

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 9<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2014 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Present:** Cllr A Cowles (Chair)  
Cllr S Howes  
Cllr R Crisp  
Cllr L Rogers  
K Medler (Clerk)

**In attendance:** District Cllr P Carrick  
County Cllr D Roper  
Mr. J Whitelock (Saffron)

**Parishioners:** 7

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllr a Southgate, S Fuller and H Pointer.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATION REQUESTS**

There were no declarations of interest or dispensation requests.

**3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2014 were agreed by all and signed by the Chairman.

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

**a. Lafarge**

Despite contacting Lafarge for a fourth time, the Clerk has still not received a response or even an acknowledgement. The Clerk will send a further letter direct to the Chief Executive.

**b. Dog Bin Waterloo Road**

BDC have confirmed the contractor will continue to empty the bin for the time being although it is not an ideal situation. The Clerk is still awaiting a reply from NCC Highways.

**c. Grass Cutting contract**

Vortex Ground Services have agreed to a two year contract at £240.00 per annum.

**5. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

**a. Proposed development on the Chequers field**

The Chairman recapped the situation. The Environment Agency has said there are no known problems in the area so it is now down to BDC and Saffron Housing to consider the Parish Councils comments and decide the way forward. It does now appear however that the monetary donation to the Parish will depend on BDC's view on the CIL rules.

Mr. Whitelock said that whilst he understands the request for a Flood Risk Assessment they have carried out some soak away tests which achieved good results, even with the recent poor weather. The hard landscaping proposed will cover the surface water drainage. The land is low density and he does not feel spending £1000 on an assessment will be worthwhile. Trigger points have been suggested to the Parish Council and BDC which could be incorporated within any planning permission granted. However, they have now run into a significant hurdle with the CIL. BDC are not recognizing the value of the land being gifted to the Parish and want £42,000 to provide open space in addition to £55,000 for the CIL. The six market houses cannot possibly support this kind of request. Discussions will continue with BDC but if this cannot be resolved, the scheme will fail. BDC can offset the land gifting against the CIL but currently will not agree to do so.

*Cty Cllr D Roper joined the meeting at 19:55*

The Chairman asked if there was anything the Parish Council could do that they haven't already done to assist but Mr. Whitelock said he didn't think there was. The Parish Council agreed they would continue to support the current scheme and continue with negotiations to move things forward.

The Clerk has received a response from Anglian Water to the letter sent and this, along with the letter, will be printed in the Parish News however it seems they are not prepared to take any action to alleviate the problems currently being experienced by residents.

*Mr. J Whitelock left the meeting at 20:05*

**b. Play Equipment in the Village**

**i. Monthly report**

The report from The Play Inspection Co Ltd has only recently been received so Cllr S Howes and the Chairman will review it fully and decide what action to take - there are a few items which need attention but these are all low risk. A copy of the report has been sent to the Hainford Community Partnership. All agreed to ask Mrs. Watker if she would organise some replacement bark which is required. The Parish Council can sign up to a repeat annual inspection service to save having to book each year. All agreed this would be a good idea but the Clerk should make the Company aware of the changes planned.

## **ii. Smoking**

Several parents have been spoken to, to gauge their feeling on smoking within the play area and generally it seems they would prefer people not to smoke in the area. Those who do smoke have said they would be prepared to go outside the park and an improvement has already been noticed. A resident asked if a sign could be put up to provide clarity on the situation. Cllr S Howes proposed the Clerk organise this and this was seconded by Cllr L Rogers.

The sign regarding 'No Dogs' on the area behind the car park has also now had the desired effect.

## **iii. Lease**

The Clerk confirmed Howes Percival have been appointed and the necessary documents signed and sent to them. The Diocese have confirmed their costs will be £750.00 + VAT.

## **iv. HCP**

The Hainford Community Partnership will be having a meeting soon to agree a treasurer and constitution etc. and are seeking £1000.00 for marketing and flyers for the fund raiser which they hope to hold, possibly in July. Whilst the idea was agreed in principle, it was felt the invoices should be given to the Clerk for payment rather than releasing funds to the HCP. The Parish Council would like more information from the HCP after their meeting and the Clerk will check in the meantime that the Council have the 'power' to proceed on this basis.

## **c. Hainford Hall Enabling Scheme**

The proposal outlined to the Parish Council was to develop Hainford Hall for housing.

Mr. T Wright on behalf of Mr. P Smith explained the proposed scheme and advised that whilst in the past BDC have not looked very favourably on this, Mr. Matthew Rooke is now of a mind to see the scheme move forward. Hainford Hall is a grade 2 listed building and this scheme is needed to help the development of the site. The Chairman said he believes parishioners would like to see a different use for the site but there are three problems they will have to overcome: The site is outside the development boundary, JCS16 states the Village will not sustain a large development and drainage. In answer to a question the Chairman confirmed the scheme does not reconcile with the Parish Plan. It was agreed this should be put to residents and discussed further at the Annual Parish Meeting in May. The Clerk will put basic details of the scheme in the Parish News with the notice of the APM and publish the full details on the website.

