

HAIL WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of General Meeting of the Parish Council Held on TUESDAY 17th February 2009 in HAIL WESTON VILLAGE HALL at 8.00pm

Present:-

Mr. N. Farnden	NF	Chairman
Mr. I. Wilkie	IW	Vice Chairman
Mr. M. Baughan	MB	
Mr. B. Easom	BE	
Mr. P. Chandler	PC	
Mrs. S. Penton	SP	Parish Clerk

Also present:- County Councillor Peter Downes (PD) and one member of the public.

90217-1 APOLOGIES - None

90217-2 MEMBERS' DECLARATION of INTEREST for items on the agenda.

IW declared a Personal Interest in Item 7(i) as he is a friend of the owner.

NF declared a Personal Interest in Item 8 as his daughter presented the Play Area petition to the Parish Assembly.

PC declared a Personal Interest in Item 13 as his wife has an interest in the plot of land adjacent to the site the Parish Council is hoping to purchase for the new burial ground.

90217-3 OPEN FORUM – for all members of the public and press present including District and County Councillors.

PD agreed that the lack of signs into the west end of the village at the High Street is potentially dangerous and agreed that the matter should be pursued. SP to follow this up again.

Although the Parish Council was satisfied with the gritting carried out during the recent snow and ice it was agreed that an additional salt/grit bin was needed and should be sited close by the junction of Ford Lane and High Street.

90217-4 TO APPROVE and SIGN MINUTES of the General Meeting held on 20th January.

Minutes were accepted as a true record. All in favour.

90217-5 MATTERS ARISING – PC had examined the contents of the envelope withdrawn from the bank but the deeds for the Playing Field were not in it. Also missing are the deeds for the Garden of Rest and the Playing Field Lease. SP to search again among the files she has in her possession. A previous Parish Clerk, Mrs. Herdman, recently returned a box of documents. But none of these documents were in the box.

90217-6 CASUAL VACANCIES

- (i) Co-option of new Parish Councillor, Mrs. Sheila Buchanan, filling the vacancy left by the resignation of Mrs. Cindy Couzens. All in favour. The Chairman welcomed Mrs. Buchanan to the Parish Council who will take over the responsibility for Council controlled open spaces including Allotments.
- (ii) Further vacancy created by the resignation of Liz Bacon advertised in accordance with proper procedure. If no election is called by 24th February then a new Councillor can be co-opted at the March meeting.

90217-7 PLANNING

- (i) Update on Hail Weston Springs including footpath, gate and signs.

There are still certain issues that require clarification. The application for removal of certain conditions is still pending consideration. Some signs had been erected on the gates and now a very large illuminated sign has been erected for which no planning application has been received.

Signed by the Chairman.....

Date.....2009

90217-7 PLANNING (continued)

SP has emailed Steve Ouditt of Cambridgeshire County Council regarding the footpath that has been blocked off. No reply yet received. **SP** to pursue the matter.

Recently, there has been considerable difficulty in contacting and getting responses from personnel at HDC, particularly in the Planning Department. **PC** will write to the head of planning for an explanation.

(ii) **Other Planning matters.** Application 0803409FUL – Erection of 2 dwellings. Land at and including 1 Ford End, Hail Weston has been approved by HDC.

90217-8 PROPOSED REFURBISHMENT of PLAY AREA

(i) **Brief report on Consultation event held on 31st January.** **NF** outlined the event, which was successful with a very good attendance and a positive response from residents – both adults and children.

(ii) **Consultation report received from Cambridgeshire ACRE on 10th February now being circulated.**

(iii) **Possible confirmation of ownership of land.** See Matters Arising.

(iv) **Any other related matters** – There are concerns that Newtown, the only means of accessing the Playing Field, may not have been adopted. Residents are generally supportive but are concerned that their liability might increase. **BE** sought advice from Tony King, Highways, who referred him to Robin Hobbs of CCC. It was agreed that **BE** should contact Mr. Hobbs

90217-9 BOTTLE BANK UPDATE – **NF** to speak to residents in the nearby properties to get some feedback to the possibility of installing a Bottle Bank on a nearby plot of land. An item is to go in the Newsletter. The ownership of the piece of land is also to be established.

90217-10 BUS STOP UPDATE – **NF** will follow up this matter.

90217-11 PAINTING of POST BOX next to telephone box – **SP** to pursue this matter with the Royal Mail, Peterborough.

90217-12 BRIDGE over the FORD – Nothing to report

90217-13 CEMETERY UPDATE – The application was withdrawn. **BE** together with the Surveyor Ian Gardner, have since had a number of meetings with the Planning Officer and the Tree Officer. Ian Gardner had provided draft drawings drawn up in accordance with advice from HDC Tree and Highways Officers and it seems that the changes were satisfactory and the application can be re-submitted.

BE will be meeting with Paul Wisson of Lattenbury Services later this week with a view to obtaining a budget price for constructing the cemetery.

