

**DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CASTLE HEDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL, HELD ON
MONDAY 19th MAY 2014 AT CASTLE HEDINGHAM CLUB AT 7.45PM**

Present: Cllrs Allfrey, Moffat, Pewter, Philp, Southgate, Worley
Cllr H Johnson
In the Chair: Cllr Allfrey
Clerk: Claire Waters
Also Present: None

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

Elected as Chairman: Cllr Allfrey

Proposed: Cllr Worley Seconded: Cllr Southgate Agreed unanimously

Elected as Vice-Chairman: Cllr Worley

Proposed: Cllr Allfrey Seconded: Cllr Scrivens Agreed unanimously

Acceptance of Office was signed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman, witnessed by the Clerk.

RESOLVED: Standing Orders, Disclosure of Interest forms, Committees, Representatives and working groups to remain unchanged.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of 14th April 2014 were approved as a correct record of events.

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

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

5. PUBLIC FORUM

None

Cllr Pewter arrived

6. PROGRESS CHECK

1089 9.3 Dog fouling remains a problem, particularly in St Nicholas Churchyard, New Park, Bayley Street and parish footpaths. Dog walkers are asked to please pick up after their dog, and residents are advised to contact the Dog Warden at Braintree District Council to report any specific concerns. The Clerk will contact the new Head at De Vere Primary to try to re-activate the educational project between the Dog Warden and the school.

1102 6.2 The Clerk will contact the builders concerning additional minor repairs to St Nicholas Churchyard Wall and request they meet with Cllr Southgate.

1105 16.1 The Clerk will repeat the request to Highways for repairs to Footpath 15 by the timber yard on Health & Safety grounds

1109 12 Voluntary work on the Castle Hedingham website www.castlehedingham.org continues, currently looking at ways of speeding up the website following reports that it is running slowly.

7. HIGHWAYS

7.1 Detailed maps and proposals for the 7.5t weight limit were agreed.

7.2 Leaking drain at Nunnery Street will be reported to Anglian Water

7.3 Jason Lindsay will be asked to cut back overhanging vegetation by the Bayley Street footpath.

Cllr Johnson arrived

8. REPORTS

Police/PCSO: A written report for 14th April to 19th May 2014 was received from PCSO James Graham: 1x theft from vehicle by smashing a window, 1x damage to windows in a house. PCSO Graham has recently joined the Halstead team and is looking forward to working in the Hedingham area as he grew up in Pebmarsh and attended Hedingham School.

ECC report: none

BDC report: Cllr Johnson continues to take an interest in Police matters and advised that Essex Police are undergoing a re-organisation, although they will retain the same number of officers.

9. PLANNING

14/00447/FUL Erection of metal railings and alterations to existing front boundary wall.

40 St James Street Castle Hedingham Essex CO9 3EW

No objections

10.1 The Audit Commission Annual Return was signed by the Chairman and the Clerk

10.2 RESOLVED: to adopt the NALC model financial regulations updated April 2014
Proposed: Cllr Worley Seconded: Cllr Moffat Agreed unanimously

10.3 The asset register 2014 – 2015 was reviewed for insurance purposes.

10.4 The risk assessment schedule 2014 – 2015 will be copied to the Audit Commission

10.5 Clerk will contact NFU to arrange a current valuation of the Club & Hall buildings.

10.6 RESOLVED: To accept the quote for installing light sensors at the Public Toilets
Proposed: Cllr Pewter Seconded: Cllr Allfrey Agreed unanimously

11. REPAIRS TO TENNIS CLUB WALL

The Tennis Club has raised £5,000 in grant funding from Essex Heritage Trust and hopes to raise £2,500 through its own funding. The wall is an important historical feature of the village and needs specialist building repair.

RESOLVED: To donate up to £4,000 to the wall repair project to meet the total funding required.

Proposed: Cllr Worley Seconded: Cllr Scrivens Agreed unanimously

12. REVIEW OF PARISH FOOTPATHS

Councillors consider the parish footpaths to be in reasonable repair considering the time of year. A concern has been raised by a resident about the condition of the footpath from New Park to Sheepcot Road. The Clerk will reply to this correspondence.

13. MAINTENANCE OF PLANTED AREA AT FORGE GREEN

The planted area outside the Old Pottery is on Highways land and had been planted and maintained by the previous owners of the property. Only a small depth of soil is present with tarmac beneath. Councillors will review the site and this will be an agenda item for the June meeting.

14. OPEN GARDENS 2014

Preparations are on schedule for the weekend of June 14th /15th, and donations can be made via the Waitrose Community Matters green token scheme. Any support will be greatly appreciated.

15. MAPPING OF ORDINARY WATERCOURSES IN THE PARISH

RESOLVED: To notify ECC Highways that the Parish Council wishes to take part in this project to identify unmapped watercourses such as gulleys and culverts which may contribute to flooding.

Proposed: Cllr Worley Seconded: Cllr Scrivens Agreed unanimously

16. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

Braintree District Council: Following a misleading article in the Colchester Gazette, we are reassured that Recycling Centres for Household Waste are being reviewed by Essex County Council. No closures of centres are planned and a consultation will take place, in mid-2015 at the earliest, before any actions are taken.

Wheatsheaf Pub: A letter has been received from the tenants of the Wheatsheaf, saying they are not responsible for recent offensive behaviour of pub users in the village.

17. REPRESENTATIVES AND WORKING GROUPS REPORTS

17.1 Magna Carta 2015: Consideration of constitution and arrangements for local group.

RESOLVED: To formally delegate powers to the Magna Carta 2015 committee to raise funds, manage separate Magna Carta banking arrangements and co-opt members to the committee.

Parish Council committee members are Cllr Worley, Cllr Scrivens and Cllr Moffat.

Proposed: Cllr Southgate Seconded: Cllr Allfrey Agreed unanimously

17.2 War Memorial: A faculty application is being submitted by Revd Laurie Bond, and quotes from specialist contractors have been sought as recommended by the Conservation Engineer in preparation for a War Memorials Trust Grant application by the next deadline of 30th June 2014.

17.3 High Speed Broadband: Superfast Essex postcode checker confirms that by summer 2016 available download speeds in the Parish will be at least 2Mbps. However, for technical and financial reasons there are currently no plans to deploy fibre or alternative technologies to achieve higher speeds. <http://www.superfastessex.org/en-us/where,whenandhow.aspx>

18. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Management of Parish Council reserves
- Maintenance of planted area of Forge Green

19. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS:

Normal Parish Council

Monday 14th July 2014

Normal Parish Council

Monday 11th August 2014

The meeting closed at 10.00pm

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN)

DATE