



Parish of Castle Hedingham

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CASTLE HEDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL, HELD ON MONDAY 23rd APRIL 2018 AT CASTLE HEDINGHAM CLUB AT 7.45PM

Present: Cllrs Higgins, Hood, Moffat, Pewter, Philp, Southgate, Toocaram, Worley
In the Chair: Cllr Southgate
Clerk: Claire Waters
Also Present: County Cllr Finch

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Scrivens for absence. District Cllrs Beavis and Johnson also sent apologies for absence.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of 26th March 2018 were approved as a correct record of events and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Cllr Worley **Seconded:** Cllr Hood Agreed unanimously

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

4. PUBLIC FORUM

None

5. PROGRESS CHECK

5.1 Annual Parish Assembly. This will take place at the Memorial Hall starting at 7.30pm for 8pm on Thursday 10th May. Tables will be provided for village groups and clubs to display information. Light refreshments will be available after the meeting. A draft copy of the Annual Report was given to Councillors for approval.

6. HIGHWAYS

6.1 Cllr Philp raised the issue of urgent repairs still needed to Kirby Hall Road. Cllr Finch agreed to chase this up with Highways

6.2 40mph SID sign at Crouch Green. This has been approved but no funding has been allocated. Cllr Finch agreed to follow this up.

7. REPORTS

7.1 Police/Neighbourhood Watch: None

7.2 ECC Report: Cllr Finch was congratulated on the news that he was re-elected Leader of the Council last week. He has made some cabinet changes, combining the portfolios of Highways maintenance and Infrastructure and making Economic Growth a separate portfolio. He also briefed Councillors on the following initiatives:

- Lobbying Government on the green paper on adult social care to obtain a positive outcome for the County. In answer to a question from Cllr Hood he also outlined the County initiatives on healthy living and a £10 million grant from Sport England for the Active Essex programme
- Children's services. Essex under the leadership of Dick Madden is viewed as a national example of good practice and is advising other authorities
- Business Rates Retention programme. This is being piloted with some local authorities retaining 75% of business rates. Essex is not involved in the pilot but is lobbying for 100% retention of business rates, and against overloading local authorities with additional work in consequence.
- Eastern Region regeneration and growth. Cllr Finch is working with an all party group. We are the 2nd fastest growing region after London and one of three which is a net contributor to the economy.

- In answer to a question from Cllr Pewter, Cllr Finch outlined the development of garden communities in a joint business with BDC, each with a population of around 150,000 people and all the necessary infrastructure and business to develop a thriving community.
- Cllr Finch agreed on behalf of the clerk to investigate the Essex Marketplace system where the grass cutting grant invoice has to be uploaded. This is not user-friendly for Parish Councils as it requires a password reset every 3 months, and since a Parish Council only invoices ECC once a year the password has to be reset every time. Requests for a password reset on other websites work instantly, but with the Essex Marketplace system it takes around 2 weeks to get a response.

7.3 BDC Report: None. Cllrs Beavis and Johnson had a conflicting council meeting at BDC.

8. PLANNING

Applications received:

None

Applications determined:

18/00081/FUL Erection of single storey rear extension

Bayley Cottage Bayley Street CO9 3HG

Application GRANTED

18/00106/FUL Demolition of existing rear single storey extension and erection of two storey rear extension and provision of new vehicular access

Little Lodge Cottage Sudbury Road CO9 3AG

Application GRANTED

17/02282/FUL Proposed new machinery storage barn

Barrells Meadow Kirby Hall Road CO9 3EA

Application GRANTED

18/00311/FUL Proposed additional use of residential annexe for independent lets

40A Queen Street CO9 3HA

Application REFUSED

9. FINANCE

9.1 The monthly accounts were approved and payments agreed for authorisation.

Proposed: Cllr Hood

Seconded: Cllr Toocaram

Agreed unanimously

| Apr-18 Payments in Month | | Details | Amount |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| DD | Eon | Electricity New Park | £22.26 |
| DD | British Gas | Electricity Toilets | £14.94 |
| DD | BCE Holdings Ltd | Peoples Pension | £38.58 |
| B/P | Staff | Salaries | £1,524.82 |
| B/P | E C Waters | Home as Office April | £40.00 |
| B/P | E C Waters | Clerk Expenses | £112.04 |
| B/P | C H Club | Meeting Room Hire | £20.00 |
| B/P | A&J Lighting | Monthly Charge March | £10.08 |
| B/P | Darkins Supply Stores | Village Maintenance | £74.49 |
| B/P | 1st CH Scouts | Grant Wooding Lodge | £1,000.00 |
| B/P | BDC | Rates Pump House April | £5.00 |
| B/P | HMRC | Tax/NI | £78.35 |
| B/P | M D Landscapes | Grass Cutting | £414.00 |
| B/P | EALC | Affiliation Fee | £339.05 |
| B/P | Paul Pittard | Painting Memorial Hall | £1,345.00 |

| Apr-18 Receipts in Month | | Details | Amount |
|--------------------------|-----|------------------------|-------------------|
| 27-Apr | BDC | Precept 1st instalment | £12,564.00 |
| 27-Apr | BDC | Localism Fund | £1,396.00 |
| 27-Apr | BDC | Collection Surplus | £417.00 |
| TOTAL in month | | | £14,377.00 |

Comments and suggestions were invited regarding the design and layout. This is a joint project with Hedingham Heritage Society and the British Legion, the board is expected to cost around £1200.

15. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- **Annual Parish Council meeting:** Election of Chairman, Committees and Representatives.
Action: Clerk to forward to Councillors their Declarations of Interests for review and update.
- **Staff Pay Review – Clerk** – postponed due to the lack of availability of 2018-2020 salary scales
- **General Data Protection Regulations from May 25th 2018** – report on initial work completed
- **Invitation for Parish Council to adopt the Listening Bench in St Nicholas churchyard** – the recordings have been listened to around 5,000 times.
- **Memorial Board** – approval of purchase

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS:

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY: THURSDAY 10TH MAY, 8PM at the MEMORIAL HALL

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Annual Parish Council | Monday 21 st May 2018 at 7.45pm | Castle Hedingham Club |
| Ordinary Parish Council | Monday 25 th June 2018 at 7.45pm | Castle Hedingham Club |

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN)

DATE