

## Castle Hedingham Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council of Castle Hedingham held in Memorial Hall Castle Hedingham on Monday 11 February 2013.

Present: Mrs S Allfrey (Chairman)  
 Mr R Worley  
 Mr I Higgins  
 Mr M Scrivens  
 Mr G Pewter  
 Mr G Southgate  
 Mrs J Hart  
 Mrs W Scattergood (from item 9.2)

Members of the public: None

In attendance: Mr K M King (Parish Clerk)  
 Mrs C Waters (Parish Clerk)

		Action
1.	<b>Apologies for non-attendance:</b> Mrs L Moffat, Mr J Philp, Mr D Finch	
2.	<b>Declarations of Interest:</b> Mrs S Allfrey declared an interest in item 14	
3.	<b>Public Forum:</b> Mrs S Allfrey stated that she parks her car outside her house in order to slow down the traffic speed approaching Pye Corner. She expressed concerns about the danger from speeding traffic threatening the safety of children using the footpath on their way to and from school.	
4.	<b>Police Report:</b> None.	
5.	<b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting.</b> The minutes were proposed by Mr R Worley seconded by Mr I Higgins and signed by the Chairman.	
6.	<b>Matters Arising from the Minutes:</b>	
6.1	<b>Registration of Village Greens:</b> Cllr D Finch has been requested to seek advice from Essex County Councils legal department on the status of ownership of the sub soil beneath the by way on Rushley Green. This request now needs to be followed up.	CW
6.2	<b>Web-site:</b> The Parish Council contact details have been updated. Advice to be sought about the most practical way of maintaining and updating the website. Report at next meeting	CW
6.3	<b>Tree works St Nicholas Churchyard:</b> Remedial work to trees has now been carried out, inspected and found to be satisfactory. It was proposed by Mr R Worley, seconded by Mr G Southgate, that a tree preservation order be applied for. Contact to be made with Richard Parmee, Tree & Landscape Officer at Braintree District Council.	CW
6.4	<b>War Memorial:</b> Bakers of Danbury have confirmed that their current quote is valid until April 2013. They have carried out work on Clare war memorial, which will be inspected by councillors to ensure quality of their work.	RW

6.5	<b>Dog Fouling:</b> Braintree District Council confirmed no further dog waste bins are to be provided. Dog waste is being left in normal waste bins. An option is to re-site existing dog waste bins. Mr G Southgate will conduct a visual inspection of these and report at next meeting.	GS
6.6	<b>Weight Restriction on B1058:</b> No update.	
6.7	<b>Village Flag Pole:</b> Following remedial works, the need for a flag was discussed. It was agreed to investigate the cost of a union flag, to be flown on appropriate occasions, also possibly a St George's flag, and the practical issues related to raising and lowering the flag.	CW
6.8	<b>Transfer of toilets to the Parish Council :</b> It was agreed that a meeting with Cllr J Beavis and the head of Braintree District Council legal department is now a priority, to discuss the legal position on the basis of existing known paperwork.	CW
6.9	<b>Parking on grass verges:</b> Essex CC Highways has reported that the verge in St James Street beside the tennis club has highway rights across it but no owner is registered for the land. The Clerk was instructed to contact Essex CC highways to proceed with the first stage of removing the rights.	CW
6.10	<b>Donated Bench:</b> The bench has now been delivered. Photographs have been sent to Revd L Bond so he can proceed with the faculty application for installation in the churchyard. A cheque has been received from the donor to cover the costs of manufacture and delivery.	
6.11	<b>Premdor Development.</b> Following the public meetings, concern was expressed about access and increased traffic, the effect on local infrastructure, the visual impact and the loss of land that could be used for employment. Objections will be sent by the due date of 14 <sup>th</sup> February.	CW
6.12	<b>Redundant Poles in St James Street:</b> Ongoing	CW
6.13	<b>Provision of Superfast Broadband</b> Following Mr H Johnson's report at the last meeting, a broadband briefing session will be held on Wednesday 13th March 2013 at 7.30pm in Gt Maplestead Village Hall. Navinder Sankersingh, Project Manager from ECC, will be providing information on broadband infrastructure and potential upgrade in North East Essex for both residential and business users. Clerk and available councillors will attend.	CW
7.	<b>Essex CC and Braintree Reports:</b>	
7.1	<b>Essex CC report:</b> No report	
7.2	<b>Braintree DC report: Mrs W Scattergood:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mrs Scattergood was pleased to report that after a lot of hard work, some of the National Grid proposals affecting the Henny area had been averted, which proves the effectiveness of concerted action</li> <li>• Other National Grid proposals affecting Castle Hedingham were discussed. See item 8.</li> </ul>	
8.	<b>National Grid Proposals:</b> The National Grid has two preferred sites for a new substation, both in Castle Hedingham. Mrs Scattergood will be fighting against this at Braintree. Public	

