

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 11th APRIL 2012 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr A Cowles (Chair)
Cllr S Fuller
Cllr R Crisp
K Medler (Clerk)

Parishioners: 2

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs H Pointer, L Rogers, S Howes, A Southgate, District Cllr P Carrick and Cllr T Williams. The Parish Council sent their condolences to Cllr L Rogers for the loss of family members.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 14th March 2012 were proposed for agreement by Cllr S Fuller and seconded by Cllr R Crisp after amendment to items 5b iii and iv. 20120251 should read: Plans were reviewed and no objections raised. 20120313 should read: Plans were reviewed and no objections raised, although it was noted the trusses are already in place. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

4. REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES, NOT ON THE AGENDA

a. Oak Trees, Harvest Close

The Clerk has spoken to Judith Lincoln who advised Doris Berghardis dealt with this issue. B.D.C. informed the owner they could remove the tree as there was no TPO in place on it. The owner was concerned about safety as branches were hanging over their conservatory. Only one tree has been removed and this was on the boundary of the property. Judith Lincoln will be sending the Clerk a list of the TPOs in Hainford for future reference.

b. Millennium Car Park

A permanent combination lock has now been purchased and put in place by the Chairman. Norse has been given the code to allow access for grass cutting.

c. Jubilee Gifts

The mugs have now been ordered from a local supplier and will be handed out at the Village Fun Day on 2nd June 2012. The Clerk has only received five 'orders' for these so far so the article will be repeated in next month's Parish News.

d. Correspondence - Rangers

The Clerk has asked the Rangers to cut back some grass which is growing across the pavement on Chapel Road (near the post box near Wells Close), following a telephone call from a concerned parishioner.

e. Clerks Report – Vehicle activated signs

The speed signs have now been removed so the Clerk will send a letter to Highways as per last month's minutes. The Police have been seen doing speed checks down Waterloo Road recently and Cllr S Fuller asked for monitoring to continue, especially on Hall Road, at the last SNAP meeting. Speed Watch is being resurrected in the Village now that Spring is here.

f. District Councillor – Meals on Wheels service

The Clerk has spoken to Ursula Parker who organises this service for Hainford and she advised no-one in the village now has these from her. There are only three people in Horsford now who have these and because of that the cooking was moved from Hainford Primary to Old Catton Nursing Home. No one in Hainford has taken up the Hot Meals Service which is run from Hevingham. The Clerk will speak to Dist Cllr P Carrick to see what action he suggests the Council take now this information is known.

5. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

a. Finance

i) The following accounts were presented for payment and were approved:

Mrs. K Medler (Expenses)	£13.93
HMRC (PAYE)	£144.40
NPFA (Subscription)	£20.00
NALC (Subscription)	£168.03
NRCC (Subscription)	£25.00
CPRE (Subscription)	£29.00
Cllr A Cowles (Lock)	£4.97

The Clerks standing order was paid on the 5th April 2012.

The following receipt was noted:

Refund from B.D.C. for overpayment on rates

£49.66

ii) Financial statement for April 2012

The balance carried forward is £14,643.27.

Cllr R Crisp proposed the Council accept the statement and this was seconded by Cllr S Fuller.

b. Planning Applications

i) The Clerk gave an update on ongoing applications and this will be printed in the Parish News.

ii) 20111222 – Woodland Burial Park

Cllr A Cowles reported that in the absence of Mrs M Lyon, the Senior Planning Officer dealing with the Woodland Burial Park, he had met with Matthew Rooke, West Area Planning Manager B.D.C. Prior to the commencement of the meeting Cllr A Cowles said he had apprised Mr. Rooke of his prejudicial interest in the application. However, given that the purpose of the meeting was to seek clarification and address issues raised by the Parish Council and not to determine policy, it was felt that this prejudicial interest did not preclude him from participating in the meeting.

