



Parish of Castle Hedingham
Mrs Claire Waters (Parish Clerk)
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**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CASTLE HEDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL,
HELD ON MONDAY 13th SEPTEMBER 2021, 7.30PM AT CASTLE HEDINGHAM CLUB**

Present: Cllrs, Doe, Dover, Gransden, Jordan, Toocaram, Veater, Westrop.

In the Chair: Cllr Toocaram

Clerk: Claire Waters

Also Present: Cllr J Beavis BDC from item 5.1
5 parishioners

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Bayes & Southgate. Cllr Johnson BDC and Cllr Schwier ECC also apologised for absence. Cllr Beavis BDC apologised for late arrival due to conflicting meetings.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 9th August were approved as a correct record of events and signed by the Chairman

Proposed: Cllr Gransden

Seconded: Cllr Dover

Agreed unanimously

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

5 residents spoke in the public forum to express their strong concerns about illegal development at the junction of Sudbury Road and Maplestead Road. This is the subject of a Braintree Planning Enforcement case and a temporary High Court order has been granted to prevent further work or occupation at the land but the work at the site continues. Braintree Planning Enforcement are taking the case to a second High Court hearing in October and evidence is being compiled to make the Court Order permanent. The clerk read the following update as of the afternoon of Monday 13th September from the head of Planning Enforcement at Braintree District Council:

- An October High Court hearing to extend the injunction is expected to be in the first two weeks of October but the date has not yet been confirmed.
- A recent temporary injunction on a similar problem site at White Colne has been effective and work has stopped. The injunction on a Gosfield site last year was also effective, so this continued activity at Castle Hedingham is exceptional in BDC's experience.
- The owner of the site was present at the last High Court hearing and has had the notice served on him personally. Planning Enforcement officers have visited the site. Notices have been put at the site gate more than once but have been removed.
- The current focus for Planning Enforcement is building a cast iron legal case to get the court order made permanent in October.
- The head of the Planning Enforcement team reiterated his request for any evidence to be sent to the generic planning.enforcement@braintree.gov.uk so the whole team has access.
- Following reports of UK Power Networks having scheduled work in the area on 22nd September, Planning Enforcement have contacted them to ask for a stop to be put on the work. It has been reported today that the UKPN work is stopped due to a land dispute.

It is recognised that this complex issue will take time to resolve. The Parish Council fully understands and sympathises with the concerns of immediate neighbours to the site as well as many other village residents, and will continue to work with the relevant authorities to support the village in this matter. *All parishioners left the meeting*

5. PROGRESS CHECK – *Cllr Beavis arrived*

5.1 Sudbury Rd/Maplestead Rd junction: a further update was given by Cllr Beavis who explained the challenges faced in gaining the High Court order at the site.

5.2 St James Street noticeboard: Cllr Beavis and the clerk will meet with Essex Highways to plan the area including planters and the new noticeboard.

5.3 Lease on Pump House & land at New Park: Following BDC request to relinquish the lease, advice from the solicitor is still being chased up. Correspondence from the local historian was noted regarding the site, he will be thanked and asked for supporting documentary evidence

RESOLVED: To request a quote and pay in advance for legal advice if this will speed up the case

Proposed: Cllr Gransden

Seconded: Cllr Jordan

Agreed unanimously

5.4 Village Maintenance: The clerk reported that a revised jobs list is being worked on, and a Village Maintenance/clerk work-planning meeting will be held on the first Monday of every month starting in October. This will enable Village Maintenance operative hours to be planned more effectively. Some jobs such as hedge cutting at the Cemetery will be passed on to M D Landscapes the grass cutting contractor as there is money available in the grass cutting budget.

6. HIGHWAYS & PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

6.1 Highways Devolution Scheme: To decide on Parish Council participation in local delivery of smaller-scale works such as verge and vegetation work, traffic sign maintenance and minor footway repairs. A pro-rata grant of 68p per head of population is being offered for the first year.

RESOLVED: To decline to take part in the scheme as this would involve significant additional work and expenditure for the parish for very little money.

Proposed: Cllr Dover

Seconded: Cllr Toocaram

Agreed unanimously

6.2 BDC Verge Cutting trial: To consider a Parish Council response to the consultation on an autumn only cut for future years across the whole district.

Action: The clerk will submit the Parish Council response: Broadly in favour of an autumn only cut, but spring safety cuts to be requested at Maplestead Road and Rosemary Lane/Sudbury Road junction

6.3 Verge Cutting: To consider any local arrangements needed for the Special Verge at Edey's Lane

Action: The BDC cut is due this week, clerk to liaise with Heritage Society regarding the Special Verge. A request has been sent to BDC to confirm the date of the verge cut.

