decrease in the 410 bus service. Cllr Dunthorne had received information regarding transport help for hospital appointments. **Dial-a-Ride, East Herts** run a service. Dial a Ride is a door to door transport service (operated by Hertfordshire County Council) for the elderly or people of any age, including children, who have difficulty travelling due to permanent disability or illness. Children up to the age of 14 will need to be accompanied by an adult. The cost of the service depends on the distance of the journey **You can join Dial a Ride by phoning 01992 556771 or e-mail:dialaride@hertfordshire.gov.uk** The **Royal Volunteer Service** also offers transport opportunities. I was given the 01992 552069 as a contact number.

b. Donation to local societies. This item needs further consideration and will be discussed at the May meeting.

c. New Chapel. Further to a resident asking the council when the new chapel was to be built. Rev Dunstan had replied to the clerk with some details. The e mail received was read out by chairman B Toll. "The PCC and I are keen that the new Chapel be built as quickly as possible so that it can be of service to the church and community as quickly as possible. We are also keen to minimise disruption to the use of the playing field and would therefore prefer any construction work to take place at those times of year when the playing field is less in use. At present, we are not in a position to say any more about timings than this and we would discourage speculation".

d. Gigaclear. The company is still in the village. The clerk will write to the customer services regarding the digging up of daffodils & snowdrops within the verges.

e. Defibrillator. All first aid equipment had been organised by David Robinette to be passed on the coordinator of Heart start scheme in Hertford Heath.

4. Reports from members representing the Parish Council on outside organisations and attending meetings on behalf of the Council

a. Parish Paths Partnership. J Carthy read out the monthly report: After the meeting with Peter Findlay, which was reported to you at the March meeting, Peter has met separately with Nicholas Maddex. He has agreed the substance of what was reported to you with one caveat. This can be seen in the extract of an e-mail sent by Nicholas, which is shown here: 'Peter came into County Hall this morning, as promised. He is willing to go ahead with the scheme exactly as you proposed and has asked me to begin to consult other groups on it to test support. However, he is insistent that the scheme cannot go ahead until the strange question of the short section of byway in his farm yard has been resolved. This is a completely different issue, and can only be dealt with by an investigation and different type of order, and so this may slow down the process. Hunsdon 3, which runs across the front of Fillets Farm House, is designated as a Restricted Byway except for circa 200 meters or so in front of the farm house which is designated a BOAT. I suspect this is a mistake but is one that HCC will need to sort out. Finally, on behalf of the Parish Council we have submitted to Groundwork Hertfordshire an application for a grant of £1000 hopefully from the Parish Paths Partnership. This money would support the partial upgrading of Back Lane. Regarding Footpath 10 and the rerouting around the pill box the councillors agreed that Mr M Reid should write to Chase Green developers to ask them to reinstate the definitive route.

b. Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE). Nothing to report.

c. Village Hall Management Committee. AGM is to be held on 10th May 2017.

d. Allotments. NTR

e. Police Liaison. There had been no reported crimes in the village last month, however the council were made aware that there had been a theft from a shed. Fly tipping within the County has increased and therefore more police resources has been given to this problem. Prosecutions were happening.

f. SHN. Nothing to report.

g. Dist. Council. Nothing to report.

h. Cty Council. Cty Council Beeching reported that this was his last meeting as he was resigning as Vice Chair of HCC. The Parish Councillors thanked him for all his support and time that he had given Hunsdon.

5. Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr B Toll reported that another workshop had happened between all relevant parties. The landowners had committed £500m for the infrastructure for the proposed housing development, however no legal agreement had been agreed between EH and Places for People. The landowner (Places for People) had also agreed to support the Neighbourhood Plan team financially to employ expert planning and legal advice. The main issue for Hunsdon was to ensure that the aerodrome became a community asset and it was put into trust for the future. Another workshop was scheduled for 6th May and this would be to discuss in more detail the impact of the new villages. It is important that certain aspects have been agreed before the Examination in Public. Chairman B Toll again reiterated that any new members to the group would be welcome, all skill sets are required. (e.g. legal/education, local knowledge/health/sport/faith)

