

MINUTES OF HUNTINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 16th June 2014 7.30 p.m. at Huntington Village Hall.

PRESENT

Chairman Cllr. Roy Shelton

Cllr Jacky Creswick

Cllr. Nick Dodd

Cllr. David Ferguson

Cllr. Carolyn Walker

None Councillors

Public – 5

Clerk – Mrs. A. Wright

APOLOGIES

Cllr. John Creswick – Commitment

Cllr. M Kemp – work commitment

Cllr. D McQuay – work commitment

Cllr. A Wilcox - work commitment

Cllr. M Williams – Family commitment

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None declared.

MINUTES

14/337 RESOLVED – That the Council agreed the minutes of the meeting held on the 19th May 2014 as a true and proper record.

PRESENTATION/DICUSSION ON COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS (CLT)

Tony Clare from Cheshire Community Action (CCA) gave a presentation regarding CLT's and answered questions:-

He is part of a project to deliver CLTs in the wake of CW&C housing strategies which identified the need for affordable housing and also houses where people could downsize but remain in their communities. CLTs are community led as the community is best placed to identify what the community needs and how it should be delivered.

CLTs can manage a range of community assets not just housing.

CCA can assist in accessing funding for projects including funding from the Homes and Communities Agency.

CLTs have cross party support in CW&C and National Government.

There is a large amount of interest in the CLT being created in Malpas (South Cheshire Borders Land Trust) which is looking at building a new doctor's surgery.

It was noted that in Huntington there is a real need for accommodation for older people and possibly a new Health Centre and that this could be delivered through a CLT.

In the future there maybe a possibility of acquiring the primary school land if it moves to a new location.

CCA can help negotiate with land owners and CW&C planning dept.

CLTs are a community trust run by a board of directors or trustees on a voluntary basis.

Schemes can have land gifted or can pay to obtain land.

Schemes can also be funded through community shares.

Funding is in place for the project until June 2015.

All CLTs start with one project but then expand to others.

A scheme in Keswick delivered 11 houses, two of which were at market value and helped to fund the project.

A study visit to a CLT can be arranged if it would be helpful.

It was suggested the commercial garage site on Chester Road would be a good development as a CLT if it ever comes forward.

CLT properties can be rented or sold as part ownership.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Clare for attending the meeting and for the interesting presentation. It was agreed that the Council would discuss this matter again at the July meeting and identify if the Council wished to progress this idea further.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Residents of Meadow Lane voiced support for the new memorial to be erected at Saighton Camp, and acknowledged that the words 'Lest We Forget' which is often repeated at the end of Laurence Binyon's poem For the Fallen, can be widened to include remembering those still living who served at the Camp. Residents also welcomed the new notice board being erected at the Camp and suggested one should be erected in the Caldly Valley area. It was agreed the clerk should look into this suggestion and possible funding and report to the next meeting.

The Clerk confirmed she had still not received a response regarding the consultation area for the most recent Saighton Camp planning application, but reported that the storm drains off Chester Lane are intended to drain into the swales and attenuation ponds on the camp development however the conditions do not require this to be done until the development of phase B.

A resident of Meadow Lane supported the creation or revitalisation of a Homewatch scheme in Huntington and suggested people should look at the area as an asset which would be worth £millions. He also suggested that number plate recognition cameras should be installed on the roads in and out of Huntington.

Concerns were raised about cars on the Jubilee Field car park in early afternoon on a Sunday, it was agreed this would be passed onto PC Malone, it was noted there has been very little trouble on the field since its redevelopment.

SAIGHTON CAMP DEVELOPMENT

The clerk reported that the memorial which had been agreed by the Parish Council as a consultee had now been forwarded to CW&C for approval. Once agreed it is hoped the immediate area and tree planting will be completed by the end of October 2014, the tree which forms part of the memorial can then be planted on Remembrance Sunday and arrangements need to be put in place for this ceremonial event.

The Chairman read the response of the highways officer regarding the £5m spend as publicised by CEG in their recent literature which included the following information:-

approx £5million for the physical works at the Sandy Lane junction (making it a roundabout), the signals at Chester Rd/Gorse Way and the Toucan crossings on Caldly Valley Road and on the A41 by the P&R. These works will be done by the developer as part of the s278 agreement.

£300K to undertake the alterations works to the A41 approach from Malpas to provide a longer two lane lead in past the P&R site, which reduce queuing on that approach. This is being done in-house by the Council and maybe done in the summer but has not yet been confirmed.

Remaining money will be paid in stages of approx £800K on the completion of each phase of 50 houses on phase B and this money is for a range of Travel Plan measures for the wider area, not just Huntington. It can also fund any additional physical measures that are deemed appropriate for mitigating the development. Apart from the £300K, CW&C have received no further money at this time.

