

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CASTLE HEDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL, HELD ON MONDAY
9th February 2015 AT CASTLE HEDINGHAM CLUB AT 7.45PM**

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

In the Chair: Cllr Allfrey

Clerk: Claire Waters

Also Present: 1 parishioner

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Madam Chairman led a minute's silence to remember Cllr Jackie Hart, whose funeral will take place at 1.45pm on Monday 2nd March at St Nicholas' Church. Her contributions to the Parish Council and the village community will be greatly missed. A letter of condolence to Cllr Hart's family was signed by the Chairman.

Apologies were received from Cllr Philp for absence. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Beavis and Finch.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of 12th January 2015 were approved as a correct record of events.

Proposed: Cllr Moffat
Chairman

Seconded: Cllr Scrivens

Signed by the

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

4. PUBLIC FORUM

None

5. PROGRESS CHECK

- Clerk to organise repair of the fence and gate at the Churchyard opposite the Memorial Hall.
- Cllr Southgate reported that the timber yard as yet has no confirmed buyer.
- Problems with the new waste collections in the village centre have been reported to BDC. Timing of dustcarts will be staggered to avoid blocking roads by sending 3 at once.
- Clerk to report litter and fly tipping up Brick Hill to Braintree District Council

6. HIGHWAYS

6.1 Consideration of action regarding speeding along Sheepcot Road approaching the village.

RESOLVED: To submit a Highways Scheme Request for speed reduction measures.

Proposed: Cllr Southgate Seconded: Cllr Higgins Agreed unanimously

District Councillors Johnson and Scattergood agreed their support of this application.

6.2 Consideration of request to Highways for reduced speed limit along Station Road from 40mph to 30mph for safety of pedestrians.

RESOLVED: To submit a Highways Scheme Request for a reduced speed limit, and to identify the owner of the hedge/trees opposite the pavement to request it is cut back to improve safety.

Proposed: Cllr Worley Seconded: Cllr Scrivens Agreed unanimously

District Councillors Johnson and Scattergood agreed their support of this application

Action: The clerk will gain the support of Cllrs Beavis and Finch, and submit both applications by the deadline of 27th February 2015

6.3 Clerk will report failing lights on 30mph warning sign at Sudbury Hill

7. REPORTS

Police/PCSO: Weekly reports received by the clerk about the Halstead area contained no information about incidents in Castle Hedingham.

ECC report: None.

BDC report: Cllr Scattergood reported on Braintree District Council's decision not to increase Council Tax. She also assisted the Parish Council in understanding the impact of BDC's proposed changes to the Scheme of Delegation for Planning Applications. If adopted, the changes will mean that Parish Councils can no longer call a controversial application directly into full Planning Committee, but could ask a District Councillor to call it in, with reasons clearly stated in planning terms in line with the National Planning Policy Framework. Councillors noted that this reduces the Parish Council's ability to directly influence decision making, and also that timescales and response deadlines would need to take into account the Parish Council's obligation to bring planning application decisions to monthly meetings. The clerk will respond to express these views. Cllr Johnson reported on Neighbourhood Watch support available to parishes, and preparations for the forthcoming elections on May 7th.

8. PLANNING

Applications received:

15/00023/LBC Proposed painting of front exterior, re-writing existing hanging sign, replacement windows and replacement roof to rear side annexe 4 St James Street CO9 3EJ
Request Welsh slates are used rather than Chinese slates which fade quickly, otherwise no objections

14/01572/FUL & 14/01573/LBC Creation of pitch to the roof of the porch; erection of shed; erection of 2 x 5 bar gates at 1.8m in height The Rising Sun 71 Nunnery Street CO9 3DP
Concern that door & window glazing bars give a 1930s look on a listed building, otherwise no objections.

15/00044/FUL Change of use of outbuilding from retail to domestic Astles, 1 Pye Corner CO9 3DE
No objections as long as the secondary building is tied to the main building.

15/00059/LBC Alterations to sunroom, new doors, name plate and bell sign, wall mounted planter and satellite dish 2 King Street CO9 3ER
No objections, Councillors welcome applications for planning consent for satellite dishes on listed buildings.

