

**Minutes of the Hunton Parish Plan Steering Committee
Wednesday 1st May 2013 @ 8pm - Hunton Village Club**

Present: Mrs Annette Trought (Chair), Mrs Barbara Wright, Steve & Mrs Sue Wyles, Guy Oliver, David Heaton, Ms Di Martin, Mrs Alison Ellman-Brown, Mrs Kathy Reid (Treasurer).

In Attendance Mike Summersgill (Secy.), Ms Abi Jessop (KCC Community Engagement Officer)

Apologies Miss Judi Arnold (resigned), Tony Stanbridge.

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone attending the meeting, and informed the Committee of Ms. Arnold's recent resignation as Secretary. Mike Summersgill had offered to take over the role, but he was not on the original Committee; by all present, Mike was formally appointed. Apologies were received as above.

Abi Jessop then gave the Committee a verbal (and paper) presentation on the 3 Community/Councillor grant schemes that she administers for KCC, and where Hunton may be able to apply for some of these funds. Our 'local' County member was apparently often successful at attracting some of the grants for District schemes, and it was noted that she had been involved in assisting the Parish in getting Playground equipment funding. All 3 schemes open for applications end May, and submissions are reviewed by the Autumn.

2. Minutes of 27th February 2013

It was agreed that the minutes of this earlier meeting were an accurate record, Actions from previous Minutes had generally been completed, and any outstanding points are noted within specific Items below –or are listed on Agenda for the meeting. Updates also taken under AOB.

Plan Priority 1 – Highways and Transport

3. Community Speedwatch

The committee learnt that the first SpeedWatch had resulted in 12 car/wvan numbers being recorded and passed to the Police, who advised they have written to two offenders with particularly high speeds (one a repeat event!). The second SpeedWatch would be taking place the next morning.

Action: Steve and Sue have still to be trained and briefed.

Plan Priority 2 – Village Infrastructure

4. Village Shop

The first 'pop-up' shop on 30th March was very successful, and several more are planned within the village this year (including perhaps outside the village club) – next one 1st June. Shop had raised £100+ surplus for Church/Parish.

Reminder - There is a Craft Market on 7th September, and a Fundraising Concert on 14th September (trip to London); Louise Ferns organising these.

Plan Priority 3 – Environment

5. Community Orchard

Meeting with Pippa Palmer on 14th March at the Club to discuss next activities and funding (latter is still to be sorted out – Pippa is facilitating). In the meantime, a general clean-up of the orchard area will happen on 9th June.

Action:

Barbara to organise the clean-up event (and suggests a picnic)

6. Footpath

The committee noted that there has been no visible progress regarding the footpath, but Mr Heaton advised that imminent action was due (and explained the reasons why there had been the inordinate delay, all KCC fault; last items of landowner paperwork were still to be signed, but no constraints expected) – there was optimism that the Footpath would be in place in time for the Fete!