

HATHERTON AND WALGHERTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20TH APRIL 2015

Present:

Cllr Simon Chettle (Chairman), Cllr Ian Bennion, Cllr Ian Burton, Cllr Barry Dakin, Cllr Chris Knibbs, Cllr Janie Parkinson, Cllr Jean Stainthorpe, Cllr Rob Tindall

In attendance

Borough Cllr Janet Clowes, Christine Knibbs (Parish Clerk)

In attendance as observers

Mr S Mitchell, Mrs M Edwards

14/70 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

14/70.1 No apologies had been received.

14/71 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

14/71.1 There were none.

14/72 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

14/72.1 RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 February 2015 be approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chairman.

14/73 MATTERS ARISING

14/52.2 Borough Cllr Clowes advised that updated training material on planning will be available for new Councillors after the elections on 7th May and she will circulate the material then.

14/63.2 Cllr Chettle agreed to contact Mr Marshall with a view to inviting him to attend a presentation at the Annual Meeting on 19th May.

14/36.5 and 14/52.1 – Clerk confirmed that she had contacted CE Planning relating to discharge of conditions relating to planning applications 14/0455N and 14/2550N and was awaiting further information. Regarding 14/1702, the enforcement officer had stated there were no issues apart from the installation of UPVC windows.

14/64.3 14/5654N and 14/5656N – Doddington Estate - Clerk confirmed the Parish Council response had been submitted. Borough Cllr Clowes advised that the applications will go before a Strategic Planning meeting, but this was unlikely to be held before June/July. The CE Planning portal stating “delegated decision” is incorrect.

14/54 Cllr Bennion reported that Mr Gear had agreed to continue as a trustee for Hatherton for the Wybunbury Charities.

14/65.2 Cllr Chettle confirmed that he had liaised with the Highways Officer regarding possible measures to improve the road surface on Hatherton bends but had nothing positive to report as yet. He will continue to pursue.

- 14/67 Cllr Knibbs reported that a successful litter picking morning took place on 21st March with 35 bags of rubbish collected from roadside verges and hedges, and he thanked all involved. He did have concerns about safety of collectors as, despite hi-viz vests, they were vulnerable along busy main roads and some narrow lanes. He will review strategies to improve safety in any future litter picks.

All other matters arising had been completed.

14/74 FINANCE REPORT

The finance report, including the annual accounts and information for the Local Councils in England (previously the Audit Commission) Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2015 had been circulated with the agenda.

14/74.1 Income and Expenditure and Bank Reconciliation

This showed a bank balance of £2084.48 at 20 March 2015, with no unrepresented cheques.

14/74.2 Local Councils in England (previously the Audit Commission) annual return for the financial year ended 31st March 2015

RESOLVED that the accounting statements certified by the Responsible Financial Officer be approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.

14/74.3 Annual Governance Statement 2014/15

RESOLVED that this be approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

14/74.4 Final Spending against Budget for financial year ended 31st March 2015

(including payments to be authorised during the meeting) – noted that the actual spend for financial year was £3736 against a budget of £2830. This discrepancy was mainly due to the increase in the Clerk's hours and contingency overspend on the purchase of the Clerk's laptop computer (£340), the donation to the upkeep of Wybunbury graveyard (£200), and a leaving gift for the previous Clerk (£48).

The actual spend 2014/15 compared to the budget for 2015/16 (with corrections to increase-decrease column) was noted.

14/74.5 Review of Insurance and Insurance Provider

The level of cover was reviewed and was confirmed as adequate.

RESOLVED that insurance should remain with Zurich Insurance at a renewal premium of £153.86 due on 1 June 2015.

14/74.6 Payments authorised at meeting

Payee	Sum	Cheque No.
Christine Knibbs (salary/expenses)	£320.29	000348
Post Office (PAYE 2014)	£30.60	000349
Post Office (PAYE 2015)	£30.40	000350
Jean Stainthorpe (newsletter printing)	£18.00	000351
Hankelow Chapel (room hire for 2014-15)	£240.00	000352
Information Commissioner	£35.00	000353
Community Lincs Insurance Services	£153.86	000354
ChALC (affiliation fee & training booklets)	£130.16	000356

14/74.7 Receipts and Payments Summary and Balance Sheet for the year 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015

These detailed the Council's income and expenditure during the financial year. The opening balance at 1st April 2014 was £3720 and the closing balance at 31st March was £2084.

14/74.8 Confirmation of banking arrangements and Payment Approval Procedure and replacement signatory for Cllr Wilson

The arrangements were reviewed and it was confirmed that they will remain unchanged as defined in the financial regulations.

