

MINUTES OF HUNTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 17th January 2011 7.30 p.m.
at Huntington Village Hall

PRESENT

Chairman Cllr. M. Williams

Cllr. C. Buckler

Cllr. N. Dodd

Cllr. M. Kemp

Cllr. P. Sheen

Cllr. A. Wilcox

Cllr. C. Walker

None Councillors

Public – 4

Police – Sergeant Bryant

Clerk – Mrs. A. Wright

APOLOGIES

Cllr. D. McQuay – Work

Cllr. J. Moore – Illness

Cllr. J. Scargill - Work

None Councillors – Mr. & Mrs. Bryant

11/111 RESOLVED – The council accepted the above apologies.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None declared.

OPEN FORUM

Sergeant Julia Bryant reported that between the 1st December and the 12th January there had been 28 incidents reported only one of which had been of a criminal nature, others related to anti-social behaviour, road traffic incidents, and lost property, there had also been an instance of damage to property.

PC Bryant was questioned as to what was anti-social behaviour, she defined it as rowdy or loutish behaviour.

A resident raised concerns about the state of the verge (between pavement and hedge) in the area of Butterbache Farm House. The clerk will report this.

The clerk reported, as a response to a question raised at the last Parish Council meeting, that enforcement had taken place against vehicles contravening the new parking restrictions on Chester Road. This enforcement is due to continue and the number of tickets issued during January should be available for the Council's next meeting in February. It was agreed that a warning that this enforcement is now taking place should be included in the Council's newsletter.

The clerk also reported, in response to a question raised at the Council's last meeting, that it was hoped that the reduction of the Chester Road speed limit to 30mph would take place during the next financial year as a priority, however this was dependant on budgets which remain uncertain.

A resident raised a question regarding the availability of maps of the planned cycle ways from the Saighton Camp development into Chester. It was reported that plans were available as part of the original planning application. However CW&C highways and planning teams are currently working on two areas in relation to the highways as a result of the granted permission, changes to the 'Sainsbury's' roundabout and the new cycle ways. Work is now being carried out of proposals for the roundabout once this has been completed work will begin on the cycle ways. Initial indications show these cycle ways being incorporated into the existing pavements and verges. Opposition was voiced

to this idea, including the dangers of cycling on combined footways and cycle paths with vehicles backing onto them not expecting to see cyclists. It was also suggested that including marked cycleways onto the existing roads maybe more appropriate as this will also narrow the road and reduce the traffic speeds. The clerk will inform the Council when more information is available for discussion.

A resident reported litter on Saughton/Sandy Lane, the clerk will report this.

Cllr. Buckler raised the issue of very slow broadband speeds in Huntington particularly compared to Tilston. It was agreed the clerk should seek a speaker on this matter for the February meeting of the Council.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No items raised.

MINUTES

11/112 RESOLVED - That the Chairman signs the minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 15th November 2010 as a true and proper record.

ACCOUNTS

The clerk reported that final street orderly grant had been received from CW&C and that further grants were expected for the Caldly Valley Tree Planting and also for the new Christmas Lights for the CW&C members funding.

11/113 RESOLVED – The council accepted the accounts as circulated on page 38 of the cash Book and the following payments

- Lengths man's duties for December 2010
- Clerk's reimbursements
- MJBs for removal of Christmas Lights and Tree
- Payment for strimming carried out on High Bank.

It was also agreed that Keith Jones should be asked to carry out the Council's internal audit as soon as possible, noting that the internal audit is not to check final figures but more the processes used by the council.

PRECEPT FOR 2011-2012

11/114 RESOLVED (unanimous) – The council agreed a precept of £13,400.00 for the forthcoming financial year, therefore keeping the precept at the same level as the current year.

PLANNING

The council noted the contents of page 21 of the planning register.

106 CONSULTATION

The council noted the notes from the last 106 working group meeting held on 10th January 2011 (page 117 of the minutes book) and looked at the entries for the drawing competition by years 3, 5, and 6 of Huntington Primary School.

The clerk reported that a meeting had been arranged on Friday 21st January 2011, with John Seiler, CW&C Landscape Architect, to go through the services he would provide in terms of design and management of the Jubilee Field redevelopments/improvements. Notes will be circulated from this meeting to all councillors by e-mail.

OPEN SPACES & JUBILEE FIELD

The clerk reported she had attended a meeting/workshop held by CW&C on play areas. Routine (weekly/fortnightly) and Operational (2/3 monthly) inspections should be taking place on the playing field. These are not as detailed as the annual inspection which requires a qualified inspector. The clerk

has met Phil Davies (CW&C Play Officer) at the Jubilee Field and discussed the level of inspections required and the areas which need attention. The clerk has now developed an inspection sheet and will start to carryout these inspections.

On visiting the field it was discovered two of the swing seats were in a poor condition these have now been replaced with spares held by Cllr. Williams. Mr. Davies had also recommended the removal of the broken gate as soon as possible. This has now been removed and a price obtained for a replacement. It was agreed the clerk should seek advice as to whether this gate had to be replaced and if so the decision on the replacement could be made by a circulated E-mail.

PROPOSED CHESTER RD CYCLE WAY

This item had been covered during open forum.

CHESTER ROAD MAINTENANCE WORK

The clerk reported she had continued to pursue questions raised regarding the works carried out by Welsh Water in the area, she had not yet received an answer but had now been informed the engineer involved was off sick and had been provided the contact details of a different engineer who had promised the answers. It was agreed the clerk should circulate this information by e-mail once it had been received.

The clerk reported a second walk had taken place with James Orme (CW&C Highways Officer) and an engineer from the Balfour Beattie who carried out the gas maintenance work on Chester Road. It had been agreed at this meeting the pavement from the junction with Caldly Valley Road towards the gas substation on Chester Road would be corrected. It was also agreed that once the verges have had an opportunity to grow if they require further seeding or rolling this work will be carried out by Balfour Beattie.

CHESTER ROAD PLANTERS

Five possible locations for planters had been agreed on Chester Road and Gorse Way, these will be forwarded to the CW&C street scene team for agreement. The clerk will reported back to the council on this matter.

CHRISTMAS

It was reported the Christmas lights switch on had gone extremely well with councillors receiving a lot of positive feedback. Rev'd Ian Hutchinson had offered the use of St. Luke's Church this year for refreshments. It was agreed event should take place on Friday 2nd December 2011, with the lights and tree being erected on Saturday 26th November, this item will be next included on the September 2011 agenda.

It was agreed agenda item 16 WEBSITE should be moved to the end of the meeting to allow everyone to move to the opposite end of the Hall to see the demonstration.

QUALITY PORTFOLIO

The clerk reported the Quality Portfolio was almost complete and that she had a meeting with the CHALC Development Officer on the 24th January 2011 to check the portfolio before submission. There were a number of outstanding matters which would be brought to the Council's February meeting.

ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

Cllr. Walker raised the MBNA Chester Marathon which is due to take place on Sunday 9th October 2011 and will result in a number of roads being closed. It was agreed more information was required on this and that the clerk should invite a speaker on this matter to the February meeting.

WEBSITE

Cllr. Wilcox demonstrated the website which was launched 3 or 4 years ago. He reported the site has received 5000 hits in the last 2 years, 4500 of which had been by first time visitors to the site, and that there had been 14,000 pages downloaded. This is an average of 202 visitors per month. The most popular page was the memories page. It was agreed that the site was very successful but that it need to remain interesting and vibrant. It was noted a number of organisations on the site had not updated their information for some time. It was agreed the clerk should contact these groups to encourage them to become more active on the site.

Cllr Wilcox also explained that he had now established a Face Book account for Huntington Parish Council which people can join to gain information about the Parish Council and its activities.

The meeting closed ay 9.20pm

**The NEXT meeting of the Parish Council is on
Monday 21st February 2011 from 7:30pm**

Signed

Dated

Ann Wright 19th January 2011

HUNTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

106 Working Group Notes

Monday 10th January 2011 at Rake & Pikel

PRESENT

James Scargill, Carolyn Walker, Mark Williams, Ann Wright (Clerk)

APOLOGIES

Nick Dodd

1) To consider results of surveys with young people.

The group noted the results of the surveys.

Three winners were picked for the drawing competition, one was chosen from each class which entered, it was agreed a £10 WH Smiths voucher should be awarded to each of the winners.

2) To consider whether to develop both areas, Gorse Way & Jubilee Field or to concentrate on one area.

It was agreed to concentrate on developing the Jubilee Field but to also seek a barrier/fence around Gorse Way similar to that around the Caldley Valley Nature Park Car Park.

3) To Consider getting drawings/designs done.

The clerk circulated the below list of services that are provided by CW&C. It was agreed a meeting (Friday afternoon) should be arranged with this team to discuss these services and what is required.

- Site Topographical Survey and Utilities search
- Design and Cost Estimates (including revenue cost estimates if required)
- Consultation (and possible assistance with grant applications)
- Detailed Design
- Appoint CDM Coordinator (Health and Safety)
- Tendering Process
- Contract Administration of Construction Works (this includes overseeing the construction works, issuing instructions, variations and payments)
- Provide ROSPA Certificate (Royal Society of Prevention against Accidents)

Fee Costs

We would either charge a percentage fee of between 15% or 10% or an hourly rate of between £25 (minimum) - £30 per hour (depending on the services required.)

4) To consider equipment to be included.

It was felt the results of the surveys should be supplied to anyone carrying out the design to get a feel for what is required, however the following items were identified as important:-

- Car Park
- Zip Wire
- MUGA (Multi use games area)
- Tunnels/ Trail
- Green Gym Area
- Maintain a football pitch (could be moved)
- Improve existing play area
- Landscaping to make more interested.
- Maintain access for tractor to cut grass
- Picnic tables/seats

It was agreed that once designs are drawn up they could be displayed and consulted on at the Parish Assembly as well as going back to the Bishops for comment. These drawings could also be used when asking businesses for funding e.g. MBNA, Sainsbury's.

Ann Wright
12/01/11.