Applications determined:

14/00372/TPOCON Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area - Reduce canopy from 1 Beech by 4 metres, Reduce canopy from a Silver Birch by 2 metres, Re-pollard a Lime back to previous pruning points, Crown reduce Horse Chestnut by 6 metres, Fell Sycamore and Reduce 2 Sycamores by 7 metres. Astles 1 Pye Corner CO9 3DE
Application GRANTED

14/00373/TPOCON Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area - Remove approx 20ft off the top of the main stem of the tree and reduce 2 large branches, Remove approx 20ft off the top of 2 other trees. Bingham's Pottery Lane CO9 3EU
Application GRANTED

10. CASTLE HEDINGHAM POST OFFICE

A schedule of works was given to Cllr Higgins by the postmistress, detailing timescales for the relocation of the Post Office. The branch will close to the public in its current premises on Tuesday 24th February at 1pm. Work will then start on Wednesday 25th February to move the equipment and relocate it to the Art Place next door to Buckley's tea rooms. The branch will then be open to the public in its new premises at 9am on Wednesday 4th March. The new Post Office telephone number from 4th March will be 01787 463943.

Action: The clerk to provide the postmistress with contact details for asbestos survey.

11. CASTLE HEDINGHAM SURGERY DISPENSING STATUS

NHS England has not yet made a decision about the dispensing status of the surgeries. The decision was due to be made by 31st January 2015. The Practice Manager of Dr Davis's surgery reports that an outline business case for a joint medical centre on the new housing development in Sible Hedingham was submitted to NHS England before the end of January.

12. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

BDC: Local Plan Issues and Scoping Draft and Sustainability Appraisal are available to view and comment until 6th March, online at http://www.braintree.gov.uk/downloads/file/4821/new_local_plan_issues_and_scoping_document_sa_scoping_report_december_2014

ECC: The Guide to Infrastructure Contributions for Developers is being updated and comments are invited. The consultation is open until March 3rd. Cllr Pewter volunteered to read this 104 page document.

EALC: Invitation from the new Chairman, Cllr John Gili-Ross, to morning coffee at 11am on Tuesday 3rd March or Thursday 2nd April 2015, to discuss the EALC and help shape the future.

EALC: The Local Council Police Partnership conference will be held on 25th March at Foakes Hall in Great Dunmow Essex. Places are limited at £20.00 per person, early booking is advised. The clerk will forward the agenda to Councillors.

RCCE: Following a petition opposing withdrawal of funding, DEFRA has confirmed that it will maintain its £2.3m investment in the ACRE Network of Rural Community Councils for 2015/16. This is very good news for Rural Community Council of Essex (RCCE) and the whole ACRE Network. Thanks to everyone who supported RCCE.

15. REPRESENTATIVES AND WORKING GROUPS REPORTS

Magna Carta 2015: Cllr Worley gave a report on the progress of plans for the village celebrations of the 800th anniversary of the signing of Magna Carta. An invitation to a Lord Mayor of London's reception on 12th May 2015 has been received, for up to 10 representatives from the village.

War Memorial: A date for commencement of the work is expected shortly, following discussions with the contractor about logistical arrangements – parking, health & safety, church events etc.

Action: Clerk will write a letter to local residents and businesses to inform them about the work.

Transport Representative: Cllr Lynne Moffat and the clerk will attend a meeting on 11th February with Sible Hedingham Parish Council to be briefed on a new daily bus service to and from Sudbury, starting in April 2015.

High Speed Broadband: The Parish Council is in discussion with the PCC regarding progress on the faculty application for the installation of the wireless transmitter on St Nicholas' Church tower.

16. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Positioning and arrangements for Magna Carta noticeboard
- Waymarking of Magna Carta walk at Rushley Green
- Report from 11th February meeting on new daily bus service to and from Sudbury
- Parking at New Park.
- Damage to Forge Green
- Deterioration of pointing, Tennis Club Wall

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Normal Parish Council

Monday 9th March 2015

Normal Parish Council

Monday 20th April 2015

**** (Please note the April date has been changed from Monday April 13th) ****

Annual meeting of the Parish Council

Monday 18th May 2015

Annual Parish Meeting (public meeting)

Thursday 21st May 2015

The meeting closed at 10.03pm