

**DRAFT MINUTES OF SIBLE HEDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, PARKFIELDS, SIBLE HEDINGHAM ON
MONDAY 12th JANUARY 2015 AT 7.30PM.**

In the chair: Mrs. G. Massey

Present: Cllrs. J. Beavis (for items 203 to 215), S. Glen, E. Jones, A. Law, L. Parkin, S. Partridge, A. Prill, P. Sarel, J. Skittrall, R. Volkwyn and R. Wright.

Mr. A. Corder-Birch (Clerk)

Mr. H. Johnson (District Councillor)

Together with 5 (five) members of the public

Public comment

There was no public comment.

196. **Apologies for absence**

Cllrs. D. Holmes (illness), D. Finch and W. Scattergood

197. **Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

198. **To confirm minutes of meeting held 8th December 2014**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2014, having been circulated, were taken as read were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

199. **Matters arising from those minutes**

a) **Medical Centre**

Mr. A. Prill requested an update upon the Medical Centre and was informed that Mrs. J. Beavis is arranging a Stakeholders Group Meeting.

b) **Affordable Housing**

Mr. R. Volkwyn asked if there was any information concerning affordable housing on the Premdor site and was informed that Mrs. Beavis is investigating this and will provide an update in her BDC report. There were no other matters arising.

200. **Chairman's report**

The Chairman reported that there had recently been some incidents of graffiti in the village and surrounding area. Upon the recommendation of Mrs. E. Jones, enquiries had been made at Hedingham School but the school had been unable to identify the culprit. Mrs. Massey agreed to report the graffiti to the PCSO.

201. **Youth Council Report**

The Chairman reported that the Youth Council had met on 7th January but there were no matters arising except that the Youth Council were unaware of the identity of who was responsible for the graffiti in the area.

202. **County Councillor's Report**

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

(Mrs. J. Beavis arrived at the meeting)

203. **District Councillor's Reports**

Mr. H. Johnson reported on the following:

The new bridge to HRW was well used.

There was another RTA near the former Sugar Loaves PH on 11th January 2015.

Housing is favoured on the former Tanner's Dairy site and more sites for housing are being sought in the Braintree District.

The health walks in SH continue to be successful with about 30 to 40 walkers each week.

Mrs. J. Beavis reported on the following:

- a) The Public Inquiry into the application by residents for land in Oxford Meadow to be registered as a village green had taken two days and the result is expected in about a month.
- b) The affordable housing on the Premdor site will be built in three phases. Phase one comprising of 9 (nine) houses had been completed and will be administered by GCH. Phases 2 and 3 had not yet commenced and Housing Associations will need to bid for them. Mrs. Beavis had spoken to Mr. T. Lucas of BDC who had confirmed that the first let policy for local people was still in force.
- c) With regard to the pilot for the Youth Club, RCCE was in discussions with Fusion about concessions for gym equipment and transport, which it was hoped would be sustainable and continue.

204. Planning Committee

The minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on 5th December 2014 and 2nd January 2015, having been circulated were accepted in lieu of a report. Mr. A. Prill queried the proposed allocation site at 38-40 Alderford Street, which Mr. S. Partridge explained was a new proposed site.

205. Transport and Highways Committee

The minutes of the Transport and Highways Committee Meeting held on 17th December 2014, having been circulated, were accepted in lieu of a report.

206. Report of Finance and Funding Committee

The Chairman gave a report of the Finance and Funding Committee Meeting held on 9th January 2015 when the proposed budget had been approved. A small increase in Band D was recommended from £60.66 to £61.77. The Parish Council reserves remained healthy. No grant will be paid to SH Village Hall but SHPC will now pay the VH £350 a year for use of the cage under the hall.

Mr. P. Sarel queried the cost of street cleansing and the Chairman explained that part of the cost is offset by street cleansing income from BDC.

Mr. R. Volkwyn asked if a grant could be paid to Hedingham Twinning Association and was informed that a grant could be paid if HTA applies. Mr. S. Partridge suggested that a criteria, is provided for grant applications, which Mrs. G. Massey agreed to draft and Mrs. J. Beavis offered to review, prior to being considered for approval at the next meeting.

207. To consider budget and precept for 2015-2016

The Chairman had previously circulated the budget to all Councillors. It was proposed by Mrs. J. Beavis, seconded by Mr. S. Partridge and carried unanimously that the budget is approved and that SHPC precepts for £85,332 for 2015-2016. The precept form was duly completed, signed by the Chairman and countersigned by the RFO. Mrs. J. Beavis proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. G. Massey for her hard work in connection with preparing the budget.

208. To consider Social Media as a form of communication with residents

Mrs. R. Wright reported that some members of Hedingham Past and Present would like to see a page upon which they can make suggestions to SHPC. Contributions could be controlled and would form a presence for SHPC. However responses from individual Councillors were not favoured although they could contribute personally but not as Councillors. The Chairman reported that there was a forum on SHPC website but it had not been used since 2012. It was considered that Hedingham Past and Present was very good and works well but a SHPC page may dilute that. Mr. S. Partridge reported that he contributes Film Club items and Ms. S. Glen contributes Community Transport items. Mr. Partridge was concerned about possible misuse, particularly with the forthcoming elections. He considered that SHPC could contribute by a news and information only page but not engage with the public. Mr. A. Prill supported this. A link was requested between SHPC and Hedingham Past and Present which Mrs. R. Wright agreed to arrange. Mrs. Wright will add a pinned post to remind users where to find the relevant items.

