

Castle Hedingham Parish Council

Draft minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council of Castle Hedingham held in Memorial Hall Castle Hedingham on Monday 11 March 2013.

Mrs Claire Waters attended as the new Parish Clerk, and can be contacted on 07845 056597 and at castlehedinghamparishclerk@gmail.com

Police Report: PCSO Belinda Ruffle presented the crime statistics for the village from 1st January 2013. There has been 1 burglary, 1 suspicious sighting, 1 theft from Cricket Pavilion and 1 theft of motor vehicle.

Burglaries are generally opportunist, occurring during the working day through unlocked doors or open windows. Residents are encouraged to call the Police on 101 as soon as they see any suspicious activity, and to note down a car registration number if possible.

Suspected unlawful peddlars: Call the police on 101 and they will check for the relevant identification and permissions.

Nuisance Communications: There has been an increase in telephone calls about computer faults and asking for personal details. This is a scam and can lead to a virus on the computer which gives access to bank details etc. Residents are advised to call 1471 to identify the caller number if possible and then ask for it to be blocked by their service provider. In any event, do not give them personal information.

Dog Fouling:

This continues to be a problem on pavements, footpaths, in the churchyard and at the Recreation Field. Dog waste is also being left in ordinary litter bins with general waste. Cllr Johnson said the Braintree District Council dog warden is becoming much more active, and will impose £50 fine on offenders. It was agreed to meet with the dog warden for advice on how to proceed.

Parking on grass verges: Essex CC Highways has reported that the verge in St James Street beside the tennis club is too large to have the highway rights removed. This is because of County Council's policy on verges of this size which was approved at the meeting of the Highways and Transportation Committee on 4 June 1999. The verge is of a size and length which will be retained by the Highway Authority in case of future improvements. If the Parish Council wish to plant the area of the verge, they could apply for a planting licence subject to certain conditions to the Parish Council. Clerk to find out conditions of planting licence.

Premdor Development.

Objections were sent by the due date of 14th February. Sible Hedingham Parish Council has also raised detailed objections on similar grounds.

Provision of Superfast Broadband

Councillors attended a Superfast broadband briefing session on Wednesday 13th March 2013 at 7.30pm in Gt Maplestead Village Hall. Residents are being encouraged to complete a survey to register their interest in Superfast Broadband for private or business use at <http://www.superfastessex.org/> as provision will depend on demand. Essex County Council aims to achieve 100% coverage in Essex by 2016.

Consideration of extending area gritted/snow cleared in the Parish. No more grit supplies will be available this year. The Clerk will contact Greenfields and the Braintree District Council volunteer scheme to explore other options available for the New Park and Bowmans Park. This to be included as an agenda item August/September.

National Grid Proposals f

Councillors will all be sending individual feedback by the deadline of April 8th. Parish Clerk to submit Parish Council feedback, stating objections to Castle Hedingham sites for substation and supporting Braintree District Council in the request to site the substation at Braintree and cable

underground.

Correspondence:

Braintree DC Feedback sought on Recycling Centres (bottle and textile banks) in Parish, to identify improvements needed. Broken glass in Bayley Street following bottle bank emptying is a problem, Clerk will report. Councillors agreed no further bins are required.

Essex CC Highways Feedback sought on Traffic Regulation Order request re. Kirby Hall Rd. Request refused but yellow zig zags outside school will be repainted as part of maintenance schedule. Clerk to request inspection at school drop off or pick up time to see extent of problem and damage to verges.

Essex Police New Crime Prevention and Neighbourhood Watch Web site for the Braintree District. The web site can be found at <http://www.essexinfo.net/braintree-district-nhw/>

Mid Essex PCT Developing the branch surgery at Great Yeldham - local people invited to have their say. A discussion document 'Proposals for Developing the Branch Surgery at Great Yeldham' and other information, including details of how people can give their views, is available from: <http://www.northessex.nhs.uk/great-yeldham-consultation.htm>

Rural Community Council of Essex Village of the Year / Best Kept Village Competition entry form and guidance notes received

Alderford Street to Sheepcote Road repairs. Clerk to Sible Hedingham Parish Council has requested repairs to blocked drains and potholes

Castle Hedingham Website

It is proposed that the website be rebuilt with a more user-friendly format to make it easier to update. Website design to be simple and easy to use. Village organisations could submit information and events. It was agreed to go ahead with the suggested design and monitor developments.

Neighbourhood Watch:

Essex Police are seeking information on existing Neighbourhood Watch schemes and additional schemes required in the Parish. Clerk to contact in order to establish information held and request visit to re-activate schemes

Any Other Business:

Pumping Station at Nunnery St Bridge had repeated problem with smells. Material including disposable nappies had clogged the system. This is the responsibility of Anglian Water and has been reported.

Continued blocked drain at corner of Sheepcote Rd. This has been reported but no improvement. Clerk to submit another request for this to be solved.

Problem with the noticeboard at St James Street. Warping to timber had made it difficult to open, also some water leakage is causing misting to glass making information difficult to read. Temporary adjustments have been done prior to completing a more permanent repair.

Date of Next Meeting: 15th April 2013 at 07:45.

Annual General Meeting 3 May 2013 at 8.00pm at the Memorial Hall