

# Chattisham & Hintlesham Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF CHATTISHAM AND HINTLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE COMMUNITY HALL MEETING ROOM AT 7.30 P.M. ON THURSDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2012

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**PRESENT:**

**Councillors:** Stephanie Coupland (chair), Ian Bryce, Peter Eaton, Diane Chase, Robert Taylor, Margaret Taylor, Chris Leney,

**Parish Clerk:** Samantha Barber.

**District Councillor:** Peter Jones

**County Councillor:** Kathy Pollard

**Members of the Public:** Four members of the public.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

District Councillor Nick Ridley, Frances Self, Ben Cox, Robin Baldry, Ted Wright, Eileen Damant

**2. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF 8<sup>th</sup> November 2012:**

Copies of these had been circulated to all councillors and were proposed as an accurate record of the meeting with one slight alteration to item 6 whereby it was actually Peter Eaton who reported that Burstall Village Hall had been potentially booked for a NG Community Forum. These were proposed by Peter Eaton and seconded by Robert Taylor. The minutes were duly signed by Stephanie Coupland

**3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA:**

Ian Bryce signed the declaration of interest book in relation to pylons and Chris Leney signed in relation to Planning.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 8<sup>th</sup> November 2012:**

Community Achievement Awards: One person has been nominated; the result of whether they have been successful is awaited.

Dog Bins: At the moment there is no further update, the search for possible sites is ongoing.

Hintlesham and Chattisham School: Stephanie Coupland had been to meet both applicants for the post of Headteacher.

C730 – Speed Limit: Stephanie had contacted Steve Merry for an update on speed limits and had received the reply that Suffolk CC policy is that speed limits in the County are broadly appropriate and when looking at the safety record of the C730 over the last few years it is considered a relatively safe stretch of road. However investigations will be taking place to try and find some low cost solutions to the crash rate in the narrower sections of the road such as removing the centre white line or edge lining sections of road. Stephanie will reply to Mr Merry.

At this point in the meeting the A1071 at Claremont Nursery was mentioned as there had recently been problems with flooding.

Pot holes along the A1071 should hopefully soon be filled.

5. **REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS:**

There had been two accidents on the A1071 at Policeman's Corner, 2 wing mirrors had been smashed in George Street and an accident had happened at Hintle Place. It was decided that it would be a good idea if the clerk contacted Highways to request a meeting with councillors to look at various stretches of the A1071, in particular at Policeman's Corner and at Claremont Nursery to see what can be done to solve the various problems with accidents and flooding etc.

Speedwatch: In one session on a Sunday in Duke Street, seventeen people had been caught speeding.

SALC AGM: Unfortunately no-one from the council had been able to attend. Peter Jones reported to the council that it had been a satisfactory meeting with no urgent matters to be dealt with. Peter Eaton mentioned about the planning envelope disappearing and Peter Jones replied that they would be kept as they stand however there seems to be a level of flexibility.

Babergh Parish Liaison Meeting: Ian Bryce and Samantha Barber had attended the meeting at the Babergh offices, Ian had taken the opportunity at the meeting to remind everyone about the importance of continuing to strive for the undergrounding of power lines.

6. **ADJOURNMENT FOR REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND RESIDENTS COMMENTS:**

**County Council:** Kathy Pollard reported that £25 million in savings were required from the budget. Balfour Beatty had been awarded the Highways contract but Suffolk County Council would be retaining the winter maintenance control. Peter Eaton asked about the Balfour Beatty contract and Kathy said that she was unsure on the contract details and how it would be monitored. The prospectus for Rail Strategy had been submitted. A review of County Farms had taken place and it was decided that land should be kept by Suffolk CC. Ian Bryce mentioned that the size of these farms meant that they are no longer viable and Kathy and Chris Leney both replied that diversification is being encouraged. Sixteen Care Homes have been transferred to Care UK. Concessionary fares remain a contentious issue, problems exist with the restricted times of travel and the closure of the Bury Road park and ride was also mentioned and a consultation regarding this is about to begin.