209. Update upon new Medical Centre

Mrs. J. Beavis reported that a Stakeholder Group is being formed comprising of Doctors, Practice Managers and Councillors. Mrs. A. Weatherley had agreed to be the administrator/coordinator of the Stakeholder Group and is arranging a meeting in February to take matters forward. The NHS is waiting for Doctors to prepare a PID but they are very busy running their practices with little time for administration. Mr. A. Prill emphasized that the new Stakeholder Group must pursue the preparation of a PID, which the NHS is waiting to receive. Mrs. Beavis confirmed that she will ask Doctors to prepare a draft PID ready

for the next Stakeholders Group meeting. Councillors asked if this meeting could be arranged before the next PC meeting. At the request of Mr. S. Partridge it was agreed to agenda consideration to fund the preparation of a PID at the next PC meeting.

The Clerk reported that he had made enquiries with BDC regarding S106 contributions for healthcare. There were very few sites in the Braintree District which had secured contributions for healthcare. In the Hedingham area there was only Premdor and Rockways and none in Great Yeldham or any of the surrounding villages. The only sum actually held by BDC is £43,200 healthcare contribution from the Premdor site. (Post meeting note: With interest it is now £44,566.76 and increasing). NHS England must spend it on "Healthcare Contribution Purposes" meaning the provision of healthcare projects being the actual facility from construction costs and medical equipment through to staff costs rather than business plans and fees, which if they were to prove abortive would not have provided anything. The financial contribution of £8,512 from the Rockways site has not yet been paid. (Mr. H. Johnson left the meeting)

210. **To consider a 'Pop-up' shop at the former Nat West Bank building**

Miss. L. Parkin reported that she had heard from BDC but not in time to prepare a report for this meeting. It was therefore agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

211. **To consider the Bus Stop sign near the former Swan PH**

The exchange of emails between ECC and SHPC relating to the proposed removal of the bus stop sign in front of 49 Swan Street were considered. It was agreed that this bus stop was in a dangerous position and the former bus stop in front of the railings adjacent to the former Swan PH was much safer. Mrs. G. Massey advised that a sign is not always necessary for designated bus stops. Mr. A. Prill agreed to forward to the Clerk, a photograph showing the original bus stop sign in front of the railings between the former Swan PH and Swan Chase. Following some discussion it was resolved as follows:

To accept the offer from ECC to remove the bus stop sign from the front of 49 Swan Street. Mr. S. Partridge asked for it to be recorded that he is opposed to this.

To give ECC 28 days notice to remove it and in default SHPC will arrange to remove it.

To inform the press and advertise the situation to the community.

To ask ECC to proceed with a scheme to the LHP in 2015-2016 to fund, design and implement a formal bus bay.

212. **To approve Village Maintenance Operative joining Local Government Pension Scheme**

The Clerk reported that the following notice had been displayed on the public notice board outside the Parish Council Office since 1st December 2014:

Upon 28 days public notice having been given as required by The Local Government Superannuation Acts the Parish Council unanimously approved the admission of Jane Sarah Richardson and in the future the post of village maintenance operative to the Local Government Pension Scheme operated by Essex County Council.

213. **Correspondence and emails**

The correspondence received and listed in appendix 1 was referred to relevant Councillors for information and action. An email from RCCE asking SHPC to join a campaign to call on the Secretary of State for the Environment not to withdraw funding was considered. It was unanimously agreed to support the campaign. Ms. S. Glen reported that she was very impressed with the letter which Mrs. S. Ogilvie had written to Mr. D. Finch and copied in to SHPC regarding traffic issues in Swan Street. Arising from this Mr. A. Prill reported upon a RTA outside his house on 2nd January 2015 when the Police had taken 40 minutes to attend from Colchester. He explained the background to funding for speed enforcement. Mr. S. Partridge reported that there are no 'NO EXCUSE FOR POOR DRIVING' signs in SH, which will be requested.

214. **Accounts for payment**

The accounts listed in appendix 2 were presented for payment together with an additional account from Supreme Clean Limited for dog bags and cleansing materials for the public toilets amounting to £157.06. Mr. R. Volkwyn queried the invoice from A & J Lighting for street light repairs at High Street Green. The Clerk reported that the contractors had charged £56 for call out charge and £235 for new street light fittings. It was proposed by Mr. R. Volkwyn, seconded by Mr. A. Law and carried that the accounts are paid.

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

a) **Gates at Alderford Mill**

Mr. A. Law reported that the gates at Alderford Mill will remain open for the winter and invited comments.

b) **Bramble near Hill House**

Mr. A. Prill reported a bramble overhanging the brick wall and path near Hill House, which the Clerk will ask Mrs. J. Richardson to remove.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

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(Date)

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(Chairman)