Chattisham & Hintlesham Parish Council

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHATTISHAM AND HINTLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON THURSDAY 14th September 2017**

**PRESENT:**

**Councillors**: Stephanie Coupland (chair), David Marsh, Peter Eaton, Frances Self, Diane Chase, Chris Leney, Debbie Archer, Ian Bryce and Ben Cox

**District Councillors:** Nick Ridley

**Parish Clerk**: Samantha Barber.

**Members of the Public:** There were 6 members of the public present.

1. **Apologies for Absence -**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Christopher Hudson and Cllr Barry Gasper, Stuart Kellett, Jamie Bostock, John Whyman

1. **To approve the minutes of the meetings Thursday July 13th and Thursday 3rd August 2017**

Minutes for both meetings had been circulated to all councillors.

Minutes from the 13th July were proposed by Ian Bryce and seconded by Peter Eaton.

Minutes from the 3rd August were proposed by David Marsh and seconded by Chris Leney

1. **Declaration of Interest of any item on the Agenda -**

Ian Bryce signed the book in relation to the planning meeting of the 24th August and Chris Leney signed the book in respect of the Brook Farm planning application.

1. **Matters Arising from the Minutes -**

The defibrillator in Duke Street has now been installed, thanks were paid to the sponsors who were The Hintlesham Golf Club, Bowls Club and Garden Club. Forge Garage, The George Pub, Alberta Springs, Tuesday Circle, Hadleigh Thrift Shop, Hadleigh & Boxford Medical Practice, Hintlesham and Chattisham Community Council. Les Cole and Colin Tee were thanked for kindly installing the defibrillator in the telephone box.

Progress with signs to stop HGV’s using Lower Barn Road in Chattisham and Cherrygrounds in Hintlesham will be chased up with Cllr Christopher Hudson.

Yellow lines have been installed outside the school and appear in the most part to be effective although there are still those that flout the law or park in an unsafe manner.

Broadband – Peter Eaton had been in communication with Cllr Hudson regarding broadband. Cllr Hudson had kindly written to the relevant people in SCC but was told that they cannot give an exact timescale for superfast broadband to be delivered to the village however it would be in the next two years, a similar response to what had been given two years ago. Peter Eaton had then asked Cllr Hudson to contact Jane Storey (portfolio holder for broadband at SCC) and remind her that £7million funds have been made available to deliver broadband in the County and the deadline for the village keeps altering.

The complaint letter to the Chief Executive had been acknowledged by his PA who stated that she would be bringing the contents of the letter to his attention. This was the 10th August and no further correspondence had been received since.

1. **Adjournment for reports from District Councillor and comments from members of the public -**

Cllr Nick Ridley reported that there have been some problems moving the District Councils to Endeavour House as some members of staff were unhappy with the arrangements. Unfortunately, this has resulted after lengthy consultation in redundancy notices being served, the numbers of people affected are not known.

Boundary commission have completed their consultation. It is expected that Brook Ward would be a one- member ward.

Joint Local Plan is now in consultation and this closes on November 25th. Cllr Ridley stated it is important to respond as those comments will be considered before further consultation takes place. It is not expected to be approved for at least 15 months.

Three parish councillors attended the meetings at Hadleigh which noted as being very general and revisiting much of what has been discussed before but interesting none the less. A local plan is imperative as soon as possible to curb the current planning applications.

Merger talks between Babergh and Mid Suffolk are taking place yet again and in the very early stages with consultations required at some point although there would be no need apparently for a referendum under the present legislation. This was met with some consternation as a previous referendum had resulted in the decision not to merge.

The selling of the Babergh Offices at Corks Lane was questioned and Nick could not offer any information at present regarding its disposal apart from the fact that it will be sold along with the offices at Needham Market.

Babergh Property Company is now fully constituted and is in business having purchased a property in Bedfordshire. Three non- executives and two members one of which is Cllr Ridley. Cllr Ridley was asked to e-mail the clerk with the company name and details regarding the board members. Questions were asked about whether the property company would continue even though the government seems not to be in favour and Cllr Ridley stated that if the government did decide to change the rules it would take some time by which time the company would be established.

Footpath – The boardwalk previously reported has been repaired

Planning – A resident asked a question about potential planning in Duke Street and how the local plan document deals with the current planning applications for eight and eleven houses in Duke Street this was discussed. Some of the maps have altered during the process.

A resident raised concerns regarding the possibility of planning applications being made on any number of pieces of land that abut the road. It was discussed that until the local plan is adopted the flawed piece of planning legislation policy CS11 can mean that there is a possibility of building being allowed anywhere in theory. The types of building mix were also talked about and whether there needs to be smaller houses. It was suggested that residents could attend public meetings and consultations regarding the local plan to give their views and it is important that they do so. Invitations have been posted to all households by Babergh

The school is almost at full capacity and there are only vacancies in certain year groups raising the question about where any new children from future developments would be educated.