7. REPORTS

7.1 Police/PCSO/Neighbourhood Watch: Weekly police reports have been forwarded to Councillors.

7.2 Essex CC report: None

7.3 Braintree DC report: Cllr Beavis reported

- **BDC Planning Enforcement group:** Cllr Beavis has been appointed to a “task & finish” group which is reviewing planning enforcement across the district. There will be 4 meetings with the second being held in 2 weeks to consider recommendations. Budget & resources as well as prioritising cases including listed buildings are being reviewed.
- **BDC Budget** is under consideration and despite loss of income for BDC in charges and fees during the pandemic, she hopes to make sure local services are maintained.
- **Heddinghams Medical Centre:** Partnership meetings are being held with BDC and Sible Heddingham Parish Council – Cllr Beavis suggested that a representative from One Medical attends the October Parish Council meetings at Sible Heddingham and Castle Heddingham. Concerns remain over capacity and parking, and the Riverside Walk must be completed to enable residents of Castle Heddingham to access the new medical centre on foot.

Action: To invite Neil Jones of One Medical to attend the October Parish Council meeting.

8. PLANNING

Applications received

21/02482/TPOCON Notice of intent to carry out works to tree in a Conservation Area – Remove Pine (Scots) (TG2). The tree works are proposed to stop the influence of the tree(s) on the soil below building foundation level and provide long term stability

13 Bayley Street CO9 3DQ

Decision ratified: No objections

Applications determined:

21/02110/FUL Erection of 1 No. two storey 5 bedroom dwelling house, detached double garage and gardens

Land Adjacent 13 Bayley Street Castle Hedingham

Application WITHDRAWN

21/01985/FUL Erection of 1 No. 2 bedroom cottage

Land East Of Church Lane Castle Hedingham

Application REFUSED

21/01734/HH Alterations to existing conservatory to form single-storey rear extension

Dresden Pottery Lane CO9 3EU

Application PERMITTED

9. FINANCE

9.1 The monthly payments were approved for authorisation. The monthly bank reconciliation was checked and signed by Cllr Gransden

Proposed: Cllr Veater

Seconded: Cllr Doe

Agreed unanimously

Sep-21	Payments in Month	Details	Amount
DD	Eon	Electricity New Park	£31.23
DD	Bulb	Electricity Toilets	£11.34
DD	Invoco (GOCARDLESS)	Portable telephone number	£1.19
S/O	EPFA	Annual Membership Fee	£25.00
B/P	Braintree District Council	Rates, Pump House	£5.00
B/P	HMRC	Tax/NI July month 4	£78.33
B/P	HMRC	Tax/NI August month 5	£124.80
B/P	E C Waters	Home as Office September	£75.00
B/P	E C Waters	Clerk Expenses August 9th to Sept 13th	£49.62
B/P	A&J Lighting	Monthly Charge	£11.40
B/P	M D Landscapes	Grass cutting August	£1,202.40
B/P	PKF Littlejohn	AGAR External audit	£480.00
B/P	Viking Direct	Public Toilet cleaning supplies	£37.22
B/P	Rentokil Initial	Sanitary Disposal Aug 21 - Oct 21	£13.67
B/P	CH Club	Room Hire September	£20.00
TOTAL in month			£2,166.20

Sep-21	Receipts in Month	Details	Amount
	None		
TOTAL in month			£0.00

Aug-21	Payments in Month	Details	Amount
DD	Eon	Electricity New Park	£31.23
DD	Bulb	Electricity Toilets	£11.52
DD	Invoco (GOCARDLESS)	Portable telephone number	£1.20
DD	B&CE Holdings	Peoples Pension	£67.80
B/P	Braintree District Council	Rates, Pump House	£5.00
B/P	Staff	Salaries	£1,748.48
B/P	E C Waters	Home as Office August	£75.00
B/P	E C Waters	Clerk Expenses July 12th to August 9th	£42.05
B/P	A&J Lighting	Monthly Charge	£11.40

12. PARISH EMERGENCY PLAN: BDC ANNUAL UPDATE REQUEST

Updates and corrections were approved for the 2021 Annual Review of the Parish Emergency Plan, deadline for submission to Braintree District Council 24th September 2021

13. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

ECC: Residents are invited to have their say on the Essex Library Service with online discussions on Monday 20th September. Essex County Council's Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Communities, Cllr Louise McKinlay will outline ideas for key principles to help guide the service and its future development. Residents will be able to discuss these, as well as make suggestions and offer feedback. For tickets go to:

Morning session 11:30-12:30, 20th September: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/have-your-say-on-the-library-service-tickets-169622719119>

Evening session 18:00-19:00, 20th September: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/have-your-say-on-the-library-service-tickets-169624544579>

14. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- **St James Street noticeboard:** update on proposals and quote for noticeboard
- **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022:** consideration of events to celebrate
- **Website accessibility:** Progress report.
- **Pay Review:** deferred from April, if National pay recommendations have been published
- **Medical Centre:** update on progress
- **Land at Sudbury Road:** update on progress
- **Avenue of Hope:** Daffodil planting at Sheepcot Road, Highways Licence to plant is due shortly.
- Agenda items for the next meeting to be notified to the clerk by 9am on Monday 4th October please

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS:

Monday 11th October 2021	7.30pm	Ordinary Parish Council	Castle Hedingham Club
Monday 8th November 2021	7.30pm	Ordinary Parish Council	Castle Hedingham Club

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

SIGNED
(CHAIRMAN)

DATE