

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2013 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

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

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

**Parishioners:** 10

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs H Pointer, A Southgate and R Crisp.

**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 8<sup>th</sup> May 2013 were agreed by all and signed by the Chairman.

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

**a. Millennium Car Park**

The car park has now been completed. The Chairman authorised the use of an alternative material so the work could be completed, which will mean the costs will be higher than originally authorised. The concrete pipes which are currently in the corner of the car park will be removed shortly.

**b. Letter to the Chief Constable**

Whilst the Clerk has received an acknowledgement of the letter sent, she had not yet received a full reply. Once a reply is received both letters will be circulated to Councillors.

**5. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

**a. Finance**

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

Mrs. K Medler (Expenses)	£55.77
The Play Inspection Co Ltd (Inspection)	£150.00
Vortex Ground Services (Grass cutting)	£198.00
Hainford PCC (Church yard grass cutting)	£50.00
S.L.C.C. (Subscription)	£42.33
Broker Network Ltd (Insurance)	£267.69
Village Hall & Recreation Ground (Hainford)	£18.00

The Clerks standing order was paid on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

The following receipts were noted:

Bank interest	£1.72
VAT refund	£424.79

ii) Financial statement for June 2013

The balance carried forward is £20,354.35 which was accepted by all.

**b. Planning applications**

i) 20130685 – Patches Cottage, Patches Plantation

In the absence of the application which was circulated, the Council were unable to agree a response to the amendments. Councillors were reminded that planning applications should be returned to the Clerk, if they will not be attending the meeting.

**c. Speeding on Newton Road**

The Chairman stated this issue has been raised numerous times before with Highways but to no avail. The Parish Council is therefore looking to County Councillor Roper for help on resolving the situation. Since the last meeting the Clerk has written to NCC asking that they consider decreasing the speed limit along Newton Road and received the following response:

*The former Council Cabinet member for Planning and Transportation commissioned a report to be prepared to investigate the possibility of introducing 20mph zones outside schools in the County. Once the report is*

*completed and its findings reviewed we will be able to assess how best to take forward this important initiative. However in the interim, there are no plans to provide a general review of speed limits in the area.*

The School have also asked contacted Highways and received the same response.

Cty Cllr Roper confirmed he has been in touch with the Officer involved and registered Hainford's interest for an assessment once the report mentioned above is completed. Cty Cllr Roper asked to be provided with copies of all previous correspondence in this matter.

A member of the Public confirmed she has spoken to the Police (as have the School) and they will monitor speeding along Newton Road.

The Chairman stated he felt this was a problem which needed to be tackled by several bodies and not just the Parish Council. The Chairman has spoken to the Vicar Christopher Englessen as the School is a Church School and suggested that the Governors, LEA and Diocese work together to try and resolve the problem. Cty Cllr Roper agreed he should be the main point of contact for this issue. When asked if speed bumps could be installed Cty Cllr Roper advised a traffic survey would be required for Highways to assess if they would be suitable and this costs in the region of £2000. The Chairman advised that the Vehicle Activated Signs which flash to tell motorists the speed limit in force and to slow down if they are exceeding this, cost in the region of £7000 to install plus maintenance costs and asked if parents would prefer the Play Area money to be spent on trying to resolve the speeding issues instead. Cty Cllr Roper agreed to speak to the local Highway technician to see if a site visit can be arranged, with perhaps representatives present from the Parish Council, Governors, parents and Dist Cllr Carrick, to see what can be done. Such a visit would enable all parties to agree a way forward.

The matter of Speed Watch was raised and the Clerk will speak to the current Co-Ordinator Jackie Matthews who holds the Speed Watch equipment, to see what is happening with that. The Clerk will put a note in the Parish News asking for volunteers to Co-Ordinate, if required.

#### **d. Parking outside the Church on Newton Road**

Following complaints from parishioners, the Clerk contacted the School and Diocese to see if they could assist. The School confirmed they always encourage parents to use the car park but regrettably they do not always listen. The Diocese referred the Clerk to the local Church Warden who confirmed the PCC did install a sign on the fence saying park in the car park opposite, to try to prevent parking on the area in question but it is not always adhered too. Mr. Cooper suggested the School could send a letter to all parents, repeated in September, reminding them to use the car park. The Clerk will forward this suggestion to the School. It was agreed requesting double yellow lines would not help as these are likely to be ignored and increasing the size of the car park would take away the recreation area and not really make much difference as people park on the road even when the car park is empty. It was suggested that collapsible bollards be installed outside the Church and the Clerk will put this suggestion to Mr. Cooper to raise with the PCC.

#### **e. Play Equipment in Village**

i) Cllr A Southgate completed her inspection on the 9<sup>th</sup> June.

ii) The Clerk has contacted both NPS and the Diocese. NPS are liaising with the School and will revert back in due course. The Diocese have said if NCC, the Parish Council and the School Governors all agree they would like to end the current lease so that a new lease could be granted, it is likely the Diocese would give their consent subject to agreement on the rent and terms of the lease however the incumbent of the Benefice and the PCC would also have to be consulted. The Chairman said that what was required was for the Parish Council to achieve a security of tenure which would satisfy any grant giving bodies. In this context a 20 year lease was suggested.