6. Village Infrastructure.

- a. Playing field new lease.** St Albans Diocese had notified the PC that the old lease is to be terminated and that a new lease is to be drawn up between the local PCC and the PC. The PC has engaged in discussions with solicitors to discuss both these issues.
- b. Vacancy for Parish Clerk.** The new parish clerk will be Cllr Page as of 8th May. Joy Robinette formally resigned from her position that she has held for 12 years. The Chairman and Cllrs thanked her for her support and service to the PC and community.
- c. Nine Ashes Planning Consultant.** Chairman B Toll proposed that Jed Griffiths, planning consultant, be employed to write the response on behalf of the PC regarding the new proposed development on Nine Ashes and represent it when the PA went before the development control committee. This was agreed by all councillors.
- d. Feedback from Glebe Land meeting with Bidwells.** The PC had a meeting with Bidwell regarding the proposed development of 40 houses on Glebe Land. The PC were still waiting for the minutes of this meeting from Bidwells. Bidwells had stated that it had been told by EH planning that 40 would be "OK" as it represented the 10% extra housing needed in Hunsdon. However, it was pointed out that Hunsdon had already achieved this 10% with granted smaller developments. An outline planning application for these houses was due in May. Once received the PC will hold a public meeting to get all the views of the villagers, before responding to the planning application. Regarding the additional land that the local PCC had proposed to give the PC, this would be looked at once the planning application had been received. However, it is the intention of the PC not to accept this additional land.
- e. Village Hall request for money allocated in precept.** The clerk informed the council that the VHMHC had asked for £2500 that had been allocated for the booking clerk position last year and be reallocated towards the refurbishment of the cottage as this was proving to be more expensive. The Councillors agreed this reallocation. The clerk therefore raised a chq for £2500 which was signed.
- f. Tree surgery in the Dell.** The clerk had received 2 quotes for this work. One contractor had quoted £3800 and the other £2975 excluding VAT. The councillors decide to appoint Herts Tree Care to do the work, at a cost of £2975.
- g. Fete 17th June.** The councillors agreed £30 for the tombola. The clerk therefore raised a cheque for this amount and the cheque was signed.

7. Planning

- a. Decision by EHDC Development Control on earlier applications.
 - i. 1 Homesteads: Demo of single ext. and erection of 2 storey side ext. and single rear ext. GRANTED
 - ii. Little Samuels Farm: Installation of 15m tower: GRANTED
 - iii. 54 Widford Road; 2 bed chalet bungalows within curtilage of 54. REFUSED
- b. New Applications:
 - i. Nine Ashes: development of 7 dwellings.
 - ii. Copt Hall, Church Lane: Demo of 2 storey rear Ext and conservatory> erection of 2 storey and single storey rear ext. Erection of garage& fence.
- c. Update on other planning issues.
 - HSY. HCC will be servring a legal enforcement notice soon.

8. Finance

- a. Spending for approval

Clerk's salary for April (note annual increment increase)	£ 413.27
PCC (donation towards maintenance of lower churchyard) Section 137	£1000.00 *
Clerk's overtime (15 hours)	£204.36
Village Hall (donation towards maintenance of hall and hire for PC	£4000.00

meetings and Xmas Tree) section 137	
V Patel rent for noticeboard (increased payment in precept)	£300.00
V Patel (Shop Initiative) (April-June) SECT 137 (increased in precept)	£100.00
Cash litter pickers	£100.00
EHDC rent for the Dell	£50.00

*Cllrs agreed that the clerk needs to write to the PCC and ask that the annual donation goes towards the repair of the fence as it has been in disrepair for some time.

- b. End of Year Finance.** The clerk informed the councillors that the “books” had balanced and all Cllrs had received the summary of accounts and Chairman B Toll had inspected the full accounts. The Councillors agreed that the accounts could be passed to the internal auditor and agreed the paperwork for the external auditor too.as preparing the full documentation for audit.

9. Correspondence.

a. Rosella bend. A resident had written to HCC urging the council to employ a traffic calming scheme on this bend as it there had been several road traffic accidents in the past few months due to speeding around this narrow corner. The PC will endorse the resident letter and ask the HCC to relook at the matter.

10. Any other business.

a. PAM/ The Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. Both these meetings would take place on 22nd May, commencing at 7.30pm. Reports will be required from representatives of village organisations.

b. Parking in Paddock Close. The restriction markings needed repainting as parents taking their children to the local school were parking across private driveways and on the corner of Paddock Close. The clerk had already asked for this work to be carried out, but this will be chased up again.

c. Buses. Cllr D Gibbs is hoping to meet MP M Prisk to discuss the decrease in the 410 bus service.

d. Verge opposite Croft Cottage. The pile of historical builder’s waste was still in situ. The clerk will again chase up HCC to remove it.

Meeting closed at 09.20pm

Minutes are always available on the village web site - www.hunsdon.org.uk .