

Castle Hedingham Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council of Castle Hedingham held in Memorial Hall Castle Hedingham on Monday 29 October 2012.

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

Members of the public: Mrs T Harper.

In attendance: Mr K M King (Parish Clerk)

Item 1. Apologies for non-attendance: Mrs J Beavis. Mrs W Scattergood. Mrs L Moffat.

Item 3. Public Forum: Mrs T Harper said that the applicant to take over the sub post office had applied to the Post Office. Her application was currently being considered by the Post Office. It was expected that she will take over the post office from Mrs Harper early January 2013. Mrs Harper said that a relief manager was now in place to keep the sub post office open November and December. The Parish Council gave Mrs Harper its first donation of £500 to pay the wages of the relief manager for November. The second payment of £500 will be paid at the end of November. Mrs Harper said that she would let the Parish Council know if any problems arose with the transfer of the business.

Item 4. Police Report: Police Report: None.

Mr M Scrivens urged all parishioners to be wary of cold calling scams. Persons cold calling claiming to be ex-prisoners on rehabilitation schemes and selling household goods at greatly inflated prices should be challenged to produce their street changing licence. Mr H Johnson said that Trading Standards had investigated such schemes and found them to be all bogus.

Item 6.1. Disabled Parking Provision in Falcon Square: Provision in Falcon Square the space is now in operation. Item now closed.

Item 6.2. Registration of Village Greens: The Land Registry has raised two queries regarding maintenance of parts of Rushley Green to which the Parish Clerk has replied.

Item 6.5. Tree works St Nicholas Churchyard: Tree works St Nicholas Churchyard: A quote for £700 for the identified works was accepted.

Item 6.11. Remedial Works to Tombstones in St Nicholas Churchyard Work is currently underway.

Item 6.12. Transfer of toilets to the Parish Council: Braintree District Council has advised that the land on which the public toilets sit is owned by Hedingham Castle. The Castle has suggested that the existing lease for the Memorial Hall be extended to include the toilet block land and the memorial gardens. The Clerk was instructed to discuss with Braintree District Council options to include obtaining the freehold and a separate lease.

Item 6.14. Parking on grass verges: The Clerk reported that Essex County Council has advised that: a) parking on/across verges is generally not illegal; and b) The County Council has a policy of not installing bollards/fencing etc. to stop parking on/across/verges. The Parish Council instructed the

Clerk to ask Essex CC Highways if it will sell the verge to the Parish Council. The Parish Council will then consider putting something on the land to prevent parking on it if it is able to buy the land.

Item 7.2. Braintree DC report: Mr H Johnson outlined:

- a. The background to the forthcoming election for election of Police and Crime Commissioner for Essex area.
- b. Forthcoming round of funding grants for community projects. He urged that any projects should be put forward as soon as possible.

Item 8. National Grid Proposals: The Parish Council noted that the latest news booklet from National Grid did not add anything new. The Clerk was instructed to write to National Grid repeating the Parish Council's strong objection to the siting of any new sub-station in Castle Hedingham and the Parish Council's support for any new sub-station to be sited alongside the existing sub-station at Braintree.

Item 9.1. Planning Applications Received: Braintree District Council has advised that they have received the following applications:

12/01311/FUL. Storage of 2 container storage units at Rosemary Farm, Rosemary Lane.

12/01208/FUL. Proposed air source pump to west elevation of converted outbuilding at Pannells Ash Farm, Sudbury Road.

12/01395/FUL. Removal of the temporary permission for the temporary structure- marquee on the tulip lawn at Hedingham Castle.

Item 9.2. Applications granted/refused:

12/00229/PPCON. Permission granted for tree work at Goston Mount, Pottery Lane.

12/00225/TPOCON. Permission granted for tree work at Pye Cottage, Pye Corner.

12/00223/TPOCON. Permission granted for tree work at Hedingham House, King street.

12/01105/FUL. Permission granted for 2 storey rear extension at 96 Nunnery Street.

Item 9.3. Enforcement Report: Fourwinds, Kirby Hall Road. Incidental outbuilding is for use by owner and bona fide guests not campsite users

Item 12. Consideration of the offer by the estate of a parishioner of a wooden bench: The Parish Council was happy to accept the offer and decided that the new bench should be located in St Nicolas churchyard.

Item 14.1. AOB: Overgrown Vegetation: Mr R Worley said that there was a problem with vegetation encroaching on pavement and layby on Bulls Hill and Bayley Street. The Clerk was instructed to instruct the Council's contractors to cut it back. Mr R Worley said that there was an overhanging branch across the pavement on Sudbury Hill. The Clerk was instructed to ask the Castle to cut it back.

Item 14.2. AOB: Parking on Bayley Street Mr I Higgins said he had received complaints regarding parking along Bayley Street towards Sudbury Hill junction. It was agreed to discuss this issue at the next meeting.

Item 15. Date and Time of Next Meeting: 07:45 Wednesday 21 November at the Memorial Hall.