Consultation with residents is required. It was proposed that the plans would be available for public viewing in the Village Hall on Tuesday, 17th March from 6.00pm to 8.00pm, prior to the next General Meeting of the Parish Council. **BE** to prepare a notice of the meeting for door-to-door distribution.

90217-14 COUNCILLOR RESPONSIBILITY REPORTS

a. **Highways & Environment** – **BE** had carried out an inspection of the village on 15th February and has since reported various matters to Highways:- Dog Fouling, deterioration of footpaths and roadways in recent icy weather and blocked drain. He also reported a burst water main in Ford Lane to Anglian Water. A representative did visit but took no action. He is to meet an AW representative to discuss further.

BE drew councils notice to residents' concerns re. icy roads at junction of Ford Lane and on nearby Village Hall/terraced cottage frontage and recommended the purchase and installation of a salt/grit bin. Glasdon's price is £167.20. All in favour of proceeding with this purchase and Peter Round is to be asked to install it. Overall budget within £500.

BE's comprehensive report is attached to these Minutes.

Signed by the Chairman.....

Date.....2009

b. Council controlled open spaces:-

- (i) **Allotments – Liz Bacon** has spoken with Sheila Buchanan and has handed over allotments information to her. Liz’s final report is attached to these Minutes. There is an allotments training course being run by CALC on 7th March and Sheila Buchanan has agreed to attend. The Parish Council accepted the cost of £55. All in favour.
Mr. David Gipson has been evicted from his plot in accordance with proper procedure and **NF** and **BE** have removed two watering cans, one fork, one hosepipe and reel and a selection of cases and placed them on his drive on 14th February. Several photographs have been taken as evidence of the state of the plot.
It was intended to have the plot rotovated but it has now been decided not to have this done but to allow the new tenant/s to have the plot rent-free until September 2009.
- (ii) **Other** – Sheila Buchanan will arrange for Peter Rounds, the grass-cutting contractor, to deal with the brambles partially obstructing the elevated footpath in the vicinity of the village sign.

c. Communications including date for next Newsletter & Web Site. **MB** is in the process of compiling the March Newsletter and already has a few articles to be included. The website is up to date and there are about 900 visits each month. **MB’s** full report is attached to these Minutes.

d. Liaison with other Authorities

Police Liaison Meeting – Speedwatch Operational Plan. **IW** attended this meeting on 28th January. Neighbourhood Speedwatch provides the opportunity for the public to influence and contribute to the education of drivers and assist the police in any enforcement action required. This scheme only applies to traffic through villages and not traffic by passing villages. The B645 remains the responsibility of the County Police.

Gypsy and Traveller site Development Plan – The deadline for responses to HDC’s consultation document is 27th February. **IW** recommended that the Parish Council’s response should be as follows:- Within the village boundary of Hail Weston there is no space to accommodate a site unless the HDC is prepared to purchase farmland. Equally, the water and drainage services are already overstretched in that they can now only accommodate agreed planning permissions.
IW’s full report is attached to these Minutes.

e. Revision of Distribution of Responsibilities including filling vacant position on Planning Committee. Sheila Buchanan agreed to fill this position. No changes were made to distribution of responsibilities.

90217-15 FINANCE

- (i) **Finance Reports and Accounts for Payment** – Finance Reports were distributed at the meeting and are attached to these Minutes. There were two late payments not on the list of transactions, which will be shown on next month’s report:- Anglian Water charge for the Allotments - £33.61 and Clerk’s Postage and Stationery costs - £35.98.
- (ii) **Other Finance** – **NF** recommended that **SP** should be paid for her additional hours spent on the Playground project and, in particular the application for funding the Consultation event. Allowance had been made in the Budget included in the application to Awards for All. It was agreed to make the payment. All in favour.

90217-16 CORRESPONDENCE (List attached)

Highways Agency Area 8 Newsletter – Apart from news on winter road maintenance and A14 Schemes the news of an Otter Crossing at Hail Bridge in Hail Weston is of particular interest and will be included in the next Newsletter.

Signed by the Chairman.....

Date.....2009

90217-17 ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Bus Shelter – There is further deterioration of the roof. John Baker will assess the repair work to be carried out.

Litter Pick - **BE** has contacted HDC re. assistance with litter-pick. He will let HDC know of our requirements to proceed with the event, which will be on Sunday 29th March.

BE suggested that some residents, particularly the elderly may need some assistance in icy weather with some tasks that necessitates their stepping outside.

BE reiterated the necessity for a new litterbin in Ford Lane. This will be reviewed in a month's time

90217-18 MEETINGS

(i) **Format for Parish Assembly 21st April** – It was agreed to repeat last year's format with refreshments being provided after the meeting. All in favour.

- (ii) **Dates of next meetings:-**
- 17th March**
 - 21st April (Parish Assembly)**
 - 19th May (AGM)**
 - 16th June**
 - 21st July**
 - 15th September**
 - 20th October**
 - 17th November**

The meeting closed at 10.15pm

Signed by the Chairman.....

Date.....2009