RESOLVED that Elizabeth Wilson be removed as authorised signatory for the Parish Council account with RBS and replaced by Cllr Simon Chettle.

14/74.9 Risk Schedule

The Council considered the risk schedule which identifies the risk matters, the frequency of review and the minute number relating to the most recent consideration of specific risk items.

14/74.10 Asset Register

This had increased in value to include the laptop purchased during the financial year

RESOLVED - that the matters comprising the financial report be approved, subject to the minor corrections identified.

14/75 PLANNING MATTERS

14/75.1 **Planning Log**

This had been amended to show a 6-month rolling list (from decision) plus any outstanding issues. Regarding 14/4296N (Hatherton Solar Park), Borough Cllr Clowes informed the meeting that she has requested the University of East Anglia to provide an estimate of soil structure based on geological audit research. The situation regarding the similar application in Marbury was also being monitored.

14/75.2 **14/5654N and 14/5656N – Doddington Estate**

There were no further developments to report, other than this will go to a Strategic Planning meeting at a date to be confirmed.

14/75.3 **15/1247W – Whittaker's Green Farm**

This seeks to vary the conditions of permission and double the number of permitted vehicle movements on Bank and Public Holidays. The applicant has made unsubstantiated claims that the increase in vehicle movements was to assist the Waste Management Authority and had failed to liaise with residents prior to submitting this application. Some residents had reported that the number of vehicles using the site appeared to exceed the numbers permitted. It was agreed that advice be sought from the CE legal team as to how this can be monitored.

RESOLVED - Parish Council to submit objection to this application.

14/76 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

14/76.1 The following matters were noted:

- The planned road improvements across the Ward were noted.
- There was a recommendation that, because of the damage to the grass verges on Bridgemere Lane caused by waste site heavy vehicles, two passing places should be constructed and verge embankments built. The cost was budgeted up to £10,000.
- Borough Cllr Clowes to confirm the date of the next LAP meeting.
- Regarding notification of road closures/road works. The Council does receive prior notification of road works being carried out by CE Highways but are not always informed about work scheduled by the utility companies.
- Cllr Chettle to report water leak near Hatherton bends.
- Cllr Chettle to follow up on reported poor visibility at Holly Cottage.

14/76.2 **SID Update** – Following deployment on the A51, which data had been circulated to Councillors, the device had been placed on the B5071 and had recorded 6000 vehicles travelling in the Crewe direction over a period of 10 days. Cllr Chettle will provide reports when he has fully retrieved the information from his computer.

14/77 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTION UPDATE

The Clerk confirmed that the nomination papers had been submitted to Cheshire East and that a statement as to persons validly nominated had been received. The number of nomination were seven for Hatherton and three for Walgherton, which equated to the number of seats available on the parish council.

14/78 NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING

Borough Cllr Clowes confirmed that a meeting will be held after 7th May on a date to be confirmed. Members will be welcome to attend steering group meetings to consider matters such as Planning, Education and Employment, Historic Infrastructure, Rural Industries, etc.

14/79 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- Email from Liz Wilson thanking the parish council for their gift and good wishes and wishing them well for the future.
- Letter from Cheshire East enclosing two of six strategic documents – “Residents First – Sustainable Planning” and “Cheshire East – Where Rural Communities Matter”. The other four documents can be downloaded or viewed at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/strategicbooklets.
- Letter from Advice Cheshire East which seeks to provide local residents with information and advice on a range of topics. Their website is www.adviceCE.org.uk. Cllr Tindall to place details on the parish website.

14/80 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

14/80.1 Hot Air Balloons

Cllr Parkinson raised concerns about hot air balloons taking off from the Boar’s Head. They sometimes are unable to quickly gain sufficient height and are forced to land in local fields or the road causing damage to hedges

and fences, also causing distress to horses and livestock. There is also the danger of overhead power lines. Cllr Chettle agreed to follow up with the Boar's Head.

14/80.2 Security

The recent incident concerning theft of batteries and intimidation was noted. This had been reported to residents with a plea for them to remain vigilant. Suspicious activity should be reported to the PCSO.

14/80.3 Superfast Broadband

It was reported that the fibre enabled box at Hankelow permitted SFBB to be available to 811/812 numbers, with claimed speeds of 11-39 mbps. It was not known if any residents had yet taken up this improved service, which comes at additional expense. It was understood that 840/841 numbers will have SFBB available by the end of July.

14/81 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 19th May 2015 (preceded by Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm)

The meeting closed at 9.55 pm

Chairman
19th May 2015