

DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CASTLE HEDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL, HELD ON MONDAY 17th MARCH 2014 AT CASTLE HEDINGHAM CLUB AT 7.45PM

PUBLIC FORUM

The owner of Falcon House thanked the Parish Council for their support over the longstanding flooding issues in King Street. Essex Highways have now completed repairs in two locations.

MEMORIAL HALL SOUND SYSTEM

The treasurer of the Memorial Hall Committee presented the case for a new sound system for the Memorial Hall at a cost of around £4,000.00. Alternative quotes will be sought, and a possible grant from ECC Community Initiatives fund will be investigated. This will be an agenda item for the March meeting.

PROGRESS CHECK

Braintree District Council no longer supplies conservation style dog waste bins. The clerk will investigate options for removing the red bin by the tennis court and replacing with a more suitable alternative.

HIGHWAYS

- Potholes at Sudbury Hill and St James Street have been reported
- The clerk will write to Essex Highways to express thanks for the professional work and attitude of the men who carried out the drainage repairs in King Street.
- Other highways problems have been followed up but no firm dates are available for completion.

REPORTS

Police/PCSO: A written report of activity from 1st January to 17th March 2014 was received from PC Carter: 3x road traffic collision, 1x anti-social behaviour, 1x assault, 5x suspicious circumstances, 1x breach of the peace, 2x civil dispute, 1x obstruction, 1x theft from motor vehicle, 3x abandoned vehicle, 8x trees down, 11x other incidents.

ECC report: Cllr D Finch supplied a report via the clerk.

BDC report:

Cllr W Scattergood reported on a recent meeting with the Police Commissioner, where she asked for written police reports to be supplied to Parish Councils. She has been actively supporting the achievements of young people in the county. The Local Development Framework is progressing and is due for the next stage in April.

Cllr H Johnson reported on his activity with the Thursday walking group and offered to remove a tree which is partially down on footpath 3. Footpath 25 has a large gully which is impeding access, this has been reported to the property owner. He also warned residents to exercise caution as burglaries are increasing in the area. Cllr and Mrs Johnson have also been visiting France to research the graves of the soldiers named on the Castle and Sible Hedingham War Memorials in preparation for a report for the British Legion.

FINANCE

- **RESOLVED** to donate £200 to a 1st Castle Hedingham Scout who has been selected to represent Essex at the 2015 World Scout Jamboree in Japan. Councillors were also asked to consider ways the Scouts could carry out sponsored activities to help the local community.
- **RESOLVED** to purchase two "Road Ahead Closed" signs for use in parish emergencies

TELEPHONE KIOSK NUNNERY STREET

RESOLVED: Not to adopt the kiosk from BT but to await its scheduled removal

PROPOSED 7.5T WEIGHT LIMIT

Councillors welcomed the plans to reduce the area of the weight limit which should make it easier to ensure heavy traffic does not pass through the village. Businesses and farms affected will be consulted by ECC Highways, the clerk will identify those affected locally.

CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

Stop Stansted Expansion Annual Review The Airports Commission announced Stansted would not be on the shortlist for additional runways. Work continues until final report in 2015

Braintree District Council Plans to re-route Domestic Refuse Collections in February 2015. Feedback is requested on potential collection issues e.g. restricted access to roads in the parish

Recreation Field the Parish Council has been asked by a 14 year old resident to make improvements to the Recreation Field. The clerk will reply explaining why this is not currently possible, and forward a copy of the correspondence to Hedingham Castle

Braintree District Council A new street cleaning agreement has been received, confirming that next year verge cutting will be undertaken by the District Council on behalf of the County Council. The clerk will write to the District Council explaining the special cutting requirements for the protected verge along Edey's Lane.

REPRESENTATIVES AND WORKING GROUPS REPORTS

Magna Carta 2015: Several projects have been identified, the next meeting will be on Friday 6th June 2014 at 11.00am. Hopefully there will be some news on available funding by then.

High Speed Broadband: Following a briefing meeting on March 12th, volunteers will be conducting a door to door survey of residents to assess the level of interest among parishioners. Halstead police have been informed that the survey will be taking place.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Consideration of new sound system options for Memorial Hall
- Options for replacement of red dog waste bin by tennis court
- Consideration of alternative banking arrangements
- Review of footpaths.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS:

Normal Parish Council
Annual Parish Meeting

Monday 14th April 2014
Friday 2nd May 2014