

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 12th MARCH 2014 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllr A Cowles (Chair)
Cllr S Fuller
Cllr S Howes
Cllr H Pointer
Cllr R Crisp
Cllr A Southgate
K Medler (Clerk)

In attendance: District Cllr P Carrick

Parishioners: 11

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr L Rogers and County Cllr D Roper.

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 12th February 2014 were agreed by all and signed by the Chairman.

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

a. Lafarge

The Clerk reported that despite sending an email to the Customer Services department, she has still not received a response but will continue to pursue.

b. Hainford Hall

The Chairman advised he received a telephone call from the owner stating he had not received the letter that had been forwarded to him so this was re-sent. To date, no comments on the letter have been received.

c. County Councillors Report

A further resident raised a query with the Chairman concerning Broadband in the Village and has been referred to County Cllr Roper.

d. Notice board on the Village Green

The Clerk confirmed she wrote to R&D Tree Surgery and received the following email: *You recently sent a letter to R&D which landed in my letter box. I would just like to inform you that R&D are gypsies using a false address. My husband is a tree surgeon and we live in Notridge Road so subsequently we sometimes get their mail put in our door. As you will see on their flyer they are not actually adding a door number so disgruntled customers cannot trace them. I have informed Trading Standards but they have not done anything to stop them falsely advertising. They actually live on a residential caravan site at Easton. I thought you would like this information.*

5. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

a. Play Equipment in the Village

i. Cllr H Pointer confirmed he had completed his inspection and there are some nut caps missing, which Cllr S Howes agreed to deal with. The bark had been heaped up under some of the equipment but Cllr S Howes advised he has now raked this out. There is a possibility further bark may be required but The Play Inspection Company are due to carry out the annual check this month, so it was agreed to await their comments on this.

ii. Horsham & Newton St Faiths Parish Council is hoping to run a course on play equipment inspections on their new equipment and have asked if anyone from Hainford would like to attend. The cost will be £30 per person. The Chairman and Cllr S Fuller have already been on a course with the NRCC and passed on all the detail received to Councillors so none of the Parish Council felt it necessary to attend. Two parents present said they would like to attend. The Chairman proposed the Council agree this and cover the cost and this was seconded by Cllr S Fuller and agreed by all. The Clerk will contact parents once a date is set.

On a separate matter the Clerk has been contacted by a resident asking if the Parish Council can stop smoking in the play area. This will be discussed further at the next meeting but the Chairman stated the Council would like users input on this. It was mentioned that parents are still walking their dogs on the grassed area behind the car park. Cllr R Crisp confirmed there is a sign in place on the post as you go into the area. It was agreed visibility of the sign will be checked but if parents are choosing to ignore the sign there isn't much more that can be done.

iii. The Clerk advised NCC have now confirmed they will in fact cover the Diocese fees in conjunction with their lease which means the Parish Council will only be responsible for their solicitors costs and the Diocese fees on the new lease with the Parish Council. (The HCG thanked the Clerk for her work on this). The Diocese have responded to the various concerns raised satisfactorily and the Chairman proposed the Parish Council now move to secure a 25 year lease which was seconded by Cllr S Fuller and agreed by all. The Clerk will ask for an estimate of the Diocese costs. The Clerk has obtained 3 estimates for solicitor's costs, which are all in the region of £1200 including VAT. All agreed to appoint Howes Percival with authority delegated to the Clerk to sign any documentation on the Councils behalf. The HCG confirmed they are now planning to put together grant applications with help from Cllrs A Southgate and S Fuller. The Big Lotto Fund and Biffa are the big players to apply to but the lease will need to be in place before they will consider any application so it may be that smaller grants will have to be applied for elsewhere to begin with.

b. Planning applications

i) 20140329 – Saffron Housing Trust, land off Stratton Road

It was reported that following the last meeting Councillor L Rogers contacted the Environment Agency who have confirmed that there is a regulatory requirement for sites over one hectare to have a Full Flood Risk Assessment and that Anglian Water had a statutory obligation to manage and deal with any foul water overload. The Environment Agency has been asked if they have a record of any grey or foul water flooding in the vicinity of Stratton Road and their response to this is still awaited.

Discussion then ensued on the Planning Application and those Parishioners present continued to express their concerns that the development would in fact exacerbate the drainage problems that already existed in the area. In the light of these concerns it was agreed that in its response to the Planning Application the Parish Council would insist that a Full Flood Risk Survey is undertaken. Concerns were also raised regarding the increase in traffic on Stratton Road. The Chairman confirmed that Highways will be a consultee on the application so if they have any concerns they will raise them with BDC. Comments were also made regarding the present state of the Chequers field and it was confirmed that this has already been raised with Saffron but will be mentioned again.

The Parish Council's full proposed response to the Planning Application was read out to those Parishioners present and then agreed. The response will be forwarded to BDC and residents will be able to view on the Parish Council's web site at <http://haynfordpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/> under planning applications. It was also agreed a copy of the response would be sent to John Whitelock of Saffron Housing and invite his comments. The Parish Council felt it was important to move forward on the "community benefits" and get a firm agreement on the "terms" outlined at the last Parish Council meeting.

