

# 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> SEPTEMBER 2012

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**PRESENT:**

**Councillors:** Stephanie Coupland (chair), Peter Eaton, Diane Chase, Robert Taylor, Jill Warner, Robin Baldry, Margaret Taylor, Ted Wright, Chris Leney, Ian Bryce

**Parish Clerk:** Samantha Barber.

**County Councillor:** Kathy Pollard

**District Councillors:** Nick Ridley and Peter Jones.

**Members of the Public:** Eileen Damant.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Frances Self, Ben Cox

**2. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2012 and 9<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2012:**

Copies of these had been circulated to all councillors. The minutes from 19<sup>th</sup> July were proposed by Ian Bryce and seconded by Robert Taylor. The minutes from 9<sup>th</sup> August were proposed by Ted Wright and seconded by Chris Leney; both were duly signed and dated by the Chairman.

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

Ian Bryce declared an interest in pylons and Chris Leney declared an interest in planning items for Hillside Nurseries and Northlands Farm

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY and 9<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2012:**

**Village Website** – No progress had yet been made on the village website links.

All other items are dealt with as items on the agenda

**5. REPORTS:**

**County Council:** Cllr Kathy Pollard was welcomed back by the council. A parish report for September will be sent to the parish council. Cllr Pollard spoke about the plan to outsource highway services and the need to monitor carefully whoever is awarded the contract to ensure an effective service. Peter Eaton mentioned that the problem with outsourcing council services is that the outcome is only as good as the contract that is written and the contract is only as good as the contract manager, and the contract manager is appointed by council officials who are not from a culture that understands the commercial sector. A response had been

made by Cllr Pollard with regard to pylons and noted she was pleased that Suffolk County Council are supporting undergrounding. Libraries funding has been guaranteed for the next two years.

**District Council:** Cllr Nick Ridley reported that all parties are awaiting a decision from National Grid in respect to pylons by the end of September. The budget is now in the process of being decided and the integration of staff from Babergh and Mid Suffolk is nearing completion. Business rates are being returned partly to the local authority and meetings are beginning on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September to discuss council priorities. A new IT system will be required in the next two to three years by the Babergh/Mid Suffolk staff, this will probably mean outsourcing and working together with other districts in order to make this financially viable.

**Burstall Neighbouring Councils Meeting 30<sup>th</sup> July:** Stephanie Coupland had attended this first meeting and gave the following report. As reported at our last Parish Council Meeting Burstall Parish Council had asked if other Parish Councils would like to meet up, say every 4 – 6 months to discuss issues which involved their parishes and look to see if other parishes had similar problem and if they would be able to help each other, either by perhaps already having had a similar problem or where willing to help with a problem. I went to this meeting and there were representatives from Copdock & Washbrook, Somersham, Sproughton, Bramford, Belstead, Pinewood and of course Burstall. The meeting was opened by Mr. Barry Gasper, Chairman, Burstall PC, he highlighted the problems that he would see and of course Pylons, (which he felt was well covered), Bramford Substation, the future development being 30% Bigger in the near future. He opened the floor to anyone else and at the moment the Chairman of Belstead, Mr. David Cobbold, highlighted the problems they were having with the proposed planning application of Wind Turbines very close to Belstead Village. It appears they have been looking into Wind Turbines as a whole and been in contact with Kessingland as well. This appears to be a major issue to possible us all, therefore they were asking for each Parish to consider how they could support this issue, and asking for a representative from each parish to go to a meeting at Belstead Village Hall, on 15<sup>th</sup> August, 7.30 percificately to this subject. I asked if there was a way that we could as parish councils write to BDC in relation to the Core Strategy amendments. This did not seem possible as it was not an amendment. Copdock & Washbrook: Gypies, they seem to be always having problems by now that SCC has a new Portfolio on this matter it seems to be working better. Sproughton: Snoasis – traffice etc., also 250 Homes, Holiday Inn, just been included in Core strategy. Feels the Chantry Vale should be protected. No provision in application for school, shops etc. I had gone to meeting with a very open mind as there was no agenda and not really sure what we would get out of it. I did feel that there is such a lot going on around us and found it very interesting to see how other Parish councils were dealing with their problems. It was agreed to hold another meeting in approximately 6 months time.

Peter Eaton mentioned that meetings of this nature should be raised as an agenda item and sending a representative voted upon, caution should also be taken that decisions are not made at this type of meeting that should be made as a parish council. The Chairman noted that someone else from the parish council could attend the next meeting.