**District Council:** Unfortunately Cllr Nick Ridley was unable to attend the meeting but had sent the following report.

**Pylons;** as those who were at the Forum know there was a meeting of SCC/ECC and BDC and Braintree DC members two weeks ago. Determination still to continue to press for total undergrounding. Believe Socio-economic issues have not been properly addressed. Disbelief that Hintlesham Hall's status has not been fully considered before. Seeking high level meetings with OFGEM and NG with regard to costs and belief that consumers are prepared to pay for undergrounding but needs a change to the charging formula from Govt(OFGEM) to achieve anything further from NG.**Staffing;** BDC and MSDC are consulting with staff on the final phase of Level 5 staff appointments which will undoubtedly lead to further reductions in overall numbers. **Turbines;** Application for two in Belstead/Wherstead/Pinewood are awaited in early spring-will be a very challenging issue. **Core Strategy;** Inspector should start examination early in New Year. **Budget;** No final decision on C/tax rate but likely to be 0% increase. Still a gap of some £300K to be found out of £1.4M.

**Residents Comments:** The problems with Policeman's Corner and recent accidents was discussed, it was mentioned that there are no chevrons on that particular part of the road and as had been previously mentioned the road surface etc at that point needs to be looked at. Chris Leney mentioned about possible rumble strips.

A resident spoke about traffic getting faster, there being more of it and the problems getting worse. Robert Taylor said that unfortunately it would seem that parked cars and pot holes are one way of cars slowing down. The Speedwatch positions were questioned and Robert Taylor replied that these are pre determined by the Police. Margaret Taylor said that volunteers for Speedwatch are low and anyone concerned about speeding should come forward and volunteer some time to help.

A resident had attended the recent National Grid forum meeting and was concerned that no representative from the parish council was present, he was also concerned that pylon alignment was one of the items for

discussion and no one seemed to be putting 'real' pressure on National Grid to underground the entire line. Stephanie Coupland replied that on this particular occasion the representative for the council was unable to attend but that the parish council has and continues to work and fight for total undergrounding. Peter Eaton then explained that Community Forums exist to fulfil an obligation that NG has to complete a full consultation process that satisfies the planning inspectorate. Many discussions however are happening 'behind the scenes' and at a high level and this can not always be communicated to everyone, so the fact that pylon alignment is a discussion point at a forum meeting in no way means that undergrounding is still considered the only option by all of the various groups and County Councils. It was noted that the very fact that consultation is still taking place and a planning application is slipping further along is a testament to the enormous effort that has taken place by everyone to maintain the stand that undergrounding is the only way forward.

**7. PLANNING:**

*B/12/01286/FUL*

*Land Rear of Timperleys, Hintlesham,*

*Erection of 8 houses and 2 flats – Affordable Housing*

Due to the small amount of councillors present it was agreed to discuss this item at the January meeting. It was advised by Peter Jones that a planning decision would not be made until the end of January and the clerk would contact Babergh to advise that comments would be made after the 10<sup>th</sup> of January.

*B/12/00773/FUL*

*Vine Cottage – amendment to vehicular access as part of plan for 3 bed detached house*

Although the council had no objections to the plans, it was observed that the proposed dwelling would be built over a public sewer. The clerk will make this observation to Babergh DC.

*B/12/01370/FHA*

*The Old Rectory Chattisham – Internal and External alterations to outbuilding*

*B/12/01371/LBC*

*The Old Rectory Chattisham – Listed Building consent for alterations to outbuilding*

There were no objections

**8. TO CONSIDER PARISH PRECEPT 2013/14:**

A budget had been prepared by the clerk and was discussed by the council. It was agreed to accept the budget with no increase to the precept for the year 2013/14. This was proposed by Ian Bryce and seconded by Margaret Taylor with all in agreement. The precept forms will be signed at the January meeting.

**9. FINANCE- ITEMS FOR PAYMENT**

The following item was presented to the council for approval and payment.

Playing Field Grass Cutting (Eastern Facilities Management) - £925.40 – Chq No 100806

This was agreed unanimously and cheque was duly signed

**10. CORRESPONDENCE:**

Letter acknowledging the parish councils comments regarding the Core Strategy

Letter from Suffolk Acre regarding Employers Liability

Letter requesting funding from MAGPAS

**11. PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY:**

John Whyman came forward to be co-opted and introduced himself to the council. It was proposed by Ian Bryce, seconded by Chris Leney with all in agreement that John be co-opted formally at the January meeting. The clerk will send John the necessary forms.

**12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:**

Councillor Co-option, Finalising Precept, Link Payment