

# HAIL WESTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of General Meeting of the Parish Council

Held on TUESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> March 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. Buchanan	SB	
Mrs. S. Penton	SP	Parish Clerk

**Also present:-** County Councillor Peter Downes (PD), District Councillor Jonathan Gray (JG) who joined the meeting later and one member of the public.

**90317-1 APOLOGIES** - None

**90317-2 MEMBERS' DECLARATION of INTEREST for items on the agenda**

**IW** declared a Personal Interest in Item 6 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.

**90317-3 TO APPROVE and SIGN MINUTES of the General Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> February.** In Item 7(i) 'PC will write to head of planning' to be changed to 'PC will draft a letter to head of planning'. This was agreed and all in favour of amending the Minutes by hand. The Minutes were then unanimously accepted as a true record.

**90317-4 OPEN FORUM – for all members of the public and press present including District and County Councillors.**

**PD** reiterated his concerns over the lack of signs into the west end of the village and agreed there was a safety issue. **JD** also supported these views. **PD** to follow this up if no response.

**90317-5 MATTERS ARISING – Footpath Hail Weston Springs – SP** had received a response from Steve Ouditt, CCC Footpaths on 13<sup>th</sup> March. He was to be proceeding with Consultation the following week and he confirmed that Hail Weston PC would be included in the consultation. **SP** to follow this up in a month's time.

**90317-6 PLANNING**

Hail Weston Springs – Following the Parish Council's letter to planning a response was received. The application for removal of certain conditions was settled under delegated powers.

There was an application re. the signs but Planning do not have to consult the Parish Council on these. The response was noted and no further action is required.

**90317-7 CASUAL VACANCY –** The vacancy had been advertised for the statutory period and confirmation had been received from HDC that no election had been called for and, therefore the vacancy can now be filled by co-option.

**NF** had spoken to Mrs. Di Salter who had expressed an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor and was in attendance at this meeting.

**NF** outlined the functions of the Parish Council after which Mrs. Salter agreed to take up the post.

Signed by the Chairman.....N. FARNDEN.....

Date.....18<sup>th</sup> MAY.....2009

All in favour of co-opting Mrs. Salter. **SP** to provide Mrs. Salter with Code of Conduct, SOs etc. Declaration of Acceptance of Office to be signed and returned to the Clerk at the next meeting.

#### **90317-8 PROPOSED REFURBISHMENT of PLAY AREA**

- (i) **Report of meeting of Play Area Working Party held on 9<sup>th</sup> March.** Various responsibilities had been shared out and progress will be reported at the next meeting to be held on Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> March.
- (ii) **Awards for All application for funding unsuccessful due to holding Consultation Event prior to obtaining funding and the total cost of the project being in excess of their maximum project cost.**
- (iii) **Implications of obtaining Deed of Dedication for the purpose of protecting the Playing Field from development.** These documents to be copied for **PC** and **NF** to assess.  
**To consider registration of the Playing Field and other Council owned land with the Land Registry.** Meanwhile the Deeds, currently being held by **SP** are to be handed to **PC** after having been copied.
- (iv) **Any other related matters** – The Playing Field is not registered with the Land Registry. **PC** to produce a written report on pros and cons of registering the land.

**SP** had contacted the Parish Clerks of Abbotsley and Prickwillow with a view to obtaining some details of their funding sources and suppliers of their playground equipment. Abbotsley Parish Clerk has suggested a meeting and was very willing to help. The Prickwillow PC, also willing to help, agreed to provide further information at a later date.

**90317-9 BOTTLE BANK UPDATE** –**BE** had met Tony King, Cambridgeshire Highways whose observations were that the site is too near the junction with the B645 and High Street and that the surface will not withstand the manoeuvring of heavy vehicles. Details in **BE**'s Highways and Environment Report attached to these Minutes.

**90317-10 BUS STOP UPDATE** Nothing to report

**90317-11 PAINTING of POST BOX next to telephone box - SP** had contacted Royal Mail to request this work to be done and had been given a Job number to be followed up in due course.

**90317-12 BRIDGE over the FORD** – **SP** had received a phone call from CCC and they are soon to carry out remedial work on the abutment.