**Wind Turbines Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> August – Belstead:** The Chairman Stephanie Coupland, Margaret & Robert Taylor attended this meeting which was specifically to discuss Wind Turbines. It was well-attended approx 17 people, including Nick Ridley, Peter Jones and members of other Parish Councils. Belstead Parish Council are expecting a Planning Application to be put forward for Wind Turbines in their Village later this year. They have been looking at lots of issues in relation to this, mainly the Noise and the Height of the Turbines. The land is 600m behind the Village Hall, and the proposed Height is 430feet and 130m wide, the width of a Boeing 747 wingspan. (Bigger than Big Ben and equal to The London Eye). It will be huge. The PC had held meetings with Kessingland (who have 2 turbines at present) and how the noise factor there is creating a big problem. This is something, which Belstead found very daunting and does not wish to have. (38 Decibels Day and 43 Decibels Night). Each turbine costs about £1 million, bearing in mind that the government subsidies a large portion of this. The landowners get £40,000 per year for land rent for each turbine. This is also one of the worrying finds. There is no protection for Residents. There was then an open discussion, at which people could air their views. One member highlighted that there does

not seem to be any mention of Turbines in Core Strategy and could this not be included. Nick Ridley did not think it could be included because it would go against Government guidelines. Belstead PC hoped that we could all take back to our Councils this problem and to see if anyone had any hands on approach in order to assist or support them regarding this matter. It was mentioned that they would need money to fight any planning applications, and would other PCs be able to assist them. For further information there is a web site address: [www.turnthemoff.co.uk](http://www.turnthemoff.co.uk).

**Hintlesham School** – Margo Barker has recently joined the school as headteacher and has arranged for the school gates to be opened earlier in the morning, thus improving safety outside the gates.

**Speed watch - Margaret** and Robert Taylor reported that 24 speeding motorists had been noted in one single hour in Duke Street and it was requested that a message be placed in the Link to remind people about speeding.

It was also at this point that Stephanie Coupland thanked Ted Wright for cutting hedges.

#### **6. ADOPTION OF CODE OF CONDUCT:**

The Parish Council agreed to adopt the Code and this was proposed by Ian Bryce, seconded by Margaret Taylor with all in favour. Chris Leney asked whether as per the code of conduct the fact that alcohol is sold in the community hall bar is an issue when it comes to holding parish council meetings, it was decided that As meetings are held in a separate room to the bar there would not be a problem.

#### **7. EXPENDITURE:**

The following items were presented to the council for approval and payment.

£225.89 Suffolk Acre – Insurance  
£144.00 BDO Stoy – Audit  
£58.98 High Viz Jackets for Speedwatch  
£50.00 Chairman Expenses  
£591.50 Link Payment

The external audit report had been received from BDO Stoy with no recommendations made. Jill Warner reported that a letter had been received from Smith and Derby offering to provide upkeep of the village clock for a reduced rate for three years, after discussion all were in agreement of this and it was proposed by Jill Warner and seconded by Diane Chase.

#### **8. CORRESPONDENCE:**

Babergh Community Achievement Awards – Nomination Forms  
BDO Stoy – Documentation relating to audit  
Clerks and Councils Direct – Magazine  
Local Councillor – Magazine  
Suffolk View – Magazine

#### **9. RESULT OF PLAY AREA QUESTIONNAIRE:**

400 questionnaires had been circulated and 37 people had responded which could be considered a good response rate but was felt to be quite disappointing. 24 people wanted a hard court area, 12 would like gym equipment and 1 had asked for an outdoor table tennis table. Jill Warner mentioned that people thought it would be a great deal of money to be found. After much discussion Ian Bryce proposed that the idea be put

aside for the foreseeable future due to the current lack of interest. This was seconded by Chris Leney with all of the council in favour.

Stephanie Coupland would be asking for half the production costs of the questionnaire from the Community Council.

**10. PLANNING:**

*B/12/00819/LBC*  
*Church Farm, Lower Barn Road, Chattisham*  
*App for listed building consent*  
**No Objections were made by the council**

*B/12/00847/FUL*  
*Priory Farm, Priory Road, Hintlesham*  
*Change of use of agricultural land*  
**No objections were made by the council**

*B/12/00944/FUL*  
*Hillside Nurseries, Silver Hill, Hintlesham*  
*Change of use of agricultural land*  
**No objections were made by the council**

**11. HIGHWAYS – LOWER BARN ROAD:**

The clerk had been in correspondence with Highways about the issues of spring water in Lower Barn Road. In order to try and secure funding for such a major roadwork project it was decided that the clerk should write to highways on behalf of the parish council. Cllr Kathy Pollard was also asked to contact highways and residents in Lower Barn Road itself would also be asked to write as well. Hopefully this will bring about a positive outcome and the current problems of water running down the road can be rectified as soon as possible.

**12. CLERK CILCA QUALIFICATION:**

The clerk would like to obtain the Certificate in Local Council Administration and asked that the council support her with a third of the cost of obtaining the qualification which would be approx £200. This was proposed by Ian Bryce and seconded by Chris Leney with all of the council in favour.

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

No items were raised for the next agenda

*DATE FOR NEXT MEETING THURSDAY OCTOBER 11th*