

**DRAFT MINUTES OF A MEETING OF CASTLE HEDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL, HELD ON  
MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014 AT CASTLE HEDINGHAM CLUB AT 7.45PM**

**Present:** Cllrs Allfrey, Hart, Higgins Moffat, Pewter, Philp Scrivens, Worley,  
**In the Chair:** Cllr Allfrey  
**Clerk:** Claire Waters  
**Also Present:** None

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Pewter for late arrival and Cllr Southgate for absence, apologies for absence also were also received from Cllrs Johnson and Scattergood

**2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of 11<sup>th</sup> August 2014 were approved as a correct record of events.

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

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**PUBLIC FORUM**

None. Cllr Pewter arrived

**PROGRESS CHECK**

**1119.11** Allotments to the rear of the Rising Sun: No response had been received from the surveyors acting for Greene King in answer to the Parish Council's questions about the current tenure and entitlement of the allotments. The clerk has now been informed that the land is under offer to a private purchaser.

**HIGHWAYS**

It was noted that a sunken manhole cover at Pye Corner has still not been resolved. Water escaping at Queen Street has been reported to Highways and Anglian Water. Some resurfacing has been done at New Park and some potholes repaired in Rosemary Lane. More repair work is needed at Rosemary Lane and Kirby Hall Road.

**REPORTS**

**Police/PCSO:** A written report for 10th August to 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014 was received from PC Carter: 1x road traffic collision with minor injuries, 1x animal incident, 1x highway disruption, 1x concern for welfare, 1x theft from motor vehicle, 1x advice required, 2x suspicious circumstances, 3x information, 1x other. There were no apparent new crime trends to disseminate.

**ECC report:** None.

**BDC report:** None.

**CEMETERY FEES REVIEW 2014-2015**

It was unanimously agreed not to increase the cemetery fees for the coming year. By a majority decision it was agreed to introduce a charge of £50 for ashes to be scattered on a grave. The cemetery fees and regulations will be updated to reflect the increase in requests for scattering ashes. Since it is a managed lawn cemetery, turf should be lifted, ashes scattered beneath and the turf then replaced.

**CONSIDERATION OF CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AT FORGE GREEN**

Previous objections by Essex Highways to cables along the ground or overhead means that battery powered or solar powered lights are the only option. The clerk will investigate options for these.

## **THE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS BIG TREE PLANT**

It was agreed to contact the Conservation Volunteers to explore the possibility of filling in the avenue of trees leading to the village along the verge Sheepcot Road, on the Cemetery side. The owners of the land will be consulted to ensure this is acceptable to them.

## **CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE**

**Footpath 11 update:** Copy of email correspondence between the Definitive Footpaths Officer at Essex County Council and local residents has been received. The latest proposals are for the landowner to plant a hedge to screen the gardens from the footpath. An alternative proposal from residents is to route the footpath alongside the river. Possible flooding has been raised as an objection to this proposal.

**Used car trading New Park:** Complaints have been received from residents of New Park about obstruction caused by a car trading business. The police and other relevant authorities have been informed and have agreed to investigate. The area representative from North Essex Parking Partnership will meet the clerk on 22<sup>nd</sup> September to review parking problems in the village.

**Diocese of Chelmsford:** Proposal for the union of the parishes of Sible Hedingham and Castle Hedingham. Having read the representations for and against the proposals, the Bishop of Chelmsford has formally withdrawn the Draft Pastoral Scheme on the grounds that it would be detrimental to continue at this stage. The option of revisiting the proposal remains open should this best serve the two Churches.

**Braintree District Council:** Following the requirement from the National Planning Policy Framework to review the Site Allocations and Development Management Plan, BDC has formally issued a call for sites to build into a new Local Plan. Public consultation on the plan is expected in Autumn 2015, before final submission of the Local Plan to the Planning Inspectorate in Summer 2016. The full letter and timetable is available to view on [www.castlehedingham.org](http://www.castlehedingham.org)

## **REPRESENTATIVES AND WORKING GROUPS REPORTS**

**Magna Carta 2015:** Cllr Worley reported that a grant of £9,700 has been awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund towards the Magna Carta 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations in June 2015

**War Memorial:** The conservation engineer and building contractors have been asked to proceed with the renovation of the War Memorial. The work will not commence until after Remembrance Sunday 2014.

**NHS Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group:** Cllr Higgins reported from a workshop on 11<sup>th</sup> September. Mid Essex CCG is £15.7 million in deficit this year, despite making savings of £8 million. The challenge is to deliver a better service for more money, the aim is to provide a more joined up service which meets the needs of all groups of patients. NHS England was not present at this workshop so plans for local GP surgeries were not discussed. GPs have agreed with the CCG that they will reduce their prescribing of a range of medicines and other items which can be bought over the counter.

## **15. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- Request from Castle Players for donation towards replacement of shed.
- Talking Benches
- Progress report on 7.5t Weigh Limit scheme

## **19. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS:**

**Normal Parish Council**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

**Normal Parish Council**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

**The meeting closed at 9.25pm**