	consultation meeting in February and March will be an opportunity to put objections. The Castle Hedingham meeting is in the Memorial Hall on March 6 <sup>th</sup> between 1.30 and 6.30pm. A notice of these meetings is to be displayed on Parish Noticeboards and an insert to be delivered with the Parish Magazine	CW
<b>9.</b>	<b>Planning:</b>	
<b>9.1</b>	<b>Applications received:</b>  13/00001/TPCON.Astles, Nunnery Street. Tree work. No objections.	
<b>9.2</b>	<b>Applications granted/refused:</b> None	
<b>10.</b>	<b>Correspondence:</b> The Parish Council were asked to nominate two Trustees of Castle Hedingham Parochial Charities to stand for a further four year period from June 2013. Mrs Brenda Beadle and Mr Dave Rulten are both willing to stand for another term. Mr R Worley proposed in favour of both being nominated, Mrs Jackie Hart seconded. Clerk to contact CHPC secretary to confirm.	CW
<b>12.</b>	<b>Briefing from Parish Summit</b> Mr R Worley summarised the outcome of the proposals for a new payments scheme to Town and Parish Councils presented by Councillor G Butland of Braintree District Council. Payments will be merged into a new Localism Fund Payment, which will give an overall increase of 3% in funding for 2013/14, followed by a decrease of 8% in 2014/15. In subsequent years, this figure will go up or down depending on the amount of funding Braintree District Council receives from Government each year. It was agreed that other regions have fared much worse as a result of cuts in funding. The Clerk will respond to the proposed changes.	CW
<b>13.</b>	<b>Highways:</b> Mr M Scrivens reported that a hole in Nunnery Street has now been repaired, although the repair does not appear to be of high quality.	
<b>14.</b>	<b>Consideration of Parking Issues on Bayley Street.</b> It was agreed that any issue of dangerous parking is the remit of the law enforcement authorities. Castle Hedingham Parish Council has a long-standing policy to avoid yellow lines. It was proposed by Mr G Pewter, seconded by Mr R Worley, that no yellow lines should be initiated in this case. Clerk will reply to the letter of complaint.	CW
<b>15.</b>	<b>Consideration of planting trees along Sheepcot Road.</b> Mr R Worley reported that around 6 substantial sized trees are needed to fill gaps in the avenue previously planted by the Parish Council along Sheepcot Road. It was proposed by Mr G Southgate, seconded by Mr G Pewter, that this proposal should be looked into in principle. Mr RWorley to investigate costs of trees and report back at the next meeting.	RW
<b>16.</b>	<b>Consideration of extending area gritted/snow cleared in the Parish.</b> A letter has been received from the daughter of an elderly resident of New Park. It was agreed not to extend the area of gritting by the contractor beyond that previously agreed, as it could create a precedent which could require the entire village to be gritted which would be impractical and costly. Mrs J Hart reported that a salt bin is in place at Deer Park. The Clerk will contact Greenfields and the Braintree District Council volunteer scheme to explore other options available for the elderly residents at New Park, and reply to the letter.	CW
<b>17.</b>	<b>Any Other Business:</b> On January 17 <sup>th</sup> , Mr I Higgins and Mrs S Allfrey attended a discussion about plans for the doctor's surgery. 0.25 hectares have been allocated by the	

	developer for a surgery on the proposed Premdor site, but funding would have to be found by the General Practices involved.	
<b>18.</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting:</b> 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2013 at 07:45.	

Signed:

Mrs S Alfrey  
Chairman