

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 14TH February 2013

PRESENT:

Councillors: Stephanie Coupland (chair), Ian Bryce, Peter Eaton, Diane Chase, Robert Taylor, Margaret Taylor, Chris Leney, Frances Self, Ben Cox, Robin Baldry, Ted Wright, John Whyman

Parish Clerk: Samantha Barber.

District Councillor: Peter Jones, Nick Ridley

Members of the Public: Two members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

An apology had been received from County Councillor Kathy Pollard

2. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF 10th January 2013:

Copies of these had been circulated to all councillors and were proposed as an accurate record of the meeting by Ian Bryce and seconded by Chris Leney. 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.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 10th January 2013:

A1071 - A road safety meeting was held on the 23rd January with Steve Merry and Nigel Turner from SCC in attendance together with Kathy Pollard, Stephanie Coupland, Robert Taylor and Burstall Chairman Barry Gasper. Issues relating to sites along the A1071 were looked at and discussed including 'Policeman's Corner' (where since this meeting there has been yet another accident), Clarmont Nurseries, Thorpes Hill, Lower Barn Road, and Burstall Corner.

In relation to 'Policeman's Corner' it was felt that relining and cat's eyes repairs together with a possible chevron on the boundary of 1 Policeman's Corner would be beneficial but to put up barriers would endanger the lives of car drivers .

Affordable Housing - A reply had been received from Tracey Brinkley, Affordable Housing Officer at Babergh which stated that no changes needed to be made to the Section 106 statement as all necessary safeguards were in place to allocate housing to local people. She also mentioned that the affordable housing application for Hintlesham was always scheduled for the December 2012 Planning Committee Meeting at Babergh. Soil samples are currently being taken in readiness for work starting on the project.

Speed watch – Several potential sites have been located in Hintlesham for temporary speed signs although none of these are in George Street.

Play Area - Two quotations for bark chippings had been obtained. Cllr Kathy Pollard has been approached for financial help with this from her Locality Budget; the clerk had filled out the necessary forms and hopefully will hear if this has been successful very soon.

Planning - The parish council had received written confirmation from Babergh Planning Department that the Log Cabin at Birch Farm Hintlesham did not need to have planning permission.

5. **REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS:**

Ted Wright reported that the grit bin needs to be moved to outside 41 Timperleys and this will be arranged.

The AGM for the Community Council is on the 26th February

Margaret Taylor reported that repairs to the boardwalk on Footpath 27 will take place as soon as the weather improves.

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

County Council: Kathy Pollard had sent a report which was circulated to all councillors. Key points were that the County Council budget would be set in February with a number of savings to be made. After the eXplore travel card was abolished last year a new Suffolk Travel Card is to be introduced. Suffolk Health and Wellbeing Strategy is a ten year plan to improve the health and lifestyles of everyone in the county. Suffolk has dropped down the GCSE rankings; this follows on from the disappointing results from Primary Schools in the county. The Health Scrutiny Committee met during January and discussed heart attack specialist care and a new £5m heart unit to be built at Ipswich Hospital. There is much concern over a redesign of mental health services which is supposed to save 20% over the next five years.

District Council: Nick Ridley reported that there will be no increase in the council tax for the coming year. There had been two exhibitions at Belstead about the planned Wind Turbines and there seemed to be some issues with the validity of photo montages. Frances Self mentioned about the effect of noise and mention of this on planning policy however as was discussed noise regulations in particular are years out of date the constitutional review is still taking place and there would possibly be some joint committees set up between Babergh and Mid Suffolk.

Police: Although no police officer was present parking outside the school on George Street was discussed at length as the problems seem to be getting worse again. Many possible solutions were discussed including changing the position of the zig zag lines, introducing double yellow lines and putting up railings along the path. Stephanie Coupland will speak to the head teacher and the clerk will contact PCSO Melissa Cohen to see if we can initiate some positive action.

7. **PYLON UPDATE:**

No community forums had been held since the last Parish Council meeting. National Grid had responded to the report produced by English Heritage regarding Hintlesham Hall and had made it clear that they had not changed their position on the pylon routes. This response was considered to be somewhat dismissive and arrogant. Ian Bryce mentioned that it seems a tree survey is now taking place.

8. **ANNUAL LITTER PICK:**

The 23rd and 24th of March was chosen for the annual litter pick. Grippers and bags will be made available to volunteers. Robert Taylor reported that he and others had been picking up litter for some time and there is now so much it is getting ridiculous. Peter Eaton spoke about the problems with fast food restaurants and the fact that people often discard the takeaway rubbish in local roads. Diane Chase mentioned that in the case of

large 'fly tipped' items it did appear that once reported, items are picked up quickly. There are currently large items of rubbish in a ditch at Lower Barn Road which the clerk will report for collection.

9. FINANCE- ITEMS FOR PAYMENT

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

Playdale Inspection of Play Area – £234.00

SCC Payment for Street Lighting - £236.04

These were agreed unanimously. There was a discussion about the Playdale Inspection and whether it can be sourced cheaper, this will be looked into.

Bank Mandate Forms – It was agreed that Ben Cox would be a signatory on the bank accounts and the forms will be duly filled in and taken to Barclays.

Precept- Taxbase and Discretionary Grant 2013/14

The introduction of The Council Tax Support scheme by the government has meant a reduction in the tax base used to calculate the precept. For 2013/14 this is to be compensated by a grant however this will not be the case for subsequent years and there is also the issue that in the future increases to the precept will be capped at 2% and anything higher would require a costly referendum. For this reason the parish council reluctantly agreed to increase the precept for 2013/14. This was proposed by Robert Taylor and seconded by Chris Leney with eleven councillors in favour and one against.

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

Clerks and Councils Direct – Magazine

Core Strategy Review – Letter – Clerk, Stephanie Coupland to deal.

11. ARRANGE DATES FOR ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS:

Hintlesham – Thursday 11th April – 7.30pm – Community Hall

Chattisham – Thursday 18th April - 7.30pm - Church

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

Issue's with a local clay pigeon shoot were mentioned and would be looked in to. A point was also made about problems with overgrown hedges on George Street.