Chattisham & Hintlesham Parish Council

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHATTISHAM AND HINTLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON THURSDAY 14th April 2016**

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**PRESENT:** Stephanie Coupland (chair), Diane Chase, David Marsh, Stuart Kellett, Jamie Bostock, Ian Bryce, Chris Leney, Debbie Archer, John Whyman, Ben Cox,Eileen Damant.

**Parish Clerk**: Samantha Barber.

**District Councillors**: Nick Ridley, Barry Gasper

**County Councillor:** David Busby

**Members of the Public:** 6

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Frances Self, Peter Eaton

1. **To approve the minutes of the meeting dated 10th March 2016**

The minutes from March 10th had been circulated to all councillors and were proposed by John Whyman and seconded by Ian Bryce . These were signed by Stephanie Coupland

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

No declarations were made

1. **Matters arising from the Minutes dated 10th March 2016:**

Footpaths – Ian Bryce had obtained a copy of the leaflet and map produced some time ago which had an error in it regarding the footpath going through the allotments which should go down George Street. There was also a map of all the footpaths around the village. The clerk had registered the parish council with Ordanance Survey so the parish council can reproduce and use os maps. There are also a number of websites Footpaths.com and apps which can be used. Investigations into reproducing a map with the correct footpaths on will continue.

Multi Use Games Area – The following report had been sent by Andrew Bryce: Just a quick update on the MUGA idea. A survey has been published online and the web-link has been circulated via the latest village's Link, website and Facebook page.  We have also put some hard copies here in the village hall.  We have also emailed it to as many emails as we have and asked people to forward onto any other relevant local folk.

The survey will supply us with useful data including:

* Response to the idea
* Preference of surfaces
* How many people and how much they would use it
* What activities they would like to see it used for
* Building up contact willing to help support
* If people would be interested in making a donation in the future

We have already had lots of really valuable responses and many more expected over the next couple of weeks.

The REALLY exciting news is that we have received an anonymous donation of £20,000 (plus potentially any gift aid, if it becomes possible to use that process)!  That puts us in a really good position but we still have several other funding routes such as Sport England, Lottery,etc to follow up...if survey shows enough interest to move the project forwards. I am also in dialogue with Babergh regarding a "Community Development Capital Grant" that may also be suitable for this project.

I have dropped an email to the Babergh officer re Section 106 so he is aware that we are still investigating this option but nothing is confirmed, just so he is in the loop.

I will bring an update to the next meeting with some interesting results from the research survey.

School Survey – Diane raised a point about the school survey and the fact that four cars will be able to park outside the school at any time which is considered important to slow the traffic.

1. **Adjournment for Reports from County and District Councillors, Police and Comments from Residents**

County – Cllr Dave Busby reported that the yellow lines outside the school will soon be completed. Devolution although much discussed does not seem to have progressed any further. Dave was asked about the large crack in the road on the A1071 at Beestons Yard and whether that could be raised with Highways.

District – Cllr Nick Ridley reported that at the annual meeting of Babergh Cllr Ridley will step down as Chairman and be replaced by Peter Beer. Planning issues continue with East Bergholt intending to go for judicial review in relation to the planning decision recently made No decision has yet been made about Sproughton. Cllr Barry Gasper reported about the scrutiny committee meeting which had been held on the 13th April.

Public – A resident commented on the MUGA survey which he had recently completed with some concern that the results to certain questions may be misleading. Speeding was discussed on the A1071 at Silver Hill where a car hit a telegraph pole at night. Cllr David Busby took a note and would speak to highways about what could be done with thoughts that an up to date speed survey would be needed . Speeding in general was discussed at length as was the lack of hedge cutting at Thorpes Hill. making lorries passing each other even more dangerous.

1. **Planning.**

B/16/00318 – Rowan Cottage, Duke Street, Hintlesham. Erection of 1 two storey dwelling.

The Council considered the application and decided to object for the following reasons.

The house was considered to be overdevelopment of the site as it is a large house for the site. There was also

Highways access issues with no visibility splay shown in the plans. Chris Leney proposed, Ian Bryce seconded. . 8 councillors voted in favour of the objection with 2 abstaining.

1. **Reports from Parish Councillors**

**East Bergholt Parish Councils Meeting 09/04/16**

The meeting originated by East Bergholt PC was called to discuss with fellow PC’s within Babergh to discuss the mutual difficulties that they were experiencing with BDC.

Attended by 26 people, mainly councillors, representing amongst others, Holton St Mary, Lavenham, Monks Eleigh, Pinewood, Chattisham and Hintlesham, Sproughton and of course East Bergholt.

Whilst the over- riding concern was with planning, other matters were also raised, all having the consistent theme that dealing with BDC was extremely difficult due to their lack of consistency and transparency.

It was felt by those present that pressure should be brought to bear on BDC and their elected councillors to respond more proactively in their dealings with the PC’s.

It was felt that one way to achieve this was for a coalition of PC’s to be formed and for this group to express a motion of no confidence in BDC. To this end volunteers were recruited to draft terms of reference which will subsequently be distributed to the PC’s present at the meeting, for discussion at their regular meetings. If these proved acceptable to the them then an Association of Parish Councils within Babergh would be formed, Those councils who did not attend the meeting would also be invited to join.

The principle objective of the association would be to secure a change of culture at BDC as at present there was a widespread feeling that the Council as presently configured was “not fit for purpose”.

Minutes were taken at this meeting which will be distributed to those present in due course.

Cllr Nick Ridley was asked to comment and was dismayed with the ‘not fit for purpose’ comments which had been made which he felt was unjust especially as District Councillors engage with PC’s on a regular basis and listen to their concerns. Those parishes who had attended had all had various issues with Babergh and felt very strongly for their particular reasons that they are not happy. The problems appear to be governance issues and a lack of accountability. An authoritarian leader and no-one listening. A lack of democracy at Babergh. David Card at Mid Suffolk District Council had recently resigned for that very reason.

The Parish Council voted to join an Association of Parish Councils. This was proposed Chris Leney, seconded David Marsh with all in agreement. David Marsh was elected to attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

Nick Ridley spoke about talking things through SALC and whether it may be more appropriate.

Speedwatch –

The following Speedwatch sessions had recently taken place

Thursday the 7th April - . George Street 6 motorists speeding in one hour in heavy traffic.  
Friday the 8th April - . Duke Street.     11 motorists speeding in just half an hour.  
Unfortunately after half an hour the gun would no longer work.

Community Caretaker - The clerk had contacted Babergh to express the Councils interest in a Community Caretaker. Babergh have noted the interest and will contact Councils further once a pilot scheme has taken place.

Community Council – The Chattisham play area is being refreshed. A new Chairman, Tim Moore has been elected with Eileen Damant as Vice Chairman.

A working party will take place on Sunday 17th April, clearing trees and cutting up logs. Bark has gone down along the paths and it was agreed the area was looking a lot better.

1. **Finance**

The following cheques were approved by the Council and signed.

100904 S Barber Clerk Salary £106.25

100905 Magpas Air Ambulance Donation £100.00

1. **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence received

1. **Any Other Business/Items for Next Agenda**

A fence has been erected on A1071 opposite the school at a property which has caused some concern as it is so close to the road.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9pm