A new headteacher has just started at the school and road safety initiatives continue. Christiana has not heard any more about the VAS signs. The exact date of the application for the VAS signs will be found and the clerk will chase this up with Cllr Hudson.

It was noted that it is lawful for a planning application to be made by anyone whether they own the land or not.

1. **Planning -**

The following applications had been received and were looked at online by councillors.

DC/17/02746 – Land at Brook Farm, Burstall - Erection and operation of battery storage unit.

This application which resides in Burstall was discussed by the council, how it operates and the impact on the area. Burstall have objected with a detailed submission.

The first point to be made to Babergh was that the council need to be included automatically in anything that happens in the Bramford Substation vicinity. All were in favour of this and the clerk will write.

A proposal was made to object to the application and this was Proposed by Peter Eaton, Seconded by Diane Chase. A vote was taken with 4 in favour and the remainder abstaining. A letter will be sent to Babergh in support of the Burstall submission.

DC/17/04460 – Linden Cottages – Erection of front porch addition to No’s 1,2 & 3 Linden Cottages. Erection of two storey extension and alterations to No3 Linden Cottages.

The council discussed the application and had no objections.

1. **Discuss Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint local plan**

Frances, David and Stephanie had attended the recent briefing meetings and asked all councillors to look and consider the detail in the local plan with a view to making a submission on behalf of the villages at the October PC meeting which can be forwarded to Babergh for consideration as part of the consultation process. It is hoped that the recent planning applications passed in Hintlesham would be taken in to account when housing development for the future is looked at and the cumulative impact considered. At the briefing meeting, it was stated that Babergh are to ‘raise the bar on special landscape areas’ which was taken to mean that hopefully planning would be considered more strictly in these areas. Hintlesham falls in to that category. 355 houses in the Babergh area are required to be built every year to meet targets.

Although Hintlesham does not seem to be a target for much new housing the impact will still be felt from house building in Hadleigh and the Ipswich fringes such as Sproughton. CS11 was reported as being a huge problem.

1. **Reports from Parish Councillors**

**Footpaths –** David has had success with some of the footpath repairs and will report a sign that needs repairing.

**Buses –** A change in bus timetable has caused some issues.

**Community Council –** A Fun day will be held on the 24th September with details in The Link

A road traffic accident log will be taken from now on with any accidents communicated to the clerk with dates and times.

1. **MUGA – Note business plan, report from MUGA committee**

John Whyman has sent the business plan and information to Councillors. The parish council need to agree that the MUGA can be built on the playing field as the landowners. The MUGA will be set up as a separate entity in the same way as the social club.

The potential of a contingency fund of approx. £500 underwritten by the Parish Council to pay for repairs or new nets etc was discussed in detail. The biggest issue and concern remains the financial liability

Ian Bryce spoke about how when the MUGA was initially discussed the Community Council did not wish to have anything to do with running the MUGA project as they did not have the necessary expertise and did not want to have any potential financial liability. The community council have not been asked officially by the parish council if they can build the MUGA which would be necessary as the parish council would be building the MUGA to reclaim the VAT.

Further proposals will need to be made regarding the financial matters and the way in which the MUGA group manage the bookings and take the project forward after completion. It was discussed that there is no need for the Parish Council or anyone else to provide any financial indemnity as the MUGA should be self-funding.

Therefore, leaving the financial issues out of the equation the parish council made the following proposal.

**Proposal - The Parish Council agreed that the MUGA project should go ahead and be built on the playing field.**

**This was proposed by Peter Eaton and seconded by Frances Self. All were in favour and a letter will be sent to the Community Council**.

The funding, schedule of payments, the contract with the construction company and knowing that there is sufficient funds are also major concerns that need to be addressed at the very next meeting and will have to be further resolutions taken by the Parish Council after proof and reassurance from the MUGA committee that the funds will be forthcoming. It is vitally important that when invoices are sent to the Parish Council for payment then the funds are available.

1. **Finance –**

The following cheques were approved and signed

Chq Expense Payee Amount

100949 – Clerk Salary S Barber £216.66

100950 - Zoll Defibrilator Zoll £1350.00

100951 - Les Cole Defib Expenses £19.60

VAT can be reclaimed against the purchase of the defibrillator and it was agreed that this money should be set aside for replacement pads etc.

1. **Correspondence Received**

Local Councillor

Clerks and Councils Direct

The Local Plan - all to be circulated

1. **Any other business/items for next agenda**

The website – The running of the website was discussed, currently there is one administrator for the website and it was discussed and agreed that this is still valid and important

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm**