



# Parish of Castle Heddingham

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## MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CASTLE HEDDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL, HELD ON MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015 AT CASTLE HEDDINGHAM CLUB AT 7.45PM

**Present:** Cllrs Allfrey, Higgins, Moffat, Philp, Scrivens, Worley  
Cllr Finch to item 3

**In the Chair:** Cllr Allfrey

**Clerk:** Claire Waters

**Also Present:** Mr Paul Lemon, Chairman, Colne Valley Railway  
Mr Nick Ellis, Archivist, Colne Valley Railway

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Pewter and Southgate, and from Cllr Scrivens for late arrival. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Johnson, Beavis & Scattergood.

### 2. ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

Cllr Finch gave a brief report and confirmed he will attend the Annual Parish Meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup> at the Memorial Hall. He took the opportunity to say goodbye to Madam Chairman and give his best wishes for a long and happy retirement, adding that her long service as Councillor will be sorely missed and she has been an exemplary Chairman for 12 years.

Cllr Finch left. Cllr Scrivens arrived

### 3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of 9th March 2015 were approved as a correct record of events.

Proposed: Cllr Worley      Seconded: Cllr Moffat      Signed by the Chairman

### 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

### 5. PUBLIC FORUM

None

### 6. PROGRESS CHECK

**6.1** An update has been received on the renovation of the telephone kiosk at St James St. The glass panels have been purchased, and will be inserted after the supporting bars have been painted. It is hoped this will be completed during spring/summer.

**6.2** Waste collections are still not running smoothly and some waste is being mixed during collection.

**Action:** Clerk to contact BDC to ask again for collections to be Tuesdays for the whole village.

**6.3** Cllr Moffat and the clerk will attend a meeting with Sible Heddingham Parish Council, District Councillors Beavis & Johnson and the Corporate Director of Braintree District Council Jon Hayden on April 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss plans for a new medical centre on the Premdor development. This will be an agenda item for the May meeting.

**6.4** Cllr Scrivens was unable to find a date which suited both the Memorial Hall and the theatre group, so the performance of "A Christmas Carol" has not been booked.

### 7. HIGHWAYS

Cllr Finch will chase up the repair of potholes along Kirby Hall Road, and source planings.

**Action:** Cllr Philp to forward a copy of waste licence.

Nunnery Street will be temporarily closed on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> May from the junction with A1017 Yeldham Road to the junction with Crown Street.

Forthcoming Highway repairs and road closures can now be viewed at [www.roadworks.org](http://www.roadworks.org)

## 8. REPORTS

**Police/PCSO:** Crimes in the parish are mapped online at

[http://www.essex.police.uk/my\\_neighbourhood/braintree\\_district/hedinghams/hedinghams-2.aspx](http://www.essex.police.uk/my_neighbourhood/braintree_district/hedinghams/hedinghams-2.aspx),

The most recent information on this site is from February 2015, when 2 incidents of anti-social behaviour and 1 vehicle crime were reported.

Cllrs Worley and Higgins and the clerk will attend a meeting with Nick Alson, the Police and Crime Commissioner, at the Reading Rooms in Great Yeldham at 7pm on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June.

**ECC report:** Cllr Finch presented his report at the start of the meeting.

**BDC report:** None

## 9. PLANNING

*Applications received:*

**15/00403/FUL** Change of use of building to 2 no. residential dwellings and associated amenity spaces.

Nunnery Farm Nunnery Street Castle Hedingham Essex CO9 3DR

Since this application only arrived shortly before the meeting, comments to Braintree Planning will be made once all Councillors have had the opportunity to read the proposals.