As far as the Parish Council was concerned, Cllr A Cowles said the purpose of the meeting with Mr. Rooke was twofold. First it was to ascertain why the Planning Authorities' approach to this application appeared to be different to other applications viz a viz Hainford. In this context, other planning applications submitted were judged against policy within the statutory period and either approved or rejected. The Planning Authorities' equivocal approach to this application, in allowing the applicant to defer a decision beyond the statutory period, was different to the unequivocal approach experienced previously. Secondly, the Parish Council wished to ascertain what the Planning Authority expected the outcome of the Canham's Hill appeal to add to the equation given that in her letter of the 16th November 2011, the Senior Planning Officer dealing with the application stated "your submitted application does not demonstrate that the principle of your proposal complies with Local Plan Policy CS1.....Officers are minded to recommend your application for refusal". Given this opinion, the Parish Council could not see what difference the outcome of the Canham's Hill appeal could make to the Hainford application.

During the discussion with Mr. Rooke the following points were made by both parties:

- the Planning Authorities' approach to this application was different but for good and valid reasons, as the Planning Authority wished to ensure that the Hainford application was considered in the light of all the available information. This included the Canham's Hill application as the two applications were linked, a fact acknowledged by the Parish Council in their correspondence.
- when the decision was made to give the applicant the opportunity to extend the time period for consideration it was thought that the Canham's Hill appeal would be heard in December 2011 and not March 2012.
- if the Planning Inspector allowed the Canham's Hill appeal, this "would count against" the Hainford application as the Canham's Hill site had within it a facility for woodland burial.
- if the Planning Inspector dismissed the Canham's Hill appeal, then the Hainford application would be considered in the light of this. In this context, the applicant would need to address to the Planning Authorities' satisfaction the issues raised in the Senior Planning Officer's letter of 25th October 2011. These issues related to design, security, sustainability and need. This may necessitate a further period of consultation with interested parties.
- as far as the time scale for a decision was concerned, this was difficult to determine but assuming the outcome of the Canham's Hill appeal was known by the end of April then it was anticipated that the Hainford application would go to a Planning Committee in June/July.
- if the application when finally considered still maintained that the catchment population for the facility is "Greater Norwich and the County of Norfolk" and still maintained that access was "almost exclusively by private car", then the Parish Council would expect that the application was supported by Transport Statement or Transport Assessment as required by paragraph 32 of the recently published National Planning Policy Framework.

The Parish Council thanked Cllr A Cowles for his comprehensive report and after discussion agreed to await the outcome of the Canham Hill appeal after which it would consider the matter further.

It was noted that the applicant, Mr. A Morton, wished to attend the Annual Parish meeting on 9th May to apprise parishioners of his intentions with regard to the application and answer any questions.

c. B.D.C. Consultations

Cllr A Cowles reported on his meeting with John Walchester, Interim Spatial Planning Manager B.D.C. Cllr A Cowles said he had informed Mr. Walchester of the purpose of the meeting which, following Mr. Walchester's letter of 2 February 2012, was to ascertain the impact of the Draft Development Management Policies and Landscape Character Assessment, if approved, on subsequent planning applications viz a viz Hainford.

During the discussion with Mr. Walchester, the following points were made by both parties:-

- development outside settlement limits would still be considered as per existing planning policies which were Local Plan Policies GS1 and GS3.
 - the approach adopted to landscape character by B.D.C. was intended to treat all areas as equally important in their own right.
 - this approach would be acceptable to the Parish Council if the impact was a levelling up to the highest common denominator and not down to the lowest.
 - the agricultural environment within which Hainford was situated was greatly valued by Hainford parishioners, as evidenced by comments in the Parish Plan. Hainford Parish Council would not wish to see the protection afforded to this environment, by the current planning policies, diminished by the proposed changes.
 - the Joint Core Strategy sets out the policies which affect Hainford, and although these policies may be stated differently this will not alter the way in which Hainford is viewed by the Planning Authority.
- The Parish Council thanked Cllr A Cowles for his report. It was agreed that as the Parish Council's views on the proposals had been made clear to B.D.C. the Parish Council had done all that it could.

d. Lease Millennium Car Park

The Clerk has received the final draft document for approval which was agreed with one or two minor adjustments. The solicitor has pointed out that the Lease does not have the protection of Security of Tenure and therefore the Landlord will be required to serve a prescribed notice upon the Council detailing this. The Council will then need to read and accept the notice and make a statutory declaration to this effect before an independent solicitor. The Parish Council could not recall this being an issue before but agreed that if this was the terms on which the Diocese wanted to set the Lease, they would have to agree to it and either the Clerk or Chairman would make the necessary declaration. It was also agreed Hood, Vores & Allwood could accept service of the notice on Councils behalf.