*3 members of the public left the meeting at 20:35*

## **d. Planning applications**

The Chairman was disappointed and embarrassed to note that the two applications being circulated to Councillors had not been brought to the meeting and this is not the first time this has happened. Without the applications the Council cannot agree their response to BDC. All agreed in future any plans will be given to the necessary Councillor to speak to neighbours and then they should be kept and brought to the meeting and not circulated, that way the Clerk will know who holds any plans at a given time. Councillors will know which plans are to be discussed when they receive their agendas and should look at the application online prior to the meeting.

i) 20140487 - Mr A Watts, Meadow View, Newton Road

The Chairman advised he checked with neighbours and has not been advised of any objections. Mr Watts was present and said he has also spoken to his neighbour who has no objections.

ii) 20140506 – M P Walton, 57 Chapel Road

The Chairman spoke to neighbours and is not aware of any objections.

## **e. Speed Watch / Traffic Calming**

Highways have advised they have no plans to replace the stolen signs at present as that was the only set available. There may be scope to purchase a new set in the new financial year. Hainford are still on the list to have them as they were only in place for one day before they went missing.

The Clerk contacted the Police regarding the 'Smiley Sid' check and the following is an extract from the response received: *I can confirm "Smiley Sid" was used on Newton Road, Hainford from 15:00 to 15:59 hours on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2014. I need to clarify with you that "Smiley Sid" is a speed monitoring device and not an enforcement tool. It also acts as a slowing down device as when vehicles approach the flashing lights, most vehicles slow down. The PCSO's were parked in the School car park for the duration at the above time and were last to leave the location after school ended. Also it takes time to dismantle the speed monitoring device, so would have been present well after 4pm.* The Clerk confirmed that out of the 41 vehicles checked, 10 exceeded the speed limit. The Chairman will put further details of these results in the Parish News. Highways have confirmed they will allow the children's signs subject to three conditions. The Clerk has sent details to the School for them to liaise with Highways.

Jackie Matthews will be taking over as Speed Watch co-ordinator from 8<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

## **f. Draft transparency code for Parish and Town Councils**

Details had been previously circulated and responses were agreed.

### **g. Millennium Car Park**

Cllrs S Howes and H Pointer are still looking into the provision of a gate at the entrance.

*1 member of the public left the meeting at 20:55*

### **h. Finance**

i) The following account had already been paid and was approved:

D Hewer / NALC (Donation to Sue Lakes leaving gift)	£20.00
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The following accounts were presented for payment and were approved:

Mrs K Medler (Expenses)	£35.08
HMR&C (PAYE x3)	£140.80
Hainford PCC (Churchyard grass cutting)	£50.00
Vortex Ground Services (Grass cutting 50%)	£120.00
The Play Inspection Co Ltd (Inspection fee)	£71.94
CPRE (Subscription)	£36.00
NALC (Subscription)	£173.60

The Clerks standing order was paid on the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

The Chairman noted at the last PCC meeting that the reserves of the Parish News are good and questioned whether a donation was required this year from the Parish Council. It was agreed the Clerk should speak to Mr. B Cooper and if a donation is required an invoice will be needed.

ii) Financial statement for April 2014

The balance carried forward is £18,971.03.

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

iii) Repeal of S150 LGA 1972

Details of this had been circulated and all agreed to keep to two signatories for everyone's protection.

## **6. MATTERS TO REPORT**

### **a. County Councillors Report**

The incinerator contract has been terminated as of Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2014. Approximately £30 million in costs will be lost in total. When the contract was signed they never expected the delays they have experienced or the Government pulling out funds they had agreed. £140,000 profit is lost every day with the delays. If the situation had been allowed to run for a further six weeks it would have no longer been profitable to continue. Terminating the contract now will save future costs. An independent QC report into the contract found there was no wrong doing. NCC had a plan in place for disposal of Norfolk's rubbish whilst the incinerator was being built so there is no immediate concern. NCC has already set aside £19 million and they now have until the end of the year to find the remaining £11 million.

The Council has appointed a new chief executive and will be changing their governance structures.

Broadband queries continue to be passed to Cllr D Roper but the exchange is being upgraded this month.

### **b. District Councillors Report**

The Eco dwelling on Dumbs Lane was granted permission by the planning committee.

*Dist Cllr P Carrick left the meeting at 21:10*

### **c. Correspondence sent to Clerk**

The Overview and Scrutiny Officer would like to attend a Parish Council meeting to raise interest in what they do but all felt this was not necessary.

### **d. Clerks Report**

The Village Hall Committee, Garden Club, Parish Council and Church are combining to have poppy seeds distributed to everyone in the Village via the Parish News so that the verges and open spaces will hopefully be full of flowering poppies by the anniversary of the start of World War 1 on 4<sup>th</sup> August. A small tree will be planted in the Church grounds at the Memorial Service on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> of August which the Chairman will be attending.

### **e. Police report**

There were two crimes in the Village during April: theft of a car engine from Hall Road and burglary in a building other than a dwelling on Hall Road.

## **7. MATTERS RAISED FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Play Area lease, Proposed Development on 'the Chequers field' and Gate to the Millennium Car Park.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May immediately after the Annual Parish Meeting which is at 7:00pm in the village hall.

**The meeting closed at 21:15**