

MINUTES OF HUNTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Meeting held on Monday 16th June 2008 at 7.30 p.m. in
Huntington Village Hall

Councillors present: In the Chair: Cllr. N. Dodd
Cllrs. C. Buckler, D. McQuay, J. Moore, D Moore, L. Turner,
C. Walker, A. Wilcox, M. Williams.

Apologies for Absence - Cllr Edwards

1. Public Speaking time

Sgt. Bryant of Cheshire Police attended to give her report. There had been a higher number of occurrences in Huntington than normal due to 9 criminal damages reports. A person had been arrested & charged. There were also 3 reports of loud behaviour, 1 of Road Rage, 1 underage driver, 1 failed to stop after RTC.

Mr. J. Creswick asked the question that, as only 8 out of 10 of the original councillors elected were left could the council try to ensure that in future only people who will fulfil the commitment to the council be elected. The Chairman responded that the two councillors who had been co-opted onto the Parish to replace them were very committed councillors.

2. Declarations of interest - Cllr. Wilcox declared a personal interest on the Parish Website.

3. Photo session

Photos were taken of all the councillors and the clerk to be published on the website and put in the notice board so that parishioners knew who their councillors were.

4. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19th May 2008 were agreed & signed. Cllr. Buckler raised whether it was necessary for it to be recorded what time Cllrs. arrived or left if during the meeting. The Clerk said that it was necessary to record who was present in the event that voting was necessary on certain topics.

Cllr. Williams left the meeting at 8.00p.m. to attend a City Council meeting.

5. Matters Arising

08/03/5/1 - The bollard erected by Highways on the verge adjacent to 140 Chester Road is not deterring vehicles from driving over the footpath to reach houses in 'Sergeant's Row'. Clerk has spoken to Highways who will come & inspect it.

Resolved: Clerk to contact Highways again to ask them to speak to Cllr. Buckler's wife when they come to inspect it - ongoing

08/03/05/3 - Photo required of 40mph illuminated warning to be taken as Cheshire Highways has advised that these signs are only available in 30mph zones. Clerk to write to Highways stating they do exist for 40mph zones and there is one in West Kirby.

Resolved: A portable speed sign to be requested from Highways, the criteria for using it and people willing to operate it. Clerk to come back with details at next meeting.

Illuminated warnings have been noted in other areas. Cllr Buckler will take a photo of one in Warrington & Cllr. Wilcox will take a photo of one at Walton Gardens. Anne Lancaster from the City Council will attend the July Parish Council to discuss Smiley Sids.

08/03/05/4 - Water leak – Caldy Valley Road/Gorse Way. Clerk to contact Dee Valley Water letting them know the verge has not been reinstated properly.

Resolved: Clerk to contact Dee Valley Water Board to turf as the seeding has not taken.

08/03/08/3 - The Clerk had contacted a firm for a quote to repair the surface of the play area on the Jubilee Field but was still awaiting their response.

Resolved: – Clerk to check if new surface has been laid & chase contractor. **Works completed - closed 16/06/08**

08/03/16/1 - Grass overgrowing pavement at bottom of slope where high bank meets lower footpath on Chester Road and branches & thorns left on footpath after cutting

Resolved: Clerk to write a strong letter to Highways saying we want it cutting and the edges need redefining and that it is considered a hazard. However if it will take too long then the village Lengthsman will be asked to do it. Clerk to chase

Highways. Chairman to make a decision on action if Highways will take too long. **Works completed – closed 16/06/08**

08/03/14/01 - Application to Land Registry to take over High Bank, Chester Road.

Resolved: Clerk to write a formal letter to the Land Registry stating that we have been responsible for maintaining the land for over 10 years and now wish to register ownership. Clerk to chase up.

16/06/08 - Clerk has received the form to register the land. Clerk to send off form.

08/04/16/1 Cllr. J. Moore asked whether United Utilities had ever replied to the Parish Council's request for the Parish Councillors to visit Huntington Waterworks.

Resolved: Clerk to write again to UU asking if they will arrange a visit for Parish Councillors.

16/06/08 - Clerk to write in response to UU's reply that general visitors are no longer allowed due to H&S regulations, saying that we're disappointed we can't visit but can someone attend the Parish Council to let us know what they do there.