6. MATTERS TO REPORT

a. Correspondence sent to Clerk

The Clerk has received an email highlighting a petition against anymore onshore wind turbines/farms in Norfolk or elsewhere in the UK. Anyone interested in this should visit:

<http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/22958>.

Cllr A Cowles had thanked Charles Sanders and his drivers for keeping the buses running through Hainford during the closure of Newton Road, which was an emergency closure due to a sewer collapse. In response to this, Charles Sanders has advised a new timetable will be coming out from the 6th May but the changes are very minimal and there will not be any reductions in service for Hainford, either in May or next winter.

b. Clerks report

The general correspondence folder being circulated includes a draft Publication Scheme and Training Policy, which Councillors will need to review for discussion and agreement at the next meeting.

It is coming up to the time for the annual playground inspection, so the Clerk will be arranging this via ROSPA. The Clerk will also set up a new rota and inspection sheet for the Councillors monthly inspections of the play equipment and pond. The next pond inspection by ROSPA is not due until June 2014.

The Parish Councils website is now up and running – <http://haynfordpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>. The Clerk will continue to add and update items as necessary. If anyone has any photos they would like to see on the site, please email them to the Clerk.

Following the Parish Councils contribution to the Olympic Medals for the school children, the school has asked if a Council representative would join them for their sports day on the 25th June to help present the medals. The Chairman agreed to do this.

c. Police Report

There has been one crime in the Parish during March which was theft from a vehicle. The next SNAP meeting is on 14th June at 7pm at the Jubilee Centre, Aylsham.

d. Report from County Councillor

The Chairman read the report from Cllr Williams in his absence: These organisations no longer object to the Energy from Waste plant in Kings Lynn and while there are various other objections continuing, the next step is to submit a planning application - The Environment Agency, Highways Agency, NHS Norfolk, the Director of Public Health, Norfolk, the RSPB, Natural England, Health Protection Agency, English Heritage, DEFRA, The Environmental Health Officers of King's Lynn Borough Council.

The Marsham composting plant has been processing green and kitchen waste and will imminently be out loading compost material. The plant is performing better than expected.

Costessey MRF - around £200,000 has been spent to improve recycling. There have been significant improvements which will lead to an increased income for the District Councils supplying the plant.

Aegal House Aylsham - all residents have been found satisfactory alternative accommodation for when the home closes in September. The consultation on the closure of two residential homes in Gt. Yarmouth has gone well, with proposed relocation of residents next year combined with the building of a new home. N.C.C. budget will be in balance for the year 2011-12.

e. Report from District Councillor

In the District Councillors absence the Chairman reported that the Parish Council will be receiving £500.00 from B.D.C.s New Homes Fund as one new property was built in Hainford during the qualifying period. The Clerk added that it is intended that the funds are used for the 'community'.

7. RESIDENTS QUESTIONS

On Dumbs Lane, near the old rectory, there is a tree branch hanging onto the road. The Clerk will contact the owner and ask them to deal with this.

The Chairman of the Village Hall Committee advised that in accordance with agreed protocol he needs to make the Parish Council aware that the Committee intend to spend around £48,000 on the Village Hall, subject to grants. The majority of this will be spent on the roof and out building. The Project Plan was hand delivered to N.R.C.C. today. Most organizations giving grants want to see that the Parish Council have already pledged or given money to the project. The recycling credits that the Council donates to the Village Hall do not count as they are not specific to this project. Cllr A Cowles asked if the Council need to give a specific sum or whether they can pledge support up to a sum dependent upon the outcome of grant applications. The Village Hall Chairman will look in to this further and advise. Cllr A Cowles stated the Parish Council considers the Village Hall to be an asset to the Village and so would want to support it where possible. The Village Hall has put £5000 from their own funds into the Project. Re-wiring is currently taking place, the majority of which has been done on a voluntary basis, which has saved a lot of money.

8. MATTERS RAISED FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Outdoor Gym and those detailed in the minutes.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Annual Parish Council Meeting - Wednesday 9th May 2012 following on from the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 21:40