

HASLINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 12th March 2018

Present – Jenny Jullien (Chairman), Tony Adcock (Vice Chairman), Ron van der Hoorn, Clive Blower and Darren Crowe. County Councillor Roger Hickford and District Councillor Bridget Smith (Gamlingay) were in attendance. There were twenty-two members of the public present.

- 1 Apologies for Absence** – Apologies were received from Lucian Hatfield and District Councillor Doug Cattermole. Tricia Knibbs was unable to attend. Ian Johnson sent his apologies and gave his resignation.
- 2 Members Declaration of interest for items on the Agenda** – Ron van der Hoorn declared an interest in the Spring Hall Farm planning application, as the applicants are his office landlords.
- 3 Open Forum for Public Participation** – None.
- 4 County Councillor’s Report by Roger Hickford**

Council Tax has been raised this year for the first time in three years, as prudent financial planning will enable the Council to cope better, and this may mean we will not have to raise the council tax as much in future years. The proposed new Park & Ride is causing a lot of concern. Harston is being considered as a possible venue along with Foxton. The County Council is hoping to have meetings to look at the situation holistically. Roads and potholes are getting worse all the time, although last April the budget was given an extra £2.5 million. This winter has seen the worst frosts for the last three years put together, causing further damage to road surfaces. There is a long-term plan to undertake long lasting, water tight repairs. The program should be implemented within 4-5 years.
- 5 District Councillor’s Report by Bridget Smith (DC for Gamlingay)**

There has been a review of the taxi licensing policy. The newly-approved policy includes compulsory wheelchair accessibility in hackney carriages and the installation of CCTV in most vehicles. A petition has been set up online against the idea to start charging to use computer terminals in libraries after the first half hour. This will affect the lowest income members of society, who may be seeking work and writing CVs. SCDC has put up Council Tax by £5 for a Band D property. Park & Ride charges will be scrapped from April 1st 2018, as usage has dropped by 15% since charges were introduced. Cambridge City Council will be putting up charges for City Centre car parks instead.
- 6 To approve and sign minutes of the meeting of 12th February 2018** – Proposed DC, seconded CB. Approved.
- 7 Matters to be reported from these minutes** – The leak in the Village Hall has been fixed. Teresa Harrold has volunteered to find out what the illegible Play Area sign originally said. It will then be replaced. **Action FL**

8 Planning applications and decisions:

S/0611/18/FL **21, Church Street** - Demolition of the majority of the single storey extension behind the existing shop, for parking, waste management and bicycle park, whilst retaining the back wall. Proposed dwelling and associated garage to be erected in the garden behind the flat and shop. **Supported.**

S/0622/18/FL **Spring Hall Farm, Barton Road** - 2-storey front extension, Replacement Garden room extension. New triple-garage extension. Conversion of existing garage. Part conversion of roof space, New ground floor bay window. New dormer windows and minor alterations to other external fenestration. **Supported.**

SCDC decisions: S/4014/17/FL **Tennis Courts, Recreation Ground** - Permission for Provision of floodlighting to Court 3 – **Granted 09/02/2018.**

- 9 **Village Hall Extension** – Jenny Jullien reported that of the 320 votes received approximately 91% were in favour of having the Village Hall extended. The exact figures will be announced on the website and at the April Parish Council meeting, when they have been double checked against the electoral register. At last months' meeting one of the residents suggested an alternative way of extending the village hall, which seemed to have great merit, adding a meeting room on the first floor. It was decided to put on hold the existing plans and go back to the architect to have the plans redrawn, at a cost of approximately £680. Proposed TA, seconded RH. Unanimously supported. It is still hoped that the building of the new extension will start during 2018. It was suggested having the Annual Parish Meeting on 21st May as a target date to publicise the new plans, and to put them on the village website. A request was made to have a toilet made accessible to users of the Recreation Ground. This may not be practical, but the idea will be investigated further.

10 Additional Matters for Discussion:

- a) **Vet's Meadow Auction** – 2.7 acres of amenity land known as 'Vet's Meadow', bordering the wier on the river, has been put up for sale by auction. The sale will take place in two days' time. Several residents attended the meeting to discuss the possibility of buying the land in order to protect it from harm and to allow wildlife and native species to thrive. It was suggested approaching the owner and offering £30,000 after getting 30 people to pledge £1,000 each. The PC did not feel it could take responsibility for purchasing the land and then maintaining it thereafter. The possibility of setting up a Village Trust, so that it could become collective land, was suggested but it was felt this would not be possible within the limited timeframe.
- b) **Dog bins** – It was agreed to replace the existing dog bins with larger (green) ones, whilst still awaiting a reply from SCDC about installing extra bins. Aidan van de Weyer has been asked to speed up the process of getting the additional bins approved. Proposed JJ, seconded TA. Agreed. **Action FL**
- c) **Trees on Cantelupe Road** – Quotes were received for removing dangerous ash trees on Cantelupe Road and a fallen elder on River Lane. It was agreed to accept Buchan's quote of £94.80 inc. VAT to clear the tree behind the mower shop. Buchan's have already attended to the trees on Cantelupe Road. Proposed TA, seconded CB. Agreed. **Action FL**
- d) **Vehicle activated sign** – A portable, battery operated, vehicle activated sign to be attached to lamp-posts and moved around the village will be purchased from Highways, at a cost of around £3,000. This will not have a camera, but will record speeds and Highways will then send Speedwatch reports to the Police. Roger