*Applications determined:*

**15/00118/FUL** Erection of new grain store

Little Lodge Farm Sudbury Road CO9 3AG

**Application GRANTED**

## 11. COLNE VALLEY RAILWAY

Mr Paul Lemon and Mr Nick Ellis of the Colne Valley Railway attended to explain the situation regarding the expiry of the lease on the land in December 2015. The landowner has been advised that the site would be considered for development by Braintree District Council, so has submitted it as a late entry in the call for sites for the new Local Plan. CVR are in constant contact with the landowner by phone, usually in the early morning as he is in Australia, and are contracted by him to dispose of the assets he owns, which are mostly railway carriages. Heritage Lottery Fund are urging CVR to continue with the grant application so they may be in a position to buy the land if possible when the draft Local Plan is completed by BDC. In the meantime they are talking to local landowners and are being enticed by developers to move elsewhere. The charitable aims of the railway state Colne Valley as the location and if at all possible the railway wishes to stay here, although other offers are attractive. Colne Valley Railway is the biggest tourist attraction in Braintree District, and there is strong support for the development of a museum. Two methods of protecting the site had been considered; registering it as an asset of community value and listing the station and the signal box. These options may be considered closer to the November deadline if other negotiations have not succeeded. Madam Chairman thanked the gentlemen for their time and reiterated that they have the full support of the Parish Council in staying at the current site.

## 12. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

**Braintree District Neighbourhood Watch:** Annual General Meeting & Conference 2015, Thursday 30th April at Howard Hall, 36 Bocking End, CM7 9AA 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm.

**Braintree & Bocking Civic Society:** Grants of up to £1000 towards heritage projects, including the cost of restoring or preserving historic buildings, are now available from Braintree and Bocking Civic Society. To be eligible, projects must fall within the objectives of the Society and must be in, or directly benefit, the town of Braintree and Bocking or its surrounding villages. In exceptional circumstances, support may also be given to projects in other parts of the Braintree District area (except Coggeshall, Halstead and Witham). Further information is available on the Society's website ([www.bbcivsoc.org.uk](http://www.bbcivsoc.org.uk)) or from Peter Turner, 01376 567566.

**The Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP:** VE Day 70th Anniversary. Supporting communities in their celebrations. To tie in with commemorations that are happening nationally, suggestions are:

- Participating in the national two minute silence at 3pm on Friday 8th May.
- Celebrations on the evening of Saturday 9th May, to support the VE concert that will be live on the BBC
- Holding or facilitating picnics and street parties on the afternoon of Sunday 10th May
- Illuminating landmarks or buildings which are important to your areas to remember the buildings that were lit up on VE Day in 1945.

**Colne-Stour Countryside Association:** Annual Report, Invitation to AGM Thursday 30th April and Annual Summer Party Thursday 2nd July 2015.

## **15. REPRESENTATIVES AND WORKING GROUPS REPORTS**

**Magna Carta 2015:** Cllr Worley provided an update on events. The inaugural Heritage Walk takes place on 24<sup>th</sup> April. 14 people connected with the village celebrations will attend a lunchtime reception on 12<sup>th</sup> May at Mansion House to commemorate the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the entry into London of the Baronial army. The Hedingham Castle staff, particularly Simon Orr, have been very helpful in taking on the logistics and planning for the June 21<sup>st</sup> picnic. More funding may be required to host the exhibition launch on June 13<sup>th</sup>. Since a decision on this matter was not an agenda item, an additional short meeting was arranged at 6.00pm on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March at Madam Chairman's house.

**War Memorial:** English Heritage have given the final approval so the work can restart. The Conservation Engineer has agreed to attend in person to monitor the piling and respond to concerns from residents of Church Ponds. The clerk will also attend if available.

**High Speed Broadband:** The final stage of the faculty application for installing a transmitter on the church tower is awaiting a response from Nicholas Jacobs, the church architect.

## **16. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- Election of Chairman for 2015 - 2016
- Acceptance of office for new Councillors
- Update on Highways permission for tree planting, Sheepcot Road
- Renovation of planted area at Forge Green
- Castle Hedingham Club shed
- Review of plans for display of Bingham Pottery

## **17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

**Annual meeting of the Parish Council**  
**Annual Parish Meeting (public meeting)**

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2015**  
**Thursday 21st May 2015**

**The meeting closed at 9.40pm**

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN)

DATE