

MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of Hildersham Parish Council held in the Village Hall, High Street, Hildersham, Cambridge, on Wednesday 30th September 2009.

Present: Keith Day (Chairman), Dan Gresham, Jean Kelly, Andrew Westwood-Bate, County Councillor John Batchelor, District Councillor Trisha Bear, Paula Harper (Clerk), and 2 members of the public

Open forum started at 7.30pm- public participation

A resident parking on the grass in Meadowlands was raised as a concern again. The Clerk reported speaking with the housing officer who had not yet seen the car parked on the grass.

Action: Clerk to ask the housing officer, Lynn Roberts to send a letter to all Meadowlands residents asking them not to park on the grass.

Formal meeting started at: 7.32pm

36. Apologies – there were no apologies

37. The minutes of the last meeting on 8th July 2009 and the minutes of the allotment meeting on 26th August were approved and signed.

38. Feedback on actions from the last meeting

Parking on the grass on Meadowlands was discussed in the open forum. The soundness test had been undertaken on the pine tree by the bridge. Andrew Westwood-Bate explained that he was working on the gate to the play area, and agreed to look at the dropped hinge too.

Other actions were to be dealt with during the course of the meeting.

39. Report from District Councillor Trisha Bear

South Cambridgeshire District Council had refused the planning application to build a wind farm on land at Little Linton farm. Therefore the applicant Enertrag, had applied for a planning appeal; this appeal will be heard in public on 2nd February 2010.

The bus route between Haverhill and Cambridge was now including a special daily service to the train station, twice in the morning and evenings.

40. Report from County Councillor John Batchelor

The County Council would be making a decision about the transport innovation fund and whether to continue to bid for £520 million. These funds would be used to make changes to the public transport and infrastructure in Cambridge and the county. The funding conditions stated that a congestion charge must be introduced; this would help fund the costs of subsidising the new expanded public transport network. The County Council had made statements of interest in his scheme and held public meetings, and the County Council cabinet had recommended that the County continue making the bid.

The first part of the bid would involve building a new railway station at Chesterton sidings, and this part of the bid would be worked on next year.

John Batchelor left the meeting

41. Co-opting a new Parish Councillor- update

Unfortunately no one had agreed to become a Councillor to fill the vacancy.

42. Village Hall Charitable Trust (VHCT)

Update from VHCT- The Trust had a very good year with an income of nearly £5,000, which was £1,200 higher than last year. During the year fundraising events had raised a total of £5,000 towards the new village hall. The planning application for the new hall had been submitted to the District Council.

43. Update on the Council's request to meet with Linton Parish Council to discuss construction traffic using the Back Road to Linton. Linton Parish Councillors were not as concerned as local Councillors about the eroded verges, so progress arranging a meeting had been rather slow. The Council agreed to review progress at the next meeting, and would then consider a new approach to the problem.

Dan Gresham declared an interest in the next item on the agenda and did not participate in the discussions.

44. Allotment area

a) The revised allotment agreement, which included all the amendments recommended from the allotment meeting on 26th August 2009, was approved. This was proposed by Keith Day and seconded by Andrew Westwood-Bate.

b) The allotment charge for 2009-2010 was discussed. Jean Kelly suggested that the charge for a 12.8 rod plot increase by 50p to £16.50 and that this increase should be passed on pro-rata to the smaller plots- proposed by Jean Kelly and seconded by Keith Day.

45. Tree work update

a) The soundness test on pine tree had been undertaken, with a recommendation that the deadwood was removed including a large limb and that the lateral limb be reduced by 1 metre. The Clerk highlighted that this proposed additional expenditure would exceed the amount budgeted for tree work for 2009-2010. The Councillors passed a motion to transfer £1,000 from the budget allocated to establish a Trust to manage the allotment and lands, into the trees and general maintenance budget for the financial year 2009-2010. The Clerk was authorised to accept the lowest quotation to get the work undertaken on the pine tree. **The Clerk** was awaiting a further quotation for the work. Both of the motions were proposed by Keith Day and seconded by Andrew Westwood-Bate.

b) The Council agreed to consider the quotations received to undertake work on the sycamore by the bridge, at the next meeting.

46. Village maintenance

a) Miss Binney had kindly agreed to supply an oak tree to plant in memory of Ivor Levitt; this would be planted in the autumn.

b) It had been suggested that the seat in memory of Ivor Levitt could be a circular metal seat, similar to one in the churchyard. **Action: Clerk** to get a price for the seat from Derek Patten.

c) The Council asked the **Clerk** to make a formal application for bins to be supplied by SCDC at both bus shelters. This was proposed by Dan Gresham and seconded by Andrew Westwood-Bate.

d) The football posts on recreation ground were to be erected during the weekend of 24th and 25th October. Volunteers would be welcome to assist.

e) Overhanging trees along Blench Lane. **Action Clerk** asked to write to both households concerned requesting that the trees be cut back.

47. Risk management of Parish Council's assets

a) South Holding- there had been no further activity on this land so it was agreed that this item would be excluded from the next agenda.

b) Lighting at the bus shelter on the A1307 –**Action: Clerk** asked to continue investigating the costs and procedures to get a light installed, but should ensure that John Batchelor was copied on the emails, as the work might be more cost effective if undertaken when the right turn was constructed.

48. Correspondences

- a) Email query about reserves held for village hall from Moore Stephens - Clerk had replied, therefore the audit should be completed very soon.
- b) Email about planning procedure from Comberton Parish Council- Councillors copied on it.
- c) SCDC- Planning policy update on the Local Development Framework
- d) SCDC- Gypsy and Traveller Strategy
- e) SCDC- The Council had been given permission to co-opt a new Councillor

49. Working for Quality Status

The working party would meet again before the next Council meeting- **action Clerk** to arrange.

50. Annual external audit

This was covered in correspondence.

51. Finance

- a) The Council authorised the payments and approve the financial statement dated 30.09.09 prepared by the Clerk.
- b) Great Abington Parish had requested that Hildersham Parish Council shared the costs of the computer anti-virus programme and the repairs. The Councillors asked whether a free anti-virus service such as AVG could be used – **action Clerk** asked to forward the suggestion to Great Abington Parish Councillors.
- c) The Council authorised the payment to Great Abington Parish Council of £52.37 for the use of the computer and printer in 2009.

Andrew Westwood-Bate declared an interest in the next item and did not participate in the discussion.

d) The Council agreed to make a payment to Hello Hildersham magazine of the budgeted £250, plus the agreed £30.00 to cover the estimated cost of the Council's additional page. These payments had been authorised at previous Council meetings. It was suggested that the additional funding required by Hello Hildersham from the Council, should be included in the next budget for 2010-2011.

52. Planning

Reference:	For:	At:	Proposal:	Decision:
S/0880/09/F	Mr Paul Gray	The Old Rectory	Extension & alterations	SCDC approved
S/0692/09/LB	Mr P. Holland	2 Church Cottages	Replacement gable window and chimney pot	SCDC approved

Tree work applications from Ms Wyatt, Forge Green Cottage and Mr & Mrs P Gray, The Old Rectory.

53. Items for the next meetings agenda

The next meeting will be on 18th November, rather than the 2nd Wednesday of the month

Meeting closed at 8.27pm

Open forum started at 8.270pm- public participation

Jean Kelly reminded the meeting that people having bonfires should remember to consider their neighbours. Andrew Westwood-Bate asked if the **Clerk** could establish who was responsible for the spiky bushes that are growing into 1 Meadowlands garden.

Open forum finished at 8.32pm

Next meeting Wednesday 18th November 2009