

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 21st NOVEMBER 2012 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

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

In attendance: District Cllr P Carrick
County Cllr T Williams

Parishioners: 7

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATION REQUESTS

The Chairman advised Councillors, having spoken to BDCs Monitoring Officer, that with the introduction of the new Code of Conduct they should still follow their 'gut instinct' when declaring interests using the previous concepts of personal or prejudicial. The Chairman then declared an interest in item 5 b) i relating to planning application 20121315.

The Clerk accepted dispensation forms from all Councillors for the setting of the Precept and Budget for 2013/2014 and it was agreed a dispensation would be granted to all for the setting of all Precepts and Budgets until the date of the next election (May 2015).

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 10th October 2012 were agreed by all after amendment to item 5b line 2 Play Equipment in Village, which should read:be retained for the existing age limit. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

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

a. Village Hall grant application

Cllr S Fuller reported that the grant applications submitted to Biffa and Lafarge have been turned down.

b. Remembrance Sunday poppy wreath

The Chairman laid the wreath at what was a very moving service.

c. Inspection of trees in the Village

The Chairman confirmed the work has been completed as per the quotation and the Clerk added that the contractor will be sending through his further thoughts and long term recommendations in the next few weeks.

d. Correspondence

The Chairman remind those present that the new bus timetable comes into effect this Sunday (25th November 2012) so users should familiarise themselves with the changes.

e. Clerks report

The Clerk confirmed the hedges down Dumbs Lane have now been cut back.

f. Residents questions

The Chairman reported that having spoken to Charles Sanders (who was subsequently going to speak to his drivers) it would appear the trees are not causing the buses any difficulties at present.

5. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

a. Finance

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

Mrs. K Medler (Expenses)	£32.40
Hainford PCC (Grass cutting and gas)	£107.75
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal (Wreath)	£30.00
Hood Vores & Allwood (Fees)	£16.00
B A Cooper (Internal audit)	£22.50
Norwich Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd (Rent)	£340.00
Robert Thackray Ltd (Tree work)	£270.00

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

The following receipt was noted:

Hainford Village Hall (Refund of grant application not required)	£46.20
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ii) Financial statement for November 2012

The balance carried forward is £22,077.15.

Cllr A Southgate proposed the Council accept the statement and this was seconded by Cllr H Pointer.

The Clerk reported that the six month internal audit had been completed and all was in order.

b. Planning applications

i) 20121315 (amended) – Pinewood Farm, Grange Road

Introducing the item the Chairman said that the Parish Council had considered the original application at its meeting on 10th October. Amendments to this application had been submitted and were now before the Parish Council for consideration. The applicant and a parishioner objector then addressed the Parish Council. During the presentations by both the applicant and the parishioner objector it became apparent that there was still a difference of opinion on the accuracy of the measurements relating to both the footprint of the original property and the replacement. Given that HOU9 was in part a comparative process between what existed and what was proposed, the Chairman said in his opinion it was essential that the Planning Authority verify the factual accuracy of the figures used in the application. At the conclusion of the discussions the Chairman reminded the Parish Council that at the last meeting they had decided that the original application did not comply with BDCs Local Plan HOU9 as previously applied to Hainford. Having considered the representations and the amended application he asked the Parish Council if that was still their view. On a vote with 1 for, 0 against and 6 abstentions, the Parish Council agreed that the amended plans did comply with HOU9.

County Councillor T Williams joined the meeting at 20:25

ii) 20121554 – 30 Waterloo Road

The Chairman made the Council aware of an objection raised by a neighbour and an additional objector addressed the Council. Following discussion all agreed to object to the application on the basis of BDCs Local Plan Policy GS3 relating to loss of residential amenity.

4 members of the Public left the meeting at 20:30

c. Village Games 2013

Carolyn Atherton, who has kindly agreed to take on the role of Village Sport Co-ordinator for Hainford, addressed the Council and thanked them for giving her this opportunity. Carolyn gave some background to the Village Games and said she has already met with Active Norfolk to move things forward. Stratton Strawless will be joining with Hainford as there are several children who attend Hainford School living in Stratton Strawless. The children are very keen to get involved and it is hoped this will 'rub off' onto parents and carers. Carolyn advised she has organised a 'come and try' roadshow for Sunday 13th January and this will be held at Hainford Village Hall from 10:00 – 14:00. All are welcome to come along and join in the fun although when it comes to actually entering the main games in June 2013, team members must reside in one of the two Villages. Carolyn asked for the Parish Councils support for this and this was given. Full details of events etc will be publicised in the Parish News and on the Village notice boards.

District Councillor P Carrick and 3 members of the Public left the meeting at 20:35

d. Play equipment in the Village

i) Cllr S Howes expressed concern that the report provided by Playsafety on behalf of ROSPA was not entirely correct as the pictures showing the items and any damage are exactly the same as those in last year's report. The Clerk will check this and take up with them if necessary.

