



Parish of Castle Hedingham

Mrs Claire Waters (Parish Clerk)
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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CASTLE HEDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL, HELD ON MONDAY 17th November 2014 AT CASTLE HEDINGHAM CLUB AT 7.45PM

Present: Cllrs Hart, Higgins, Moffat, Pewter, Philp, Scrivens, Worley
Cllr H Johnson
In the Chair: Cllr Worley
Clerk: Claire Waters
Also Present: Representatives from Castle Hedingham GP surgeries

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Allfrey and Cllr Southgate for absence. Apologies for absence were also received from Cllrs Beavis, Scattergood and Finch.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of 13th October 2014 were approved as a correct record of events.

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

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs Moffat & Scrivens declared a non –pecuniary interest in item 10.1.

4. CASTLE HEDINGHAM SURGERY DISPENSING STATUS

Dr Bill Littler, GP and Mrs Rachel Howard, Practice Manager attended to inform Councillors about the potential loss of rural status for the Castle Hedingham surgeries, which would mean they would be unable to dispense to residents of the parish. This would have a negative impact on the financial viability of both surgeries. The decision is to be made in January, following which there will be an opportunity to appeal. District Councillors have been working to support the surgeries, and Cllr Beavis has arranged a meeting with NHS England in Sible Hedingham on Wednesday 26th November. Cllrs Higgins and Moffat will represent Castle Hedingham Parish Council at this meeting, together with the clerk. Both surgeries will also be represented at the meeting. The clerk will also contact Cllr David Finch, who chairs the Health & Wellbeing Committee at Essex County Council.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

None

6. PROGRESS CHECK

Repairs have been made to the gatepost of the Churchyard gate at Church Ponds at a cost of £25.00. A replacement dog bin has been installed on the green at Sheepcot Road to replace the damaged one, cost £100.00+VAT.

1155.11 Parking problems St James St: The clerk contacted another Parish Council to check the effectiveness of signs outside shops asking for parking to be kept clear and was informed that these have no impact at all. Cllr Johnson has a meeting planned with NEPP and will report back.

1154.7.1 Pothole repairs Rushley Green. The worst of the holes have now been filled by Highways. Cllr Philp has offered to lay planings supplied by Highways. An annual maintenance scheme has been requested from Highways to stop the road surface deteriorating further. Clerk to contact Cllr David Finch and put him in contact with Cllr Philp.

1145.4 Installation of bench at Crouch Green. Highways have no objections so the resident has advised told to go ahead with the bench installation, and asked to fix it securely.

7. HIGHWAYS

7.1 Invitation from Essex Highways to submit highway improvement requests to be considered by the Local Highways Panel for the 2015/2016 financial year. Councillors will consider possible schemes and report ideas to the clerk by 5th December 2014, to enable applications to be submitted by the deadline of 31st December 2014.

7.2 Consideration of request from residents of Rushley Green to apply to Highways for extension of the Sudbury Hill footpath to Rosemary Lane. The clerk will submit a Highway Improvement application for this scheme before 31st December 2014.

7.3 The clerk will report broken manhole covers at Nunnery Street, Queen Street and Pye Corner.

8. REPORTS

Police/PCSO: Weekly reports are now received by the clerk, but are about the Halstead area and do not have specific information about incidents in Castle Hedingham. The next Castle Hedingham "Street Meet" with the police will take place on **4th December from 10:00 - 11:00am**, outside Buckleys tea rooms, St James Street.

ECC report: None.

BDC report: Cllr Johnson reported that the village drains have recently been cleaned.

9. PLANNING

Applications received:

14/00340/TPOCON Notice of intent to carry out works to trees in a Conservation Area – Maple: reduce by 3-4 mtrs roughly back to previous points or nearest growth point. Scots Pine: Reduce overhang over neighbours garden by 1.5-2 mtrs due to excessive growth on this side.

13 Bayley Street Castle Hedingham Essex CO9 3DQ

No objections

14/01445/FUL Rebuilding like for like side extension as per the approved plans from application

14/00393/FUL 3 Bayley Street Castle Hedingham Essex CO9 3HG

No objections

Applications determined:

None

10. FINANCE

The monthly accounts were approved and cheques signed.

Proposed: Cllr Scrivens

Seconded: Cllr Moffat

The clerk reported that the Heritage Lottery Fund grant of £9,700 towards the Magna Carta 800th anniversary celebrations in June 2015 has been transferred to the new CHPC Magna Carta 2015 account.

The budget was reviewed in preparation for the 2015/2016 precept calculation. It was unanimously agreed that the precept claim should be calculated to represent a 0% increase for parishioners.

10.1 Consideration of request from Castle Players for donation towards a replacement shed.

The Parish Council felt that it would be wise to wait to hear the result of the Mi Community grant application in 2016. However, concerns about the shed being sufficient to withstand the winter weather were noted and Councillors agreed that some temporary practical support should be offered to Castle Players if there is anything that needs to be done to keep the shed weatherproof for the winter.

11. CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON AT FORGE GREEN

It was agreed to aim for 4th December for the Christmas Lights switch on.

12. PARISH EMERGENCY PLAN

The amendments to the Parish Emergency Plan were agreed and the plan will now be sent to Braintree District Council.

13. ORDINARY WATERCOURSE MAPPING PROJECT

Cllr Southgate has identified 3 people to help with this project, in his absence this will be reported on at the next meeting.

14. TALKING BENCHES

Cllr Worley reported that Castle Hedingham is included in the Essex County Council Lottery bid. The result of the bid will be known in summer 2015.

15. CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE

Braintree District Council: For information, the definition of Anti-Social Behaviour has been updated and is displayed on the BDC website at www.braintree.gov.uk

Hastoe Housing Association: Rented houses in Kirby Hall Road were built with the aim of providing affordable housing for people with a connection to the village. Households wanting to be considered for a property need to be registered with Gateway to Homechoice in advance of vacancies becoming available. Any interested villagers can register at <http://www.braintree.gov.uk/info/200248/housing/35/apply>. The clerk will also be notified of vacancies so they can be advertised on the Castle Hedingham website.

Friends of De Vere: Request to display a sign on Crouch Green to advertise the Xmas Fair on 29th November. No objections as long as it does not obstruct the view of traffic turning at Nunnery Street

15. REPRESENTATIVES AND WORKING GROUPS REPORTS

15.1 Transport Representatives Report: Cllr Moffat reported from a recent Transport meeting, where plans for a more joined-up service responsive to local need were outlined.

15.2 High Speed Broadband: An update has been received from County Broadband confirming that the faculty application is in progress for installation of equipment on St Nicholas Church tower.

16. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Dispensing Status of Castle Hedingham surgeries.
- Parish Council Precept 2015/2016
- Castle Hedingham Post Office – options following sale of building.
- Transport Consultation

17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Normal Parish Council
Annual Parish Meal at the Moot House

Monday 12th January 2015
Thursday 29th January 2015

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

SIGNED (CHAIRMAN)

DATE