

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HAINFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 10th OCTOBER 2012 AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

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

In attendance: District Cllr P Carrick
County Cllr T Williams
PC 67 Greig Shepherd

Parishioners: 8

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllrs A Southgate and H Pointer.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chairman declared an interest in item 5 b) i relating to planning application 20121315.

3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 12th September 2012 were agreed by all after amendment to item 4a Village Hall grant application, which should read: The Clerk advised Cllr S Fuller has reported that the committee are still awaiting responses from grant applications and would request payment of the grant offer when needed. 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 committee is still awaiting responses from grant applications.

b. Various hedges within the village

The Clerk advised the hedge at the junction with Waterloo Road and Stratton Road has now been cut. The owner responded very promptly to the letter sent by the Clerk. The Parish Council thanked the owner for his swift actions.

c. CPRE

The Clerk confirmed she notified CPRE of the Parish Councils response and has received an acknowledgement with thanks. The Council has been added to the list of supporters and details of any activities will be sent in due course.

d. Correspondence

Following the letter from Mrs. Fletcher, the Clerk contacted Highways about placing a speed strip across Waterloo Road. Highways have stated: *We would only normally carry out such speed monitoring in advance of a proposed scheme to either change existing limits or impose traffic calming measures on a section of road. The information gathered can help guide setting appropriate speed limits. At present, there is no scheme proposed to affect any changes on Waterloo Road. The current speed limit is broadly in line for the classification of road, maintains continuity with other parishes in the area and hence is an easily understandable limit for drivers to comply with. The current arrangements are the most likely to achieve good driver compliance to the speed restriction. Experience shows that simply reducing the speed limit further, in the absence of the supporting criteria, is unlikely to achieve similar compliance or speed reductions.*

Item 6d was moved forward to allow PC Shepherd to attend another Parish Council meeting.

6. MATTERS TO REPORT

d. Police report

PC Greig Shepherd introduced himself and said he had been a Police Officer for over 20 years. There are two PCSO's currently working with him with a further one in training. There were no recorded crimes for September although 8 'incidents' were reported. The next SNAP meeting is on the 12th October but as no-one is available to attend this on behalf of the Parish Council any concerns can be emailed to him ahead of the meeting. PC Shepherd wanted to highlight fuel thefts and burglaries now the nights are drawing in and encouraged parishioners to be vigilant.

PC Greig Shepherd left the meeting at 19:43

5. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

a. Planning applications

i) 20121418 – Woodstock, Newton Road

Plans were reviewed and although Council had no objections to the application, concern was noted regarding the size of the garage in relation to the house as this could potentially lead to issues of a separate dwelling.

ii) 20121315 – Pinewood Farm, Grange Road

Introducing the item the Chairman declared a personal interest as he knew the objector.

Local Plan Policy GS1 does not permit building outside the development limits, which this is, unless it complies with a specific exception. In this case, as it is a replacement dwelling the applicable policy is HOU9. The Chairman then said that the issue before the Parish Council was whether or not in their opinion the application meets the requirements of that policy.

The Parish Council then considered the application. In considering the application the Parish Council received representations from the applicant and an objector. At the end of the discussions the Chairman asked the Parish Council if they wished to object to the application.

In a vote with 2 councillors against the application, 1 councillor for the application and 2 councillors abstaining it was agreed to object to the application on the grounds that they felt the application did not comply with BDC Local Plan HOU9 as previously applied to Hainford.

5 members of the Public left the meeting at 20:29

b. Play equipment in Village

i. The Chairman began by saying that since the last meeting a number of suggestions had been received from users and he assumed that it is intended that the QEII play area be retained for the upper age limit with use of the land to the rear of the Millennium Car Park yet to be decided. The use would have to be consistent with the lease with precluded any permanent structures. The Chairman then proposed, and all agreed, that those interested in improving both these areas, should get a group together to consider this further and put a case forward to the Parish Council to move this on. Grants will also need to be investigated as the Parish Council can only make a contribution towards the cost, relative to those parishioners who want this. The two residents who attended to discuss this agreed they would be happy to speak to parents and try to form such a group. The Chairman stated both areas need to be safe, useable and easy to maintain. The group will report back to the Parish Council at a later date. Cllr S Fuller added that a gentleman in the Village has some fencing he is prepared to donate for free, which could be used to screen the farmer's field from the play areas. It was agreed Cllr S Fuller should enquire as to the costs of erecting the fencing.

ii. Cllr S Howes reported that he has now removed the bench but will keep the brass plaque from it so it can be placed somewhere else. One of ROSPA's recommendations is that the play area has 2 separate entrances/exits to prevent bullying but this is something that can be looked at by the above committee. Cllr S Howes is still working through ROSPA's inspection report but there is nothing high risk which needs immediate attention. It was agreed the Parish Council will continue to monitor the equipment etc in place but hopefully it can all soon be removed and replaced.

c. Finance

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

Mrs. K Medler (Expenses)	£16.48
Hainford PCC (Grass cutting)	£50.00
Norse (Grounds maintenance)	£60.76
HMR&C (PAYE x3)	£144.40

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

The following receipt was noted:

BDC (2 nd installment Precept)	£5500.00
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ii) Financial statement for October 2012

The balance carried forward is £23,059.31.

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

The Clerk also circulated a half yearly bank reconciliation for Councils information. It was agreed Mr. B Cooper should carry out the usual six months audit.

d. Lease Millennium Car Park

The Clerk provided details of the costs incurred in renewing the Lease:

Councils solicitors fees £900.00

Diocese solicitors fees £608.00

Land Registry fees £77.00

Fees for swearing a Statutory Declaration twice £10.00

Mileage in travelling to solicitors £18.00

Total £1613.00 - £250.00 of which is VAT which can be recovered leaving a net cost of £1363.00.