#### **90317-13 CEMETERY UPDATE**

- (i) **Report of Public Consultation event held immediately prior to this meeting** -Thanks to **BE** for a very good presentation. He clearly explained the need for a new cemetery and everyone was able to see the plans and the accompanying planning application. Approximately 30 people had attended and the general consensus of opinion was that they were in favour of the project.

It was agreed that a loan would be needed from the Public Works Loan Board for the land preparation costs. The purchase of the land will be funded out of Parish Council Reserves providing the price is the same.

- (ii) **Report of Planning Application progress.** The planning application, therefore, is ready for submission to HDC.

#### **90317-14 COUNCILLOR RESPONSIBILITY REPORTS**

##### **a. Highways & Environment:-**

**New Litter Bin** – A budget of £360 was approved for supply and installation. All in favour. However HDC are refusing to empty it even though the collection vehicle, on its normal round, parks near to the proposed site. **JG** will pursue the matter.

**Newtown in relation to proposed playing field improvements** - The road was never adopted. The Parish Council will decide on a course of action when a scheme has been decided upon.

**Dog Fouling** – **BE** has put up signs around the **footpath at Ford End stables**. Many thanks to **BE** for doing this. It was agreed that his knowledge and experience that he brings to parish matters is invaluable.

**BE**'s full report is attached to these Minutes

Signed by the Chairman.....**N. FARNDEN**.....

Date.....**18<sup>th</sup> MAY**.....**2009**

- b. Council controlled open spaces.** **SB** had attended the allotments Workshop run by CPALC, which she found valuable and worthwhile.  
 Allotments – A new tenant has taken over the vacant plot. The dispute over the size of one of the plots was settled however, the letting order and size of plots allowed each tenant is for further discussion at the AGM.  
 Keyston Trees will carry out work on the trees in the Garden of Rest.  
 All were in favour of the annual garden competition again this year. A flier to go in the Parish Newsletter. **SB** to forward flier to **MB** by the end of March.  
**PC** very kindly offered £10 prize for the best hanging basket.
- c. Communications including Newsletter & Web Site**
- d. Liaison with other Authorities – IW** has agreed to attend the Neighbourhood Policing meeting to be held in St. Neots Market Square later in the week.

**90317-15 – ARCHIVING including authorisation for expenditure for revision of filing system – SP** reported that there is a lot of work yet to be done in thinning out the existing files and it was, therefore, decided to wait until that part of the procedure has been completed before committing any expenditure to a revised filing system.

**90317-16 FINANCE**

- (i) Finance Reports and Accounts for Payment – These reports were accepted and the accounts for payment approved. All in favour
- (ii) Forecast of year-end position 2008/9 – **SP** had provided a forecast. The final accounts will of course show the exact year-end position. **SP** will forward all necessary documentation to **PC** as soon as possible after the receipt of the final bank statements.
- (iii) Annual Review of Clerk’s Salary – **SP** left the meeting at this point.

The Parish Council unanimously agreed that with effect from 1 April 2009 the rate of pay would be in line with spinal column 24 on the scale for Local Council Clerks and Manual Workers. On the scale set with effect from 1 April 2008, the rate would be £10.702 per hour for seven hours per week. If as happened last year, the rates are increased retrospectively; the pay will be increased in line with the new rates, backdated to when the revised salary scale takes effect.

In addition, the Clerk will be paid for an additional hour per week giving a total of eight hours per week, also with effect from 1 April 2009.

- (iv) Other Finance

**90317-17 CORRESPONDENCE (List attached)**

**90317-18 ANY OTHER BUSINESS – SP** is to ascertain the level of insurance for the Village Hall re. Public Liability and fabric of the building.

**90317-19 DATES of NEXT MEETINGS –** It was agreed to change the date of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council (AGM) to 18<sup>th</sup> May. **NF** is not available on 19<sup>th</sup>. Also **SP** is not available for the June meeting as scheduled and, therefore this will now be a week earlier on 9<sup>th</sup> June.

**21<sup>st</sup> April (Parish Assembly)**  
**Monday 18th May (AGM)**  
**9<sup>th</sup> June**  
**21<sup>st</sup> July**  
**15<sup>th</sup> September**  
**20<sup>th</sup> October**  
**17<sup>th</sup> November**

The meeting closed at 10.22pm

Signed by the Chairman.....**N. FARNDEN**..... Date.....**18<sup>th</sup> MAY**.....**2009**