There is no definite programme for the use of this money and the Council's suggestion about a working group will be passed onto colleagues for consideration.

Further information can be found in the planning committee report and associated documents.

It was agreed the clerk should contact highways and ask that an additional slip lane off Caldly Valley Road be considered in Chester to ease congestion which backs up along Caldly Valley Road.

Disappointment was noted at the failure of the Parish Council to considered the discharge of conditions application at the last meeting or that it had not been included on the agenda as a separate item.

The clerk was requested to contact CEG for an update on the use of the pitch opposite the Rake and Pikel and request a newsletter article for the September newsletter.

DOCTORS SURGERY CAPACITY

Concerns were noted about the inability to obtain doctor's appointment within two weeks at the Heath Lane Surgery, it was raised that this could get worse as the population in the area greatly increases with the Saighton Camp development. It was agreed the clerk should write to both the Heath Lane and Boughton

Surgeries and ask there plans for the future regarding patient numbers and possible expansion, it was further agreed that the clerk also consult CW&C to get information on this matter.

RESILIENCE

The Clerk had circulated information on resilience, it was agreed this matter would be deferred to the July meeting for consideration, Councillors were asked to forward any questions or queries regarding this information to the clerk before the next meeting so responses can be sought.

FRIENDS OF JUBILEE FIELD

Clerk to circulate possible constitutions previously considered by the Council, item to be deferred to July meeting for further discussion. It was also suggested the Council could take a more informal approach to see what interest there is in such a group.

TEDDY BEARS PICNIC

It was reported the working group had had two meetings to start drawing up plans for the event which is scheduled for Saturday 6th September, 2 until 6pm. The event will be aimed at the whole community and is intended to improve community cohesion. The notes from the previous meetings will be circulated to councillors, the next working group meeting is scheduled for 7pm on the 4th July at the Rake and Pikel. The event is intended to be cost neutral any profits raised will be used to fund future events or assets in Huntington. The event has already attracted interest from local businesses and possible sponsorship.

It was agreed the event could also be used to promote the countryside day at Caldly Valley Nature Park.

14/338 RESOLVED – That the Council approve £500 towards to any fun day expenses to allow the booking of equipment etc.

HOMEWATCH

It was agreed that a Homewatch scheme would be promoted in the next newsletter with a call for residents to join the scheme and become coordinators. It was also agreed a police representative should be invited to the Council's September meeting to give a presentation on Homewatch.

THE GREEN

The clerk reported she has been unable to progress this project as she has been unable to obtain any quotes for the removal of the bollards to date, but will continue to try.

ACCOUNTS

The Council accepted the accounts as circulated noting the two items of ring fenced funding, £14991 New Homes Bonus and £18083 S106 money for maintenance of the Jubilee Field. The council's budget for this financial year needs to be adjusted to accommodate election costs for 2015 which are expected to be approximately £2000.

PLANNING

The planning register, page 78, was noted as circulated.

WORK PROGRAMME

The work programme was noted as circulated noting the following actions:-

The planting of the former Post Office path is still on-going, it was agreed the clerk should contact CW&C Streetscene to get the area cleared and weed killed before planting in autumn. It was also noted that the path is in a very poor condition due to works which have been carried out by Scottish Power.

It was agreed Councillors Dodd and Ferguson would undertake a ward walk on Friday 20th June and list issues requiring action which the clerk will forward to the appropriate people.

It was agreed the clerk should request the verges be cut on Chester Lane where the double yellow lines are being obscured and also that High Bank.

Concerns were raised about learner drivers stopping in hazard stops on the highway to practice manoeuvres; this will be raised with PC Malone.

It was noted the Swales areas have now been completed on the Camp development.

The clerk was asked to contact CW&C street naming and check whether residents of Chester Lane will receive letters of confirmation regarding the road name and that street signs will be replaced.

It was noted the gates are open at the substation at The Rake and Pikel.

It was agreed that a flyer be produced in conjunction with the police regarding parking issues on the Camp development to be distributed in that area and posted on FACEBOOK.

It was noted the planters are to be replanted soon.

14/339 RESOLVED – that the Council move into Part 2 and exclude all public and press.

JUBILEE FIELD SURFACES

It was agreed that a site meeting should be arranged with RTC and Soft Surfaces to discuss the works and report back to the Council's July meeting.

It was noted there is an issue with a drain on the field as it looks like one of the drains has collapsed and is affecting the trees in the immediate area. The clerk is meeting with a drainage contractor on Friday 20th June.

14/340 RESOLVED – that the Council delegate the clerk to undertake the drainage work to a maximum budget of £500, if the cost is above £500 quotes should be obtained for consideration by the Council at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm.

The NEXT meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 21st July 2014.

Signed

Dated

Ann Wright
18th June 2014