Cllr S Howes also reported that the Chain Log Swing which the Clerk had asked him to check (as she had received a report it was dangerous) has been dismantled as to repair all its faults would take some considerable time. Cllr S Howes stated, for the record, this damage was not on the ROSPA report. Cllr S Howes proposed the Parish Council close the Play Area due to Health & Safety issues until further notice. In a vote with 5 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention, it was agreed to close the Play Area with immediate effect. Cllr R Crisp will purchase and install a padlock on the gate and also put up a sign to say 'Playground Closed'. It is hoped that those who attended the last Parish Council meeting and volunteered to try to form a working group, will be able to move things forward so the Village is not without a Play Area for too long.

ii) Cllr S Fuller advised it is highly unlikely the fencing which was previously offered will now materialise as the posts have been stolen.

e. Lease Millennium Car Park

The Clerk confirmed this has all now been completed however a further cheque for £16.00 has been requested by solicitors for two Land Registry fees which were previously omitted, bringing the final total of costs incurred in renewing the Lease to £1629.00 including VAT.

f. Future developments in the Village

The Chairman said in his opinion in terms of the broad issues relating to future developments in the Village, the Parish Plan is as relevant now as when it was written and therefore does not need to be revisited. The Chairman suggested that no further action is required and the Parish Council simply respond to any applications, as and when they arise, in the context of the Parish Plan and all agreed.

g. Governance

Cllr L Rogers advised both herself and Cllr A Southgate have reviewed the model document and made several amendments. It was agreed the Clerk will reproduce the revised document for ease of reading and pass back to Cllrs Rogers and Southgate for further review.

h. Meeting Dates for 2013

Proposed dates had been previously circulated and these were agreed. Dates will be published in the Parish News, on the notice boards and on the website.

i. Grit Bin Pollard Road

The Clerk advised Highways have now granted permission for a grit bin to be installed. It was agreed the Clerk should purchase a compact bin as the site is quite small and the bin shouldn't encroach onto the footpath. Highways will fill once in place. Wherry Housing have agreed to share the cost of the bin.

6. MATTERS TO REPORT

a. Correspondence sent to Clerk

Councillors are invited to meet Jane Scarrott who has taken over from Sarita Presland at NALC for a coffee and a chat. No one wished to attend.

BDC have asked the Parish Council to carry out a 'Rough Sleeper' count this evening. All agreed they were not aware of any rough sleepers in the Village.

NALC have formed a Smaller Councils Committee and are seeking new members. No one wished to stand. A provisional date has been set of Tuesday 18th December for public consultation on the Police Precept. No one wished to attend.

b. Clerks report

It has been reported that the Village Pond has rather a lot of duck weed in it. The Clerk has spoken to Judith Lincoln who has suggested that there isn't really anything other than a chemical treatment that can be done to get rid of it. Fish could be introduced but there is no guarantee these will not be carried off by Herons. Usually duck weed will go if there is very cold weather so with Winter approaching this may solve the problem.

The Village Tree Warden (Judith) has made the Clerk aware of a complaint she received regarding leaning trees in the plantations either side of Waterloo Road near the junction with the A140. Both Judith and the Clerk have driven past and although not experts they could not see anything they considered to be dangerous. Judith has informed the Police and NCC Highways but they did not wish to get involved. It was agreed the Clerk should inform the landowners to cover all avenues.

c. Report from County Councillor

The accounts to April 2012 have been cleared with a clean audit.

£100,000 has been allocated this Winter to help the elderly in difficulty. A grant can be requested for £100 or £200 and this will be administered by Norfolk Age UK.

The Community Grant has been oversubscribed but the first grants will be decided in December.

Day Care Centre's, which have a £12 million budget a year, are being considered for outsourcing and the plan would be that those who work there now, run the centre themselves as a community business. This has only been approved in principal at present.

NCC has begun a program to save £123 million over 3 or more years.

Cllr Williams recently attended a fire meeting and senior uniformed officers have been decreased from five to two. The fire service has five stocked up fire engines.

Sub post offices are gradually being upgraded so where they are shop based, they will be open shop hours.

NIA propose to build a very large hanger for the air livery teams which means extra jobs will be created.

d. Police Report

The October report notes one burglary from a building which is not a dwelling. The Chairman commented that he is aware of four burglaries within the Village so far during November. A Home Watch meeting is taking place on Thursday 22nd November to see what can be done to prevent further thefts. Cllr S Fuller agreed to try to attend the next SNAP meeting on the 14th January 2013.

7. RESIDENTS QUESTIONS

A resident has asked if anything can be done to highlight the lay-by on the A140 just before the turning for Waterloo Road, coming from Aylsham as several vehicles have turned into there in error. The clerk will speak to Highways.

Anne Gillett has reported that the last litter pick was very successful with 28 volunteers helping however there is a problem with dog poo bags being deposited in the hedge on Newton Road. Anne has suggested another dog bin be placed at the bottom of Dumbs Lane or move the one at the bottom of the footpath to this position. The Council was unclear as to which footpath Anne was referring to so the Clerk will clarify and suggest Anne refers this to BDC as they are the ones who dictate where dog bins are sited.

8. MATTERS RAISED FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Standing Orders and report back on QEII Play Area.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 16th January 2012 at 7:30pm in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 21:25 with the Chairman wishing all a very Happy Christmas