Hickford said the Police would send extra patrol cars if something needed to be done about excessive speeding. Proposed DC, seconded RH. Agreed. **Action FL**

11 Committee and Working Party Reports:

- a) **Environment** – A volunteers' Working Party of only three people (including Jay Cole and Clive Blower) recently went to the Well-house Meadow and pruned trees in the Community Orchard and removed ivy from the wall, although nineteen people were asked to help. The Environmental Working Party may have to cease functioning if volunteers are not found. Verges throughout the village need to be re-seeded after the wet weather and the bollard opposite Country Kitchen needs replacing. Alan Stevens has been asked to do the repairs after possibly needing to purchase a post-hole digger and rammer.
- b) **Village Hall** – The HVH Committee meeting was held on 7th March. The Cricket Club expressed concerns that due to high number of football matches being played on sometimes very wet pitches, the Rec may not be up to a suitable standard for playing cricket. Aidan Lonergan will be asked for his views and to find out how many more matches will be played before the end of the season. The accounts show that the cricket clubs paid £220 and the Colts made no contribution during 2017. They have requested that the Rec should be spiked to assist drainage, weed killer applied and re-seeded. The pitch has been inspected and there are some bare (muddy) patches around the goal mouths but nothing thought to be unreasonable. The first cricket match is on 3rd May. A quote for weed-killing in April is to be obtained from Buchan's. **Action FL**
- c) **Allotments** – A large galvanised gate has been purchased and will be installed this Friday at a total cost of £285.12. Ron van der Hoorn said that the allotment holders would like to express their gratitude to the PC for reimbursing 50% of the cost. One of the plot-holders was recently approached by the neighbour, Mr Sorrentino, who claimed people have encroached on his land. Jon Spain has checked, and this is not thought to be the case. However, all objects within 1m of the border fences have been removed. Many plots are currently waterlogged.
- d) **Play Areas & Skatepark** – A notice is to be put in the Church & Village magazine requesting users to join the Skatepark Committee to raise funds for a new Skatepark. Darren Crowe will head this up. **Action FL**
- e) **Traffic Calming & Speedwatch** – Speedwatch is now up and running again. The LHI grant applied for is thought to have been successful. Barton Road residents will be written to and sent a copy of the plan by Joshua Rutherford. A3 copies will be put on the noticeboards. **Action JJ/FL**
- f) **C&V and Website** – A meeting will take place tomorrow. A new page for parish council information has been created. Anyone who wishes to have the minutes sent directly to them should sign up on the Haslingfield website page, which sends out information once a week.
- g) **Cycle Path** – Nothing to report.

12 Correspondence – Nomination papers for the forthcoming elections have been received and can be obtained on request to the Clerk. A request for an interactive Parish Council Facebook page was made and will be channelled through the Clerk. Darren Crowe has agreed to set it up. Proposed JJ, seconded CB. Agreed. **Action DC**
NHS England is to set up a new local medical centre to cater for the new development in Barrington. It was thought that this should be built in Barrington, as Harston Medical

Centre is at full capacity and there is no room to expand. Darren Crowe agreed to represent the Parish Council and attend relevant meetings. **Action DC**
Leaflets were received from Highways, giving information on the current roadworks.

13 Finance:

- a) **New bank account** – It was agreed to set up a new deposit account with the Cambridge Building Society, which is covered by the FSCS regulations. The signatories will be Jenny Jullien, Tony Adcock and Clive Blower. Proposed TA, seconded JJ. Agreed. **Action FL**
- b) **Resolution to pay outstanding accounts:**
Salaries – Clerk, Roy Brown, Alan Stevens
Payments proposed TA, seconded JJ. Approved.

Invoices Paid on 12/03/2018:

Buchan's	£726.60
Clerk's fees	£969.26
Clerk's expenses	£133.11
Roy Brown	£81.60
HMR&C	£199.86
Cambs ACRE	£63.00
GSL Ltd (Grace solutions)	£26.81
Aon	£11.20

Remittances:

VAT return	£2012.15
Community Chest Grant	£1000.00

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm.

Frances Laville
Parish Clerk
21/03/2018

Date of next Meeting: Monday 9th April 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall