Chattisham & Hintlesham Parish Council

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

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

**Parish Clerk**: Samantha Barber.

**County Councillor:** David Busby

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

**Members of the Public:** 3

1. **Apologies for Absence**

John Whyman, Jamie Bostock, Eileen Damant

1. **To approve the minutes of the meeting dated 10th December 2015**

The minutes had been circulated to all councillors and were approved by Ian Bryce and seconded by David Marsh.The minutes 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 December 2015:**

Footpaths – There have been some issues with a footpath in Chattisham which are being dealt with by the Rights of Way Officer.

Broadband – Rade Systems are having issues with regard to relay masts which has meant that the test due to take place in Hintlesham in December has yet to happen. It is hoped that once these technical issues have been resolved then the test will take place. County Broadband, the company that provides MicroWave Broadband to Assington will be explored as an alternative. Suffolk CC support the idea of Satellite Broadband and this will also be looked into by the Council.

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

County – Cllr Dave Busby stated that he had nothing to report but was happy to take questions. Chris Leney asked if it was true that during a recent Planning Committee meeting, Cllr Busby had commented that there were better site for new housing than Duke Street. If this was so, was he referring to the land behind the village school. Eventually, Cllr Busby said that Chris was correct, and that the safety of pupils was his priority. Cllr Busby then mentioned that he had recently attended a planning seminar where it was suggested that in future any planning application that went to appeal could forfeit the New Homes Bonus.

District - Cllr Nick Ridley discussed the recent planning application in Duke Street and the decision to pass the application by Planning Committee. He stated that Babergh Planning Policy CS11 “seems to be an open invitation to develop anywhere. The budget for Babergh is currently being worked on and in its draft form an increase of 3.5% to Council Tax is expected. Car park charging in the District is being discussed once again with no decisions yet made. With central government funding decreasing deficits can only increase and it becomes more and more difficult to balance the budget. Cllr Ridley was asked if he could provide an update on the Wolsey Grange Planning Decision. He stated that after receiving a complaint from Sproughton PC, the matter was being investigated by the Monitoring Office,,however there is currently no update on this.

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Public – A resident thanked Councillors for their assistance with the Duke Street planning. Concerns exist with the parking on Duke Street and it is hoped that at the detailed planning stage consideration will be made for parking both while the houses are built and after.

Footpaths – A resident raised some concerns about a footpath with a broken boardwalk and dangerous steps. The path will be looked at and reported to Rights of Way.

The path next to Red House Cottages is also in a poor condition and will also be looked into.

B/15/01725 – Thorpe Farm Washbrook Road, Hintlesham - A resident raised a concern about the lighting and it was discussed that there should be a clause placed on the lighting that it is not used after 7pm. The menage being for private use only was noted as being a very important planning condition.

1. **Planning.**

B/15/01725 – Thorpe Farm,Washbrook Road, Hintlesham

Erection of Horse Menage,fence,gate and lighting.

The parish council considered the application. The Council were in agreement that the application should be approved but with the condition that the lights should only be used between the hours of 7am and 7pm. The district has a ‘Dark Sky Environment’ and outside of these times it was considered this would constitute light pollution. The site is somewhat isolated and in an elevated position and with the absence of any street lights would result in significant light spillage leading to a harmful and urbanising effect in a rural location.

Chattisham Hall. The recent planning applications have yet to be decided by Babergh

1. **Reports from Parish Councillors**

No reports

1. **Complete Precept/Budget for 2016/17**

There had been a detailed conversation around the budget at the December meeting and the budget/precept was formally approved at £5865. A copy of the precept breakdown will be placed on the website. The relevant forms were completed and will be sent to Babergh.

1. **Finance**

The following cheques were approved by the Council and signed.

100895 S Barber Clerk Salary £104.20

100896 Vertas Grass Cutting £334.04

100897 SCC Street Lights £215.73

1. **Correspondence**

Police Forum – 27th January - notice for the noticeboard

Clerks and Councils Direct - Magazine

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

 Neighbourhood Plans were discussed however it was mentioned by Peter Eaton that the time and effort it would take to produce a plan would probably not protect the villages as was first thought and would most likely come too late to have any effect on developments which may be in the pipeline. The recent application for several houses in Duke Street was a prime example as this is a Special Landscape Area with various other protections and yet the application was still approved. It would seem that community led plans are the new initiative although the effectiveness of these also remains to be seen

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm