

Castle Hedingham Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council of Castle Hedingham held in Memorial Hall Castle Hedingham on Monday 20 August 2012.

Present: Mrs S Allfrey (Chairman)
Mr R Worley
Mr I Higgins
Mr M Scrivens
Mr G Pewter
Mrs L Moffat
Mr G Southgate
Mr H Johnson

Members of the public: None

In attendance: Mr K M King (Parish Clerk)

Item 1. Apologies for non-attendance: Messrs D Finch and J Philp, Mrs J Hart and Mrs J Beavis.

Item 6.4. Parish Council Web-site: The site is to be transferred to the Parish Council on 22nd August.

Item 6.5. Repairs to Tombs & Tree works St Nicholas Churchyard: The appropriate remedial work to trees adjacent to properties in Falcon Square was agreed and a detailed quote for the works has now been requested from the Parish Council's tree surgeon.

Item 6.6. War Memorial: A second quote has now been received. It has recommended a complete re-build of the memorial due to noted subsidence. The Parish Council decided to seek further expert opinion before considering options further.

Item 6.7. Public Toilets: Braintree District Council has completed minor repair works and deep cleaning and has transferred ownership and responsibility to the Parish Council. Braintree District Council will give the Parish Council a one off payment of £5,000 towards the cost of running the toilets but will no longer pay the annual grant of £1,792 to the Parish Council towards the costs.

Item 6.10. Footpath New Park to Pottery Lane and Sheepcot: The Parish Council's contractors will now sweep and cut back vegetation on this footpath on a regular basis.

Item 6.11. Flag Pole: The Clerk was instructed to obtain a quote to take the pole down, inspect it, repair/paint and re-thread it.

Item 6.12. Storage of Rubbish Bags at the Cemetery: A quote has been received for the construction of a bin store inside the cemetery. This was accepted.

Item 6.13. Petition in support of a new surgery at Premdor Site Sible Hedingham: Mr H Johnson said that one copy of the petition is being circulated which has been signed by Mr D Finch, County Councillor. Signatures of District Councillors are being sought. The petition is available for signature at various locations in the Hedinghams - Doctor's surgeries in Castle Hedingham, and from the Parish office in Sible Hedingham.

Item 7.2. Braintree DC report: Mr H Johnson reported that the District and Parish Councils action groups were continuing to lobby National Grid regarding the undergrounding of new power line and a new sub-station to be built alongside the existing station at Braintree.

Item 8.1. Planning Applications Received: Braintree District Council has advised that they have received the following applications:

- 12/00189/TPOCON. Application to remove cypress tree at 10 Crown Street.

Item 8.3. Planning Enforcement: Braintree District Council Enforcement has advised that Four Winds Kirby Hall Road is permitted to have up to 10 tents and 5 touring caravans/motorhomes on site. The Enforcement Officer is investigating the building on the site that does not have planning permission.

Item 9. Correspondence: A parishioner has written raising two issues:

- a. It had been understood that after overhead wires were taken down in St James Street, the poles made redundant would be taken down. This has not yet been done. The Clerk reported that this issue had previously been raised with UK Power Networks and he will progress chase the matter.
- b. HGVs continue to pass through the village despite weight restrictions being in operation. These HGVs are causing problems to the foundations of buildings and a request was made for repair works to be paid for by the Parish Council if no immediate action taken.

The Parish Council noted that a) It had no liability for damage in such matters; b) changes to the weight restriction are the responsibility of the County Council; and c) the weight restriction conditions did allow access by HGVs to make deliveries.

The Parish Clerk was instructed to determine what had happened to the proposed changes to the weight restriction before a reply is made.

Item 12. Review of Charges for Burials: The Parish Council decided not to increase its prices for 2012-2013.

Item 13. Sub Post Office: Concern had been expressed about the future of the sub post office. The Parish Council expressed its support to any new proprietor approved by the Post Office.

Item 14.1. AOB: Sudbury Hill Vegetation: Mr R Worley said overhanging vegetation was a problem on Sudbury Hill. The Clerk was instructed to raise the issue with the landowner.

Item 14.2. AOB: Use of CCTV Cameras: Mr G Pewter said that installation of CCTV at various locations in the village would assist in fighting crime. It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.

Item 14.3. AOB: Donation of Memorial Bench: Mr I Higgins said Mr A Shaw had offered a memorial bench to the Parish. This was accepted with thanks and it will be placed in the garden behind the Memorial Hall.

Item 16. Date and Time of Next Meetings: 24 September, 29 October, 19 November, at 07:45 pm.