

**DRAFT MINUTES OF SIBLE HEDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, PARKFIELDS, SIBLE HEDINGHAM ON
MONDAY 13th JULY 2015 AT 7.30PM.**

In the chair: Mr. R. Volkwyn

Present: Cllrs. J. Fennelly, S. Glen, D. Holmes, G. Jefferson, G. Massey, B. Newman, L. Parkin, T. Pitts-Webster, P. Sarel, J. Skittrall and J. Smith
Mr. A. Corder-Birch (Clerk)
Mr. H. Johnson (District Councillor)
Together with 11 (eleven) members of the public

Public comment

Mr. J. Nicholson enquired about the speed and vehicle numbers check at the top of Spurgeon's Hill. Mrs. G. Massey reported that the survey was in connection with the application for SIDs and confirmed that the results will be placed on SHPC website.

There was no other public comment.

77. Apologies for absence

Cllrs. S. Metson (holiday) J. Beavis and D. Finch

78. To co-opt two new Councillors to fill casual vacancies

The Chairman reported that there were two applicants to fill the two casual vacancies namely Mr. B. Newman and Mrs. T. Pitts-Webster. Mrs. G. Massey raised concerns about time limits in respect of the second vacancy. The Clerk confirmed that the time limit had expired on 6th July when BDC had written to SHPC to confirm that no election had been requested and asking for the vacancy to be filled as soon as practicable. The PC agenda had been published on 7th July so time limits had been complied with. Mr. D. Holmes confirmed that the statutory notices had been displayed on all parish notice boards for the relevant period. Mrs. Massey asked for wider publicity to be given in respect of any future vacancies. Mrs. G. Jefferson stated that wide publicity had been given because Mrs. Massey had been quoted in the press about vacancies. It was proposed by Mr. R. Volkwyn, seconded by Mrs. G. Jefferson and carried that Mr. B. Newman and Mrs. T. Pitts-Webster are co-opted onto the Parish Council.

79. Declaration of Acceptance of Office of new Councillors

Mr. B. Newman and Mrs. T. Pitts-Webster then signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms in the presence of the Clerk.

80. To fill vacancies on Committees

The following positions were filled:

Finance Committee	Mr. B. Newman
Transport and Highways Committee	Mrs. T. Pitts-Webster

81. Declarations of interest

Miss. L. Parkin and Mr. J. Skittrall both declared a NPI in connection with the issue of cyclists using the Village Hall as Officers of the Village Hall Committee.

There were no other declarations of interest.

82. To confirm minutes of meeting held 8th June 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2015, having been circulated, were taken as read were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record subject to amendments to minutes 61 and 65.

83. Matters arising from those minutes

a) Mirror at Parkfields

Mrs. G. Massey requested an update regarding the mirror at Parkfields as it was becoming increasingly difficult to exit Recreation Ground. The Clerk reported that a resident of Recreation Ground had now requested two mirrors and therefore this item would be placed on the agenda for the next R&A Meeting.

There were no other matters arising.

84. **Chairman's report**

The Chairman reported on the following:

- a) That two signs "Danger Deep Water" had been erected around the pond at Grays Hall Meadow.
- b) FOAM had thanked the Parish Council for paying for the costs of the new notice board at Alderford Mill.
- c) St. Peter's School is seeking an additional Governor.
- d) All picnic benches have been installed.

85. **Youth Council Report**

Mrs. Massey stated that there was no Youth Council report.

86. **County Councillor's Report**

In the absence of Mr. D. Finch no report was given.

87. **District Councillor's Reports**

In the absence of Mrs. J. Beavis no report was given. Mr. H. Johnson reported upon the following:

- a) Broadband improvements were slow but progressing.
- b) He had cut grass along the HRW path.
- c) A survey of trees along HRW had been completed by Mr. Johnson and a BDC Landscape Officer.
- d) Some public footpaths have been cut but some are overgrown and need attention.
- e) Speed checks and vehicle counts have been undertaken.
- f) Unfortunately dog fouling still occurs in the village.
- g) Residents need to take more precautions in view of recent burglaries.
- h) As Tree Warden, Mr. Johnson is keen to preserve trees, but if any have to be cut down they should be replaced with two trees.

Mr. Johnson was thanked for his report.

88. **Planning Committee**

The minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on 5th and 26th June 2015, having been circulated were accepted in lieu of a report.

89. **Recreation and Amenities Committee**

The minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee Meeting held on 19th June 2015, having been circulated, were accepted in lieu of a report.

90. **Transport and Highways Committee**

The minutes of the Transport and Highways Committee Meeting held 17th June 2015, were circulated. It was proposed by Ms. S. Glen, seconded by Mrs. G. Massey and carried that the minutes are referred back to the Committee for review.

91. **To consider increasing annual grant to Hedingham Thursday Club**

Mr. D. Holmes proposed that the grant to Hedingham Thursday Club, which is currently £60 per annum, is increased. Following some discussion it was agreed to consult the club upon its needs and review at the next meeting with a view to inclusion in next year's budget.

92. **Update upon SH Post Office and SH Sorting Office**

With regard to the future of SH Post Office, various possible alternative locations were referred to. It was understood that the proprietors need to increase their turnover and sell new lines. Ms. S. Glen offered to make further enquiries and report back.

93. **To consider progressing blue plaque leaflet**

Mrs. G. Massey reported that Ms. J. Cole and Mrs. E. Jones had gathered information about blue plaques for preparation of a leaflet. Mrs. Massey and Ms. Cole had visited Mrs. Jones but unfortunately the relevant paperwork appears to have been lost. It is necessary for the plaque in memory of Sir John Hawkwood to be re-worded, following which a new leaflet will be prepared.

94. **To consider concerns about ASB during the recent night cycle ride through the village**

Mrs. G. Massey referred to items on Facebook from concerned residents about ASB, noise and litter arising from a night cycle ride through the village during the night of 4th/5th July 2015. The Chairman added that notices had been placed on resident's properties without permission, which were difficult to remove. He stated that as the cyclists were using facilities at the Village Hall, these were mainly matters for the Village Hall Committee rather than the Parish Council. The meeting adjourned for public comment.

Mr. F. Ranson of Church Street reported upon excessive noise at what was supposed to be an organized event and that water bottles were strewn around the village. Another resident living near Church Street also complained about noise. Mr. J. Nicholson reported that the English Cycling Union should obtain a license for events involving over 25 cyclists. Mr. G. Scrace also observed that there was more noise this year and that some cyclists appear to have taken the wrong turning so need to check their route.

The meeting then resumed. Mr. J. Fennelly reported that according to the Cycling Club's website they had previous complaints. Mr. P. Sarel considered that future bookings must be subject to conditions. Mr. J. Skittrall, as Chairman and Bookings Secretary for the Village Hall reported that the Cycle Club were late in booking the hall so he was not able to monitor the event as he had done in previous years when there were no complaints. This is an annual booking at which about 3,000 cyclists use the facilities at the Village Hall. He reported that the lighting and area around the Village Hall had been rearranged and there was now ample space so there was no need for cyclists to congregate in Parkfields. Mr. Skittrall offered to speak to the organizer in London to review arrangements for next year and will report back to the next meeting. In the meantime the complaints will be considered by the Village Hall Committee at its next meeting on 15th July.

(Mr. H. Johnson left the meeting)

95. **Correspondence and emails**

The correspondence received and listed in appendix 1 was referred to relevant Councillors for information and action. An email from Mrs. Page expressing concern about ASB on the Recreation Ground was considered. Mrs. G. Jefferson had kindly replied to Mrs. Page and referred her to the Police and forthcoming meetings with the Police and Crime Commissioner. Mrs. G. Massey referred to the drug problem on the Recreation Ground, which cannot be quantified. However it was agreed to ask JR to collect all drug related items and retain it separately for inspection by Councillors and for passing onto the Police. Mr. D. Holmes reported upon BBQs and that JR had erected appropriate notices on litter bins.

96. **Accounts for payment**

The accounts listed in appendix 2 were presented for payment. It was proposed by Mr. D. Holmes, seconded by Mr. J. Skittrall and carried that the accounts are paid. Mrs. G. Massey enquired about the payroll. The Clerk confirmed that it was now outsourced to Saffron Accounting Services, because the previous administrators had ceased trading and that initially future payments will be made by cheque.

97. **Any other business/exchange of information/agenda for next meeting**

a) **Halstead Gazette**

Mr. J. Fennelly reported upon his recent