Chattisham & Hintlesham Parish Council

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHATTISHAM AND HINTLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL ON THURSDAY 11th February 2016**

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

**Parish Clerk**: Samantha Barber.

**County Councillor:** David Busby

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

**Members of the Public:** 7

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Frances Self, Ben Cox

1. **To approve the minutes of the meeting dated 14th January 2016**

The minutes had been circulated to all councillors, some amendments are required and the minutes will be approved and signed at the March meeting.

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

Chris Leney signed in respect of the planning item – Sheepyard Barns

1. **Matters arising from the Minutes dated 14th January 2016:**

Broadband – There are no updates at this time.

Footpaths – The footpath officer met with the owners of Chattisham Hall and the footpath style has been replaced with a gate. Footpath 27 has been looked at and will be added to the list of works to be done. Another footpath will be looked at when time and the weather permits.

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

County – Cllr Dave Busby reported that there will be no increase to the budget but a new 2% precept going specifically to old people’s care. The question of how this will be monitored was raised, however no SCC Councillors had picked up on this point. Rural councils have been given an extra budget due to the additional issues in running local councils but this appears to have been put straight in reserves. The link- up between Suffolk and Norfolk is still in discussion with many issues to be resolved.

District – Cllr Nick Ridley stated that the budget will as reported before look likely to see a 3.5% increase. Car park charges will not be introduced. The new homes bonus in its entirety is being used to balance the budget which is clearly not a good situation to be in. In future years a budget deficit of 2.8 million is being looked at together with further cuts from the government making for challenging times. The Wolsey Grange development was passed at committee, all but 3 people on the committee had never been on a planning committee ever. It was passed 11 to 0 (the Chairman is not required to vote). Sproughton are considering a judicial review but it will prove costly.

**Wolsey Grange -Background and Update**

At the original planning meeting on November 25th 2015 the Wolsey Grange application was rejected with a vote of 7 to 6. A note was passed to Cllr Busby from a member of Sproughton Parish Council who clearly did not read it, however a complaint was made to the monitoring officer which resulted in the application being looked at and it was decided that the application would be considered again at a completely different planning meeting by a new planning committee and a new chairman. Cllr Busby and Cllr Ridley were told to leave the chamber after they had given their reports. Cllr Busby intends to raise a number of questions at full council. All councillors expressed their dismay about the conduct of the meeting. A lot of work appeared to have been done with the developer to smooth over the issues raised at the previous planning meeting and the presentation from the planning officer (Ben Elvin) was very slick. There was also a big issue with the planning officer seemingly representing the developer. A planning officer did apparently mention that a part in the core strategy states that any planning issues can be over ruled if there is an available site and a developer etc. It was asked whether there is anything that can be done to make sure that this does not happen again also a question was asked about who is accountable for these decisions. No satisfactory answers are forthcoming from any avenue at the moment. Taylor Wimpey will provide land for a school, but the first tranche of S106 funds will not be available until after the first 150 homes are built, and the final amount will be paid after 475 homes are built. There will not be sufficient funds to build a school for at least 5 years, unless of course Suffolk County Council decide to fund it. Changes to the traffic flow now appear to be taking place with additional traffic lights to allegedly ease traffic. It would seem that unless one of the parishes makes a complaint then nothing else will happen.

Budget – Barry has raised some issues with the scrutiny committee. Methods of improving income centred around new homes bonus raises a conflict of interest is one particular issue. Overheads are being looked at by the Council. The District Council are about to form a Commercial Property Company to try to earn extra income from the Councils assets. However Cllr Gasper said that currently the commercial property market was in a recession and that he didn’t think that Babergh Officers had the required business skills or experience to compete successfully in such a market.

