

MINUTES OF SIBLE HEDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, PARKFIELDS, SIBLE HEDINGHAM ON MONDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2013 AT 7.30PM.

In the chair: Mrs. G. Massey
Present: Cllrs. J. Beavis, C. Cannell, S. Glen, R. Green, E. Jones, A. Law, S. Partridge, A. Prill, J. Skittrall and L. Waller.
Mr. A. Corder-Birch (Clerk)
Mrs. W. Scattergood (District Councillor)
Together with 8 (eight) members of the public

Public comment

There was no public comment.

235. **Apologies for absence**

Cllrs. D. Holmes (wife's illness), F. Swallow (eye trouble) and H. Johnson

236. **Declarations of interest**

Mrs. J. Beavis declared a non pecuniary interest in connection with the planning application by Bloor Homes relating to the Premdor site as a member of BDC as LPA.

There were no other declarations of interest.

237. **To confirm minutes of meeting held 14th January 2013**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2013, having been circulated, were taken as read and subject to amendments under public comment and minute 223, were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

238. **Matters arising from those minutes**

Mr. S. Partridge reported upon an email received from Mr. D. Finch during January stating that he is chasing ECC Officers regarding sites for VAS and SIDs since when nothing further had been heard.

Mrs. E. Jones referred to Community Speedwatch, in particular to contradictions in figures and statistics.

Mr. Partridge reported that he is waiting to hear from Sgt. Wright and that CSW will be raised at the Public Transport, Highways and Speedwatch Committee meeting on 20th February.

There were no other matters arising.

239. **Chairman's report**

The Chairman had nothing to report outside the agenda.

240. **Youth Council Report**

Mr. S. Partridge had nothing to report (except see minutes 254 and 255 below).

241. **County Councillor's Report**

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

242. **District Councillor's Reports**

Mrs. J. Beavis reported upon the following:

- a) There will be a 1% reduction in BDCs budget and share of the Council Tax.
- b) BDC desires to remain as a low tax authority.
- c) The new Localism Fund is supported (see minutes 251 and 252 below)
- d) BDC is placing £5 million into a project to work with GCH to provide affordable housing.
- e) BDC is working with ECC to support apprenticeships.

Arising from item (a) Mrs. G. Massey added that there will be a 3.5% increase in the Police budget. Mrs. Beavis was thanked for her report.

243 **Planning Committee**

The minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 25th January 2013, having been circulated were accepted in lieu of a report.

244. **Recreation and Amenities Committee**

The minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee Meeting held on 18th January 2013, having been circulated, were accepted in lieu of a report.

245. **Finance and Funding Committee**

The minutes of the Finance and Funding Committee Meeting held on 11th January 2013, having been circulated, were accepted in lieu of a report.

246. **Footpaths and PROW Advisory Group Meeting**

The minutes of the Footpaths and PROW Advisory Group Meeting held on 29th January 2013, having been circulated, were accepted in lieu of a report. Arising from these minutes FP 33 at Oxford Meadow was discussed. It was proposed by Mrs. L. Waller, seconded by Mrs. J. Beavis and carried that any new work should be on the correct route of FP 33 and that new quotes should be obtained for a 'self-binding' gravel surface and to remove, re-turf and make good the site of the existing path.

247. **Report of Meetings to take forward the new Medical Centre and Doctor's Surgery**

The following meetings were reported upon to take forward the new Medical Centre and Doctor's Surgery.

a **Meeting with Castle Hedingham Parish Council on 17th January 2013.**

Mrs. G. Massey reported upon a meeting, which Dr. R. Green and herself, had attended with Mrs. S. Allfrey and Mr. I. Higgins of Castle Hedingham Parish Council on 17th January 2013. The Castle Hedingham representatives had been brought up to date with progress, were very supportive and will be reporting to CHPC at its meeting on 11th February.

b. **Meeting with Bloor Homes on 21st January 2013.**

Mr. A. Prill reported upon a very constructive meeting, which Mrs. A. Weatherley and himself, had attended with Bloor Homes on 21st January 2013. The local Doctors were working together and were unanimous in their desire for a new health facility in SH. Bloor Homes had agreed to make all site surveys and reports available to the NHS to assist them and reduce costs. They may be prepared to build the new surgery, when new houses are being built, but this is not yet guaranteed. The discussion had taken place on the assumption that planning permission would be granted and that health facilities remain at the forefront.

c. **Meeting with NHS on 23rd January 2013.**

Mrs. G. Massey reported upon a meeting with local Doctors and Mr. John Henry of NEE PCT NHS on 23rd January. SHPC had set aside £15,000 towards a business case, which may be sub-contracted to Capita, E.C. Harris or another. Mr. Henry will refer back to Mr. I. Stidson of SEE PCT NHS but it was not clear how PCT funded schemes will work after April 2013. Mr. S. Partridge enquired if the proposal was for a Medical Centre or Doctor's Surgery. Mr. A. Prill explained that it is for a Doctor's Surgery with additional space to provide other medical facilities. Further meetings were arranged for 13th and 27th February, when more information and figures should be available. It was agreed to pursue the preparation of a business case to progress the scheme and Mr. Prill will press for an early meeting with Mr. Stidson.

248. **Report of Public Consultation held 8th February 2013**

Mrs. G. Massey briefly reported upon the public consultation held on 8th February 2013 regarding the planning application by Bloor Homes for redevelopment of the former Premdor factory site. Mrs. L. Waller had prepared a document to incorporate points made by members of the public at the consultation.

249. **To consider representations to BDC upon planning application 13/00035/FUL**

Mrs. L. Waller reported that the majority of Councillors had attended the public consultation together with many members of the public and outlined the main points made. A framework had been prepared in advance of the consultation into which detail had been inserted following consultation with public and Councillors. In addition Councillors had been consulted at every stage. Mrs. Waller read out draft representations to BDC and also referred to the factual transport assessment prepared by Ms. Glen. It was proposed by Mr. J. Skittrall, seconded by Mr. S. Partridge and carried that the representations to BDC and transport assessment are approved. The representations accompany these minutes as appendix 3 and the

transport assessment as appendix 4. The Chairman thanked Mrs. Waller for preparing these representations and other Councillors for their input. Mrs. W. Scattergood advised that BDC would only consider the application before it and of the various options available. She outlined the costs position in the event of a refusal and appeal. (Mrs. Scattergood then left the meeting).

250. **To consider response to BDC upon Site Allocations**

It was agreed to delegate consideration of a response upon Site Allocations to the Planning Committee. A separate letter was received from BDC regarding the former Tanner's Dairy site and the proposal to release it from employment allocation for other uses. It was also agreed to delegate this item to the Planning Committee and to ask for the proposed meeting between BDC Ward Members, Planning Officers and Parish Councillors to be arranged.

251. **Report on Parish Summit held 31st January 2013**

Mrs. G. Massey gave a report of the Parish Summit which she had attended with Mr. J. Skittrall on 31st January 2013. Presentations were made by representatives from ECC and BDC. These were followed by the main item, which was to consider alternative methods of funding Parish Councils. BDC had commissioned and circulated a 58 page report, which contained numerous errors. It was not proceeded with and was replaced with a single sheet paper, which was circulated part way through the Summit. It proposed a 3% increase in PSG from 1st April 2013 plus the new Council Tax Support Grant.

Mrs. J. Beavis explained that both grants were discretionary and that BDC propose to combine both grants under a new name of the Localism Fund.

Mr. S. Partridge asked about progress with unparished areas having Town and Parish Councils but Mrs. Beavis had no information about the formation of any new Councils. He also asked why there was a large difference in the figures between Coggeshall and SH upon which Mrs. Beavis agreed to make enquiries and report back to the next meeting.

252. **To consider making representations to BALC upon proposed Localism Fund**

As representations are not required until 22nd March it was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting to enable the further enquiries in minute 251 above to be made.

253. **To fix date and make arrangements for SH Annual Parish Meeting**

The SH Annual Parish Meeting was fixed for Wednesday, 24th April 2013 at SH Village Hall. The Chairman asked Councillors to give consideration to the format of the meeting.

254. **Youth Council events**

Mr. S. Partridge reported that Hedingham Youth Council proposes two fund raising events to raise funds for the Youth Shelter as follows:

- a. An Easter egg hunt on the Recreation Ground at Easter.
- b. A Classic Car Show sometime during June 2013

The Parish Council agreed in principle to the use of the Recreation Ground and/or Grays Hall Meadow for these events but the Recreation Ground was preferred because of the availability of public toilets.

255. **Proposed artwork on Recreation Ground to celebrate Legacy Day**

Mr. S. Partridge reported that he had applied for four grants for Legacy Day and that a proposed piece of permanent artwork could be unveiled at the opening ceremony and remain for future events. There should be no cost to SHPC because grants may be available. The following suggestions were made:

- a. A mosaic bench (similar to an example at Ramsey College)
- b. A mosaic on the wall of the toilet block.
- c. A statue.
- d. Graffiti artwork.

The proposed graffiti artwork was not favoured by Councillors and a bench was preferred as more functional for all members of the community. Mr. Partridge will continue to explore these possibilities.

256. **Correspondence**

The correspondence received and listed in appendix 1 was referred to relevant Councillors for information and action. Arising from the correspondence the following items were considered:

- a. BDC letter about site allocations referred to Planning Committee
- b. Letter from Mrs. B. Hill about icy pavements referred to R&A Committee

The Chairman reported that outgoing correspondence could be accessed by Councillors in the Meeting Room through shared documents.

257. **Accounts for payment**

The accounts listed in appendix 2 were presented for payment and it was proposed by Mrs. E. Jones, seconded by Mr. A. Prill and carried that the accounts are paid.

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

Mr. S. Partridge observed that no SHPC report had appeared in the last Parish Magazine. The Chairman will ask Mr. D. Holmes to write the next article but if he is unable to do so then Mrs. L. Waller offered to write it. With the exception of Miss. C. Cannell all Councillors were willing to contribute articles for future magazines.

Mr. A. Law reported that the external floodgates at Alderford Mill were broken and jammed in the open position. The ECC Millwright had been informed as had the Environment Agency which is responsible for repairs.

Mrs. J. Beavis reported upon communications with Mr. A. Crowther who may attend the SHPC Planning Committee meeting on 15th February to speak in support of his recent planning application.

Mrs. J. Beavis referred to the planning application by Bloor Homes and to SHPC representations upon density, parking, highways, tree issues, green initiatives, bins and other matters. If planning permission is granted then conditions regarding these matters need to be imposed. Authority was delegated to Mrs. L. Waller to revise representations, as appropriate, to ensure that conditions are made.

Mrs. G. Massey stated that she will attend BDC Planning Committee meeting to speak upon the Bloor Homes application and invited other Parish Councillors to also do so.

Mrs. E. Jones asked for a letter of support to be sent to Colchester District General Hospital following its bad press. The Chairman refused this request as it is not a Parish Council matter but Councillors can write individually if desired.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10pm.

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(Date)

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(Chairman)