1 member of the public left the meeting at 20:25

In answer to a question it was reported that on the Consultation Afternoon on 7 November 2013, 24 Parishioners, representing 13 households, from Stratton Road attended. Of these 13 households, 8 supported the development and 5 were opposed to it.

District Cllr P Carrick confirmed that as this is an Exception Site the final decision on whether or not permission is granted will lay with BDC's Planning Committee.

Concerning the problems with Stratton Road pumping station, given the statutory responsibility of Anglian Water, it was suggested that the Parish Council approach Anglian Water on the Parishioners behalf asking Anglian Water why the problems existed and what Anglian Water can do to resolve them and this was agreed. The Clerk advised the land owner has agreed in principle to allow a local resident to use the land to graze their horse and has been put in touch with the resident for further discussions. The Parish Council agreed that any agreement made between the landowner and resident would not necessarily continue once the land is transferred to the Council so they would want vacant possession upon transfer. This will be relayed to Saffron Housing.

6 members of the public left the meeting at 20:40

ii) 20140365 – Mr & Mrs C Cleveland, 44 Waterloo Road
No objections.

iii) 20140327 – Mrs S Taylor, land at Dumbs Lane

The site is outside of the development boundary so unless an exception to Local Policy GS1 can be demonstrated the Council objects.

c. Speed Watch / Traffic Calming

The Council were informed that Chloe Smith MP has recommended the Village lobby for a 20mph limit outside the School. The Chairman confirmed the Parish Council would support a 20mph limit but would look to the School and parents to start the petition.

The Clerk confirmed she has checked with Highways regarding the flashing signs, which can only be in place on a temporary basis, and they have confirmed one went 'missing' very soon after being put up. If anyone has any information regarding this please contact the Clerk. It was confirmed that both have now gone. The Clerk will ask if it is possible to have these again and to be informed when they are put up.

A resident advised that whilst the Police were on Newton Road again recently with 'Smiley Sid' they left early missing the School Run time. The Clerk will ask that next time they cover 14:30 – 15:30 and will also ask if Hall Road can be added to the list to check.

The Parish Council are now waiting to hear from the School regarding the School Illustrated Message signs.

1 member of the public left the meeting at 9pm

d. Finance

i) The following account was presented for payment and was approved:

Mrs. K Medler (Expenses) £21.81

The Clerks standing order was paid on the 5th March 2014.

A receipt of £1.72 for bank interest was noted.

ii) Financial statement for March 2014

The balance carried forward is £19,853.45.

Cllr A Southgate proposed the Council accept the statement and this was seconded by Cllr S Fuller.

e. Dog bin Waterloo Road

BDC have advised they have spoken to Highways about the lay-by and the reason it was filled in was because it was an unofficial lay-by and they have no plans to reinstate it but it still operates as a pedestrian access in its current form for the purposes of the burial ground. All agreed the Clerk should contact Highways so see if it can be reinstated sufficiently to allow continued emptying of the bin.

f. Millennium Car Park

i) Following comments received from the Police this was discussed and it was agreed Cllrs H Pointer and S Howes will look into the practicalities of a single barrier being installed.

ii) The Clerk has obtained 3 quotations and all agreed to award the contract to Vortex Ground Maintenance & Services. The Clerk will also enquire whether they would be prepared to agree a 2 year contract for the same price.

g. NDR Examination

Details concerning this had been previously circulated and it was agreed the Council did not wish to register and make any comments. Individuals can comment themselves directly to the Planning Inspectorate.

6. MATTERS TO REPORT

a. Correspondence sent to Clerk

The Clerk has received a letter concerning a proposed enabling scheme at Hainford Hall. This will be circulated for discussion at the April meeting.

The Clerk has received a thank you from the Chairman of the Village Hall Committee for the Councils generous grant of £2000.00.

EACH has asked if the Parish Council would consider supporting their Charity – this can be either through a donation, a specific fundraising event or helping publicise them. All agreed the Clerk should ask if a small advert can be placed in the Parish News and if any payment is required the Council will fund this.

An event regarding footpaths will be passed to the village footpath warden.

b. Clerks Report

The Rangers will be in the village week commencing 7th April. If anyone is aware of any small tasks they can be asked to do i.e. cleaning signs or minor repairs, please inform the Clerk by 25th March.

c. District Councillors Report

The Budget was unanimously agreed. Rates have not been increased for 5 years in a row now. Council Tax bills have already been sent to those who registered for electronic versions and postal bills will be delivered any day. In answer to a question Cllr P Carrick advised the decision to implement the Community Infrastructure Levy is definitely not being reversed.

d. Police report

There were no crimes in the Village during February

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

Play Area lease, Smoking in the Play Area, Proposed Development on 'the Chequers field', Gate to the Millennium Car Park and Hainford Hall proposal.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 9th April at 7:30 pm in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 21:30