08/04/16/3 Cllr. Dodd asked who would obtain and plant a new tree for village green .

Resolved: To be discussed at the next meeting under ideas for the village green – to be discussed at the June meeting – see item 7.

08/04/16/4 e-mail received from residents of 81 Chester Road re pooling on drive since footpaths resurfaced.

Resolved: Clerk to contact Highways – ongoing.

08/06/05/1 - Clerk to write to planning dept asking why we haven't been informed permission has apparently been granted for the former Village News shop & can they do so in future.

6. Vice Chair Roles

08/06/07/1 - Open Spaces – Cllr. Dodd gave feedback on the Open Spaces meeting which preceded the Parish Council meeting.

08/06/07/2 - Dog bins – awaiting City Council to phone Cllr. Walker to let her know what the procedure is for acquiring them.

08/06/07/3 - Village green – Cllr. Buckler will revert at the next meeting with costings/proposals for new lights and power supply, ducting etc. to allow lights to be erected on the other trees on the village green.

08/06/07/4 - Benches – Cllr. Turner to obtain 3 contractors quotes who will supply & fit benches. Cllrs. Turner & D. Moore to look at suitable sites for them.

08/06/07/5 - Trees in verges – Cllr. Dodd has spoken to Highways & arranged a meeting with the tree officer to move things forward after submitting the suggestions for sites for the trees to be planted.

08/06/07/6 – Communications – Cllr. Wilcox said there had been 270 visits to the village website - 200 new ones. Saughton Camp & The Brownies seemed to be the most visited sections.

08/06/07/7 - The photos taken earlier in the evening were to be put on the website.

08/06/07/8 – The Parish newsletter will contain the photos, and Also details of the Saughton Camp exhibition & hits to the website.

08/06/07/9 - Living mag – Cllr. Wilcox had spoken to the publishers who had offered 2 pages 4 times per year for £150 which could include the newsletter. Cllr. Dodd asked the meeting if they felt this was a good forum for the village news.

A vote was taken and it was unanimously decided not to use Living mag but to publish the newsletter as a village newsletter to be delivered by the councillors as previously.

Resolved: Cllr. Wilcox to write to them & say it was felt it was too wide a distribution area for parish mag but we would consider using it for other things we may want communicating.

Cllr. Buckler asked about using the Chronicle.

Resolved: Cllr. Wilcox to establish the contact for the Chronicle to publish items on the village news pages.

7. **City Council Minutes** – none received.

8. Planning Matters

Applications:

Appo8/00947/ful – 145 Butterbache Road – Demolition of front porch & rear conservatory & replace with new front porch & kitchen extension
The council had no comments on it.

Permissions Granted:

Appo8/00579/ful – 23 Lupin Drive – Kitchen & bedroom Extension

Refusals: None

9. Accounts for Payment

Resurface of play area - paid
Land Registry Fee for High Bank
Fixing of new gate for play area
Clerks salary & expenses

10. Highways & Lighting Issues

08/06/10/1 - First light in front of sergeants row on all day & one in Foxglove

Resolved: Cllr. J. Moore to let Clerk know the numbers so she can report them.

08/05/15/1 - Grass verge 79-81 Chester Road has been driven on and is in a bad condition.

Resolved: Clerk to send letter to Highways to reinstate the verge as we are concerned it could be a tripping hazard and to be done as a matter of urgency ongoing

08/05/15/2 - Path between Primrose Close and cycle path - hedge needs cutting.

Completed 16/06/08

08/05/15/3 - Manhole cover outside 168 Chester Road in the road damaged 01244 603 475.

Resolved: Raised as high priority - ongoing

11. Correspondence

Cllr. Wilcox asked to see the correspondence from the Footpath Society which raised blockages on footpaths within the parish.

Cllr. Dodd asked for a volunteer to check this out. Cllr. D. Moore said she would do this and the letter was passed to her.

12. Other Business

08/06/12/1 - A Parish Award Scheme idea was put forward for parishioners who have tirelessly worked for the community over the years. Some councillors thought this was a good idea. The Chairman asked for thoughts and ideas for the next meeting i.e. what it is and how we do it, what sort of award may be given etc.

Resolved: Clerk to put on next agenda.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.10p.m.

The next meeting will take place on Monday 21st July 2008 at 7.30p.m.