Other costs which have been or will be incurred in maintaining the area:

Annual rent £340.00 (increased by £80.00 per annum on previous Lease)

Grounds maintenance for 2012 season £121.52

Lock for rear of Car Park £4.97

Annual business rates – TBC

The Clerk advised the Lease has now been completed and there is just minor paperwork left to finalise.

e. Remembrance Sunday Poppy wreath

All agreed the Parish Council should pay for a wreath as in past years and the Chairman will lay this on behalf of the Parish Council. It was noted that the war memorial has been cleaned and thanks go to Mike Brothers for a job well done.

County Cllr T Williams joined the meeting at 21:10

f. Future developments in the Village

The Chairman suggested the Parish Council review the Parish Plan and read the booklet recently sent by BDC (to be circulated in correspondence), in order to understand the current context or framework applicable to the Parish subsequent to the production of the Parish Plan so they can decide how they wish to proceed. This was agreed.

g. Governance

The updated Risk Assessment Policy has now been seen by all and was agreed. The updated Financial Regulations have now been seen by all and were agreed. Both documents will be put on the website. The revised Standing Orders will be brought to the November meeting for agreement.

h. Inspection of trees in the Village

The Clerk has obtained three quotations, two for just inspecting the trees and one to carry out the work required (the inspection has already been completed free of charge). All agreed the Clerk should instruct Robert Thackray Ltd to complete the work detailed in his quotation and advise on any other work he feels may be required to maintain the trees long term.

i. Village Games 2013

All agreed the Clerk should look into getting a parishioner volunteer to co-ordinate this.

j. Joint Core Strategy – Local Plan consultation

No-one had any comments they wished to make.

6. MATTERS TO REPORT

a. Correspondence sent to Clerk

Councillors are invited to the AGM of the NALC. The Chairman will attend.

A letter has been received asking for donations from Magpas. The Clerk will retain this until the Budget is discussed.

Councillors are invited to an Autumn Seminar run by NALC and the SLCC. No one wished to attend.

The Clerk contacted Sanders regarding the removal of the 23:15 bus but they are unable to reinstate this. The Chairman advised in addition there will be changes to their services from the 25th November as a result of registration of a duplicate service from Sheringham to Norwich by a competitor. The Chairman has spoken to Charles Sanders and the new timetables will be published in the Parish News. Basically the 44s from Sheringham to Norwich will not go through the village except at 7:24 and 17:30. The 44a will run through the village from Norwich to Aylsham. Parishioners using the 44a who wish to go beyond Aylsham will need to change at Aylsham on to the 44s. Parishioners who use the bus service should familiarise themselves with the new timetable.

b. Clerks report

Wherry Housing have now agreed placement of a Grit Bin on Pollard Road and the Clerk is just awaiting approval from Highways.

The Clerk has placed a notice on the waste bin on the Village Green which will hopefully stop people using it as a dog poo bin.

The Clerk wrote to the Diocese regarding the overgrown hedges on Dumb Lane but it seems they do not own the land in question. Council reviewed a map provided and the Clerk will now contact the necessary landowners.

c. Report from District Councillor

Hainford has several properties on the enforcement investigation list for September so if anyone can clarify further details on any of them, please can they let Dist Cllr P Carrick know.

d. Report from County Councillor

Cty Cllr T Williams advised he has just come from an induction evening for the vicar at St Faiths, which was very interesting.

NCC is buying a property in Stratton Strawless for use as a children's home. This is to replace a 2 child house in Blofield. The property will house up to 4 children who have been taken into care for assessment before finding a long term care solution. There will be 2 members of staff. It is hoped that by providing this service 'in house' it will save £1000.00 per child per week.

NCC has just signed off the 2011-12 accounts with a clean audit and the budget is on target.

Whilst the Postwick hub public enquiry into the 'side roads' has been delayed, at this stage, this does not hold up the planned progress on the NDR which should open in 2017. The NDR was going to stop at the roundabout near NIA but NCC will be underwriting the cost for continuing it through to the Fakenham Road. The size of this carriageway has yet to be confirmed.

The running of the local 'children's centre' has been outsourced by NCC to 'Action for Children'.

BDC is the only district in Norfolk proposing to combine with NCC in the collection and administration of business rates; this will provide efficiencies which will free up more funds to invest in promoting business.

The election for the Norfolk Police Crime commissioner is on Nov 15th, there are likely to be at least 6 candidates. Residents are urged to vote because, amongst other things, as one chief constable has said 'the fewer who vote the more risk there is of an extremist getting elected- if not now at some time in the future'. Anyway it is important to vote as this is an important position in the county.

The Marsham composting plant has had a testing time during the summer because of the very wet material being delivered but it is working well overall and exceeding what was expected of it.

Cllr S Fuller asked if Cty Cllr T Williams would support the Village Hall in their application for the Community Construction Fund and he confirmed he would, although he would want to see the details first.

7. RESIDENTS QUESTIONS

A resident commented on overhanging branches impacting on the buses. The Chairman advised they had not had any complaints from Sanders but he would speak to Charles Sanders to see if he wants to repeat the previous exercise in order to ascertain if any overhanging branches needed to be removed. .

Three hedges were reported as causing a problem. One was not in the Village so the Council could not get involved. Cllr R Crisp will speak to the owner of the second hedge and further details will be provided of the third hedge.

8. MATTERS RAISED FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Meeting dates for 2013, Standing Orders, Parish Councils policy towards future developments in the Village, Report back on QEII Play Area etc.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 21st November 2012 at 7:30pm in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 22:04