

**DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CASTLE HEDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL, HELD ON
MONDAY 14th APRIL 2014 AT CASTLE HEDINGHAM CLUB AT 7.45PM**

Present: Cllrs Allfrey, Hart, Higgins, Moffat, Pewter, Philp, Southgate, Worley
Cllr W Scattergood, Cllr H Johnson

In the Chair: Cllr Allfrey

Clerk: Claire Waters

Also Present: None

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Scrivens for absence, Cllr Pewter for late arrival and also from Cllrs Finch and Beavis.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of 17th March 2014 were approved as a correct record of events.
Proposed: Cllr Worley Seconded: Cllr Southgate Signed by the Chairman

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Higgins declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 8.3 as a close neighbour of the property, and item 10 as Vice Chair of the Memorial Hall Committee.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

None

5. PROGRESS CHECK

The new red dog waste bin installed by Braintree District Council by the tennis courts had been moved by persons unknown. It was re-sited on the corner of Bayley Street, on land which is the property of Hedingham Castle and so is within in the curtilage of a scheduled ancient monument. This red dog waste bin has therefore been removed, and replaced with a green dog waste bin in the original position by the tennis court.
Cllr Pewter arrived.

6. HIGHWAYS

- 6.1** Damage to the retaining wall against the field bordering Station Road pavement has been reported to Essex Highways and the request for repair is being monitored by Cllr Finch.
- 6.2** White lines at Queen Street, and a serious pothole in Nunnery Street have been repaired.
- 6.3** Cllr Johnson reported an accident at Crouch Green; there is still no decision on the request to Highways for a 40mph speed indicator device at this location.

7. REPORTS

Police/PCSO: A written report of activity from 18th March to 13th April 2014 was received from PC Carter: 1x request for police from ambulance regarding a drunk teenager, 1x concern for an elderly male, 1x road traffic collision, 1x attempted theft from a motor vehicle, 2x assault (ABH) but linked to 1 incident.

Residents who are experiencing noise and disturbance from drinkers at public houses in the village are advised to contact Essex police at the time using the non-emergency number 101. On a busy Friday/Saturday night police attendance may not be immediate, but at least there will be recorded incidents on file. Anyone affected can record the situation with sound which the Police can then use to build an ongoing picture of anti-social behaviour. This is up to the individual to determine if they are happy to do this at the time and the Police would not want anyone to put themselves in harm's way or into a confrontational situation. The recording of incidents, even nuisance noise, can be loaded onto the Police premises licence system which in turn can be used in future decisions regarding licence renewals or applications for special events etc.

ECC report: none

BDC report: Cllr Scattergood reported on a recent meeting with environmental and licensing authorities concerning noise and disturbance from drinkers at village pubs. Environmental Health Officers have visited the village on a recent spot check. Cllr Scattergood is able to call for a review of pub licenses if necessary.

Cllr Scattergood also hosted a very successful Rural Civic Event for Small Businesses at Earls Colne on 2nd April.

Cllr Johnson has removed a tree which was partially down on footpath 3. In his report on local crime, he stated that burglaries are still a concern in the area, as well as fake alcohol including vodka being sold, mostly through corner shops.

8. PLANNING

14/00393/FUL Proposed change of use of store room, erection of first floor extension over existing and new windows to front and side elevation.

3 Bayley Street Castle Hedingham Essex CO9 3HG No objections

14/00420/LBC Retiling the roof as existing and replacing some tiles as existing and restoring the dormer roof detail above the bay window to its previous shape.

Castle Lodge Bayley Street Castle Hedingham Essex CO9 3DG No objections

14/00095/TPOCON Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area - Fell 2 Leylandii and 2 Chamaecyparis Lawsonia Columnaris trees

Goston Mount Pottery Lane Castle Hedingham Essex CO9 3EU No objections

9. FINANCE

9.1 RESOLVED to accept quote from Mortimers to create disabled parking space at Memorial Hall at a cost of £180.00

Proposed: Cllr Southgate Seconded: Cllr Worley Agreed unanimously

9.2 Braintree District Council has advised the clerk of ongoing rates and utility costs for the public toilets. Cllr Southgate agreed to identify location of meters and where costs can be saved. The clerk will check the rateable value and the rates status of the building, and ask BDC for a copy of the fixed electrical test and asbestos report, as well as details of the current electricity supplier.

10. MEMORIAL HALL SOUND SYSTEM

The latest round of the ECC Community Initiatives Fund is now open for applications for grants of up to £20,000. Cllr Scattergood advised that a letter of intent from the Parish Council to provide financial support would help the grant application. Cllr Higgins agreed to make the Memorial Hall accounts available to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: To write a letter of intent to contribute £1000 to the cost of a new sound system.

Proposed: Cllr Philp Seconded: Cllr Worley Agreed unanimously

11. INSURANCE OF CASTLE HEDINGHAM CLUB AND MEMORIAL HALL

RESOLVED: The Parish Council agrees responsibility for the buildings insurance for both buildings. Cllr Pewter will conduct a survey of the buildings in preparation for quotes to be obtained.

Proposed: Cllr Allfrey Seconded: Cllr Worley Agreed unanimously

12. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Cllr Scattergood advised that the next stage in the consultation will invite feedback only on policy and procedure. The Parish Council will write to confirm their original position in the consultation.

13. PROPOSED 7.5T WEIGHT LIMIT

The clerk has advised highways of the need for advance warning of the 7.5t weight limit on the direction sign to Castle Hedingham at Bulmer Tye. Otherwise, the agreement from the meeting with Cllr Finch and representatives from neighbouring Parish Councils in 2013 still applies.

14. LIGHT AT FOOTPATH, POTTERY LANE

RESOLVED: Because of difficulties in maintaining power supply and gaining access for repairs and maintenance, the light will be removed. The clerk will obtain quotes for the work to be done.

Proposed: Cllr Southgate Seconded: Cllr Pewter Agreed unanimously

15. FOOTPATHS REVIEW

This will now be an agenda item for the May meeting

16. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

Braintree District Council: Street Cleaning Agreement has been signed and returned.

Greene King: Correspondence with surveyor on allotments to rear of Rising Sun. More information has been requested as tenure and entitlement questions have not been answered.

Rural Services Network: Request for Councillors to take part in a “sounding board” by email on general rural issues, and specifically Broadband, Transport and Fuel Poverty.

Essex County Council: The Mobile Library stop at New Park fortnightly on Tuesdays is to be discontinued due to lack of use. Elderly or disabled residents may request a home library service.

15. REPRESENTATIVES AND WORKING GROUPS REPORTS

15.1 Magna Carta 2015: The national Magna Carta group’s funding application was not successful. A local grant application is possible. The next meeting will be on April 25th.

15.2 War Memorial: A meeting of the War Memorial Working party was arranged for Wednesday May 14th at 7.30pm.

15. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Review of footpaths.
- Request for funding towards repair of Tennis Club wall
- Maintenance of planted area of Forge Green
- Magna Carta
- Open Gardens

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS:

Annual Parish Meeting

Friday 2nd May 2014

Parish Council Annual Meeting

Monday 19th May 2014

Normal Parish Council

Monday 16th June, Monday 14th July

The meeting closed at 10.10pm

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN)

DATE