Mrs. Watker has expressed her concern that the costs for sorting out the lease will come out of the money set aside of the new play area and would prefer the £5000 to remain intact. The Chairman said that whilst the Council cannot guarantee the £5000 will remain untouched, they will try to avoid eating into it wherever possible, however the Parish Council have limited resources which are funded by parishioners so the Parish Council may have to consider raising the Precept when it is set next year to cover all the additional demands on its resources.

iii) A consultation afternoon has been arranged for Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June from 2pm to 4pm at the Village Hall. 2 suppliers will be attending with 2 more sending presentations as they are unable to attend. The Chairman feels the issue of the lease should not hold up discussions on the play area. It was agreed Mrs. Watker should purchase tea and cake for the event and the Parish Council will refund her costs, which will not come out of the money set aside for the play area. It is hoped that from this consultation the Parish Council will obtain a general view of what parishioners would like and who they would prefer to supply the items. It maybe that items are replaced in tranches as and when money is available, which will demonstrate a long term commitment to potential funders. Parishioners will be able to suggest what they would like at each stage.

#### **f. Appointment of Tree Warden**

Unfortunately no-one has come forward for this so the Clerk will put the article in the next magazine again and it will also be highlighted to members of the gardening club.

#### **g. Proposed development on the Chequers Field**

The Chairman stated he was disappointed by the response to the Survey as it has not provided the Council with a clear mandate on how to proceed. It has been suggested that Councillors should have knocked on doors to gauge opinion but in the past when this has been done, the Council have been accused of 'encouraging responses to their own ends', so either way they cannot win. The replies received were from a wide area of the Village and highlighted three main areas of concern: inadequate capacity of the current sewerage system, future development of the field and capacity of the School. The Chairman reported the Village currently has 28 affordable properties which is 6% of the total stock, broken down into 1 x 1 bed, 3 x 2 bed and 24 x 3 bed houses. These homes are not just for local people but anyone on the Housing Register.

Mr Whitelock advised the development would cover its own rainwater and possibly 'mop up' some of the existing rainwater which is causing the drainage issues in the area. The landowner will gift the remainder of the field to the Parish if required which would give the Council the opportunity to protect the field from further development, should the development boundary change in the future. Mr Whitelock offered to draw up an outline site plan to help answer some of the outstanding concerns and explain how residents' concerns could be addressed. In a vote to agree this course of action 3 were in favour with 1 against. Once the Parish Council has this further information they will decide how best to survey the Village again.

*Mr Whitelock and 2 parishioners left the meeting at 21:04*

#### **h. Site Allocations; Preferred Options Consultation Briefing**

No one wished to attend and the Chairman confirmed there is nothing which affects Hainford. The Clerk advised the Broadland News which is now out lists various Village Halls that are holding 'drop in' sessions for any members of the Public interested in attending.

### **6. MATTERS TO REPORT**

#### **a. Correspondence sent to Clerk**

The Rangers will be in the Village week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> July 2013. If there is anything Councillors wish to put forward to be done, please inform the Clerk by the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013.

Vortex Ground Services have highlighted that there is a lot of clover in the grass at the rear of the millennium car park and have asked if the Council would like them to treat it. Agreed.

Norwich Detectors Club are looking for land to hold an event on and have asked if any landowners in the Village would be interested. The Clerk will put in the next Parish News.

*1 parishioner left the meeting at 21:12*

The Clerk has been copied in on 2 letters sent to Cllr Roper which raised complaints concerning the Parish Council. These will be circulated for discussion at the next meeting.

#### **b. Clerks Report**

BDC will not be undertaking their usual exercise this year of confirming there are no changes to Councillors Register of Interests as the forms were only completed less than a year ago. However Councillors are reminded that if there are any changes these should be notified to BDC as soon as possible as failure to notify a disclosable pecuniary interest within 28 days is a criminal offence.

#### **c. Report from Norwich Airport Consultative Committee representative**

The NACC held a special meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2013 with the usual agenda suspended. It was agreed Jack Sadler will hold the role of Chairman at least until the AGM in February 2014. The Vice Chair will be Mr. Peter Mahoney from KLM UK. The NACC is refocusing. Papers from the meeting will be circulated to Councillors.

#### **d. Report from County Councillor**

Cllr Daniel Roper advised on a local level he has received several emails regarding the speeding problem on Newton Road, which has already been discussed.

At County level there is a new administration at County Hall which is an alliance between Labour, Lib Dem and UKIP that will be in place for a year. The key aims of the administration, as well as maintaining high levels of good value services is to make the Council more democratic. Moves are in place to move away from a cabinet and return to a committee system. This will broaden out decision making among a bigger pool of councillors. It is felt that where the Council has gone wrong in the past has been down to a small group of councillors making the big decisions. The first big decision of the administration was to appoint separate cabinet members for schools and children's social services whereas previously they were together. Both areas had their problems with Ofsted earlier this year and hopefully this divide will assist some focused action.

**e. Police Report**

There have been two crimes in the Village during May: 1 - Taking of a vehicle without consent and 1 - Other. The next SNAP meeting is on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2013 – Cllr S Fuller hopes to attend.

**7. RESIDENTS QUESTIONS**

The local postman has complained about the overgrown hedges in the Village although not any one specifically. Highways are responsible for some but the Parish Council would remind landowners to keep their hedges trimmed for the convenience of all.

**10. MATTERS RAISED FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION**

Play equipment in the Village, proposed development on 'the Chequers field', letters of complaint and appointment of tree warden.

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2013 at 7:30 pm in the village hall.

**The meeting closed at 21:20**