

**MINUTES OF HUNTINGTON
PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL (FIRST) MEETING
19th May 2014 7.30 p.m. at Huntington Village Hall.**

PRESENT

Chairman Cllr. Roy Shelton

Cllr. Nick Dodd Cllr. David Ferguson Cllr. Carolyn Walker Cllr. Mark Williams

Cllr. Anthony Wilcox

None Councillors

Public – 6

Clerk – Mrs. A. Wright

TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2014/15

14/321 RESOLVED – that Roy Shelton be elected Chairman for 2014/15. Cllr. Shelton signed the acceptance of office declaration, page 327 of the minutes book.

TO ELECT VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR THE YEAR 2014/15

14/322 RESOLVED – that Mark Williams be elected Vice Chairman for 2014/15. Cllr. Williams signed the acceptance of office declaration, page 329 of the minutes book.

APOLOGIES

Cllr. Jacky Creswick – Holiday

Cllr. John Creswick – Holiday

Cllr. M Kemp – work commitment

Cllr. D McQuay – work commitment

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None declared.

MINUTES

14/323 RESOLVED – That the Council agreed the minutes of the meeting held on the 17th March 2014 as a true and proper record.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chairman read the police report which covered the period 14th April to the 14th May, during this period 13 occurrences had been reported 4 of which were crimes. There had been an increase in thefts from vehicles in the Vicars Cross and Broughton area and residents were reminded not to leave valuables in vehicles and to make sure they are secured. Two males had been issued street warnings after being found late at night smoking cannabis in their vehicles at the Jubilee Playing field.

Bike security marking will be taking place on Saturday 21st June between 1.00 and 5.00 pm at Halfords.

The Crime Commissioner and PC Malone will be available at Sainsbury's Car Park between 6.00 and 8.00pm on the 28th May.

A resident on Chester Road raised concerns that he and others had not been notified of the current planning application on the camp having been for previous applications. It was agreed the clerk should pursue why this had been the case.

Concerns were raised that once all the homes are completed in the Camp there will be serious sewerage and drainage issues in the area. As part of the previous application all road gullies were due to empty into the swales or attenuation ponds, when questioned CEG confirmed these works had been carried out however there have been no works done on Chester Lane. It was agreed the clerk should ask if these works have been completed.

A resident raised concerns about the parking taking place on both sides of Chester Road where there is two way traffic from the Red House all the way to Butterbache Road junction. It was noted there are 50 road

signs along this stretch of the road none of which encourage drivers to park safely. It was agreed the clerk should ask Highways to look at the situation and make recommendations.

A residents of Meadow Lane raised concerns about cars parking at school collection times when vehicles are parked both sides of Butterbache Road at the junction of Meadow Lane resulting in cars having to drive in the centre of the road with the risk of on-coming traffic. It was agreed the clerk should contact the headmaster and ask him to emphasize the availability of parking on the Jubilee Field and also remind parents to follow a one way system at dropping off and collection times. The question was asked about dropping off zone which was created some years ago and is now being used as a staff car park.

The Council was thanked for its perseverance getting the new Gorse Way and Caldý Valley road signs replaced.

SAIGHTON CAMP DEVELOPMENT

14/324 RESOLVED – That the Council **strongly object** planning application 14/01219/OUT, demolition of existing buildings and development of up to 120 dwellings on land at the former Saighton Camp, on the following grounds:-

That the removal of the small industrial/business units from the development is contrary to the principles of sustainability as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) in that the proposed units contributed to a balanced development supporting both residential and economic needs of the area.

The removal of this element will not only undermine the sustainability of the proposed application but also those previously approved and the grounds on which they were approved.

Huntington Parish Council is aware that the demand for these units has not been fully explored and is aware that people seeking information about the availability of the units have not been proved with the information. Therefore the assumption that there is no commercial demand for these units is fundamentally flawed. The proposal is therefore contrary to Policy EC 6 of the Chester and District Local Plan (CDLP) which states that applications resulting in the loss of business, industrial or warehousing land should only be permitted if it can be demonstrated that ‘reasonable attempts’ have been made to dispose of these units at the market rate. Please note Huntington Parish Council is actively encouraging those who have sought and been unable to obtain information about these units to submit this evidence to CW&C.

In the above respect the application is also contrary to the principles of ECON 1 of the emerging CW&C Local Plan.

The removal of the land allocated for the primary school is premature in that no decision has been made regarding the future school provision in the area, the feasibility study has not yet been undertaken and to remove the availability of this land will unfairly influence the outcome of any public consultation in the future.

The application is contrary to Policy GE3 of the Chester District Local Plan (CDLP) as it will have a detrimental effect on the amenities of people living near by and result in a significant reduction in their quality of life by virtue of increased traffic movements and congestion in vicinity of the proposed site.

The application is contrary to Policy GE4 of the CDLP as existing utility services, specifically waste water and sewerage infrastructure do not have the capacity to handle increased waste. The following residential roads in Huntington already suffer from flooding including sewerage, Butterbache Road, Bachefield Avenue, Chester Road and Meadow Lane. Caldý Valley Nature Park has been flooded on several occasions. It should be noted that the approval of this application will result in over 1200 houses relying on a single 9inch sewerage pipe to take away foul waste, this does not take into account the waste from commercial properties, Huntington Primary School or St. Luke’s Church.

The application is contrary to Policy TR19 of the CDLP in that additional traffic can not be accommodated by the existing highway network. It should be noted that traffic estimates have not taken into account planning permission granted in surrounding villages which will lead to significant increases in traffic on the same road network including permissions granted in Farndon and Tattenhall. Alterations to existing highways infrastructure has failed to accommodate the limited increase in traffic which has already been generated by the homes which have already be completed and occupied which make up a small proportion of those already approved.

It was agreed that the council should request people submit evidence of CEG’s failure to market the business units.

14/325 RESOLVED – That Cllr. Shelton represent the Parish Council at the planning committee when this application is considered.

Councillors viewed plans of the shop and open space area for the previously approved applications, including a MUGA, adult exercise equipment and walkway including a bridge.

Councillors reviewed the plans for the memorial area which includes a substantial tree within a walled area topped with sandstone. The walled area includes panels for wording and holes where hooks can be inserted to hold poppy wreaths. It was agreed the wording on the panels should include Saughton Camp and Huntington, further consideration will be given to the words of remembrance. It was agreed some form of dedication ceremony should be held when the area is completed.

SAIGHTON/SANDY LANE

It was agreed the clerk should check that residents along the lane have been consulted on the road name by CW&C.

14/326 RESOLVED – That the lane should be known as Chester Lane and that this also be updated on ordinance survey maps.

ANNUAL & CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Council agreed the chairman's and annual report which will be included in the Council's next newsletter.

COMMUNITY RIGHT TO BID & COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS

It was confirmed that Tony Clare, from Cheshire Community Action will be attending the Council's June meeting to give a presentation on Community Land Trusts.

The Chairman read a letter from CW&C in response to the request to involve the parish council in the use of the primary school land if the school is relocated in the future. The letter confirmed that no decisions had been made to relocate the school at this time however if a decision is made in the future the use of the land will be decided by public consultation including the Parish Council.

SPEED LIMITS

The clerk reported there had been three responses to the article on speed limits in the last newsletter, these while supporting more enforcement in key roads including Chester Road and Caldly Valley did not support the introduction of 20mph speed limits on side roads and cul-de-sacs.

SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The following special responsibilities were agreed:-

Communication (FACEBOOK) – Carolyn Walker, Mark Williams, Anthony Wilcox and the Clerk.

Village Hall Committee – Jacky Creswick

Friends of Caldly Valley Nature Park – David Ferguson

Procedural Working Group – Nick Dodd (chair), Mark Williams and Anthony Wilcox

Community Events Working Group – David Ferguson, Roy Shelton, Carolyn Walker and Mark Williams

It was agreed that other community members should be asked to joint the working group to help organise events including the school, village hall committee and St Luke's.

AUDIT 2013-2014

14/327 RESOLVED – That the Council agrees the annual governance statement.

14/328 RESOLVED – That the Council agrees the accounting statement of the financial year 2013-2014.

PAYMENTS

14/329 RESOLVED – That the clerk be paid by standing order on the 4th of each month rate as approved 21st November 2011 page 157 of the minutes book.

14/330 RESOLVED – That the Shelley Seeds be paid monthly on invoice approved by two cheque signatories.

14/331 RESOLVED – That the CHALC be paid for 2 training sessions, Health and safety attended by Cllr. Fergusons and Chairmanship attended by Cllr. Shelton £60.00.

14/332 RESOLVED – That the clerk be reimbursed for printings, postage and stationery £66.91.

14/333 RESOLVED – That Mr. Keith Jones be paid £80.45 for carrying out the internal audit and postage.

14/334 RESOLVED – That the Cllr. Ferguson travel expenses for attending the training session £16.72.

INSURANCE

14/335 RESOLVED – That the council obtains insurance cover from AON for 2014-2015.

COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

It was noted that residents will shortly receive questionnaires regarding the community governance in the area including possible parish council boundary changes.

14/336 RESOLVED – That the council respond to the review by supporting no changes to Huntington Parish Council’s Boundary other than possible small amendments on Chester Lane for the following reasons:-

The difference in character between Huntington which is rural in nature and Great Boughton which is suburban.

Attempts to work together to produce a Neighbourhood plan failed due to the differences between the two councils and communities.

The Parish boundaries currently reflect the CW&C boundaries and are well known.

The existing boundary between Great Boughton and Huntington is clearly defined by the Caldly Brook. Huntington is already substantially growing due to the development on Saughton Camp which the Parish Council is working hard to integrate into the Parish Council.

PLANNING

The planning register page 77 was noted as circulated noting application 14/01612/DIS, discharge of Conditions, former Saughton Camp had now been included on the register.

WORK PROGRAMME

Noted as circulated.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

The NEXT meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 16th June 2014.

Signed

Dated

Ann Wright
20th May 2014