Police – There have been a number of burglaries in particular sheds have been targeted. The police report had been circulated

Public –

School Safety – A resident reported about the working group formed at the school to target school safety. A footpath from the school to church, widening of the path, flashing lights, temporary traffic restrictions and moving the gate had been discussed. The behaviour of parents and children travelling to school needs to alter, walking buses are also being discussed. Hi vis jackets for the children have been provided by Cllr Busby for all children at the school. Double yellow lines are still in the pipeline with Suffolk County Council. The gate opening times with possibly the introduction of a breakfast club may alleviate the congestion in the mornings. Bad parking by parents remains an issue. A resident spoke about slowing the traffic down along the A1071 through the village and Suffolk County Council should take responsibility for it. Parish councillors have met with the SCC portfolio holder and discussed many issues. Flashing lights are still considered a solution by many. It was mentioned that the Community Speedwatch continues to need volunteers.

The clerk will E-mail Steve Merry SCC to request another meeting with parish councillors and the school safety team to have a look at solutions**.**

The Community Council had received an application from a small family fayre for two caravans on the playing field.

A resident raised the point about signs being placed in the village and it turns out that an application has been made under section 31 to protect the landowner against any new footpaths being claimed by anyone and detailing the current rights of way.

A resident raised an issue with a footpath needing a boardwalk and a tree needing cutting which will be the landowners issue.

MUGA – A further two quotes have been obtained and a report will be made in March. The church fete will be held at Red House Farm on Duke Street with an Olympics theme. This will be the 11th of June.

The Open Gardens at Chattisham will be the following weekend on Sunday 19th June.

1. **Planning.**

B/16/00058 – Fontaine House, Duke Street, Hintlesham. General permitted development, erection of rear conservatory.

The council considered the plans, there were no objections

B/15/01730 - Sheepyard Barns, Northlands Farm, Priory Road, Hintlesham. Conversion of redundant agricultural building to form 1 unit of holiday let accommodation and erection of double garage.

The council considered the plans, there were no objections

Thorpe Farm – Amendments to the original plan had been received for which there were no objections, but for future reference if any lights are added then the same request that the lights are only used between 7am and 7pm will be made.

Babergh planning decisions –

B/15/01586 - Chattisham Hall, Mill Lane, Chattisham, Ipswich, IP8 3PX - The application has been passed.

Maple House, California Lane, a resident contacted with an issue regarding the commercial use of the ménage. Enforcement have been informed.

1. **Reports from Parish Councillors**

The Community Council AGM will be held on March 15th

1. **Neighbourhood Plan Update**

After discussion at the last meeting Peter Eaton spoke about the protection of the land being ignored with the recent planning application being passed in Duke Street. It would seem that unfortunately it would not be worth the considerable time and effort to produce a neighbourhood plan if it is not going to hold and weight by planning committee. Currently there are only two in the District and only one of which has been adopted. Nick Ridley mentioned that the full amount of CIL is awarded to those with neighbourhood plans but there appears to be very little protection attached to having one in a planning sense. A very valid point is that producing a plan would give the village an expectation that may be misleading. It was always considered the core strategy would provide some protection but after recent developments it would seem that this is also not the case. Dave Busby will send details about a community led plan just to see if it will be relevant to the villages.

1. **Wolsey Grange Update**

The issue of Wolsey Grange was covered in the District Council report.

1. **Finance**

The following cheques were approved by the Council and signed.

100898 S Barber Clerk Salary £104.20

1. **Correspondence**

A letter had been received from MP James Cartilidge regarding mobile phone signal –a petition to be placed in public places

Letter about walk leaders from Babergh

SALC – Magazine

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

Queens 90th birthday celebrations – A suggestion was made to have a grand picnic on the playing field on Sunday 12th J June with everyone bringing their own food. An article will be placed in The Link.

A mountain biking club will be holding an event on the 6th of March on local land.

The Village Quiz is on 20th February at the Community Hall.

A definite status about Chattisham was requested by a resident, Cllr Nick Ridley replied that in the core strategy Hintlesham is attached to Chattisham. Correspondence received from Babergh defining Chattisham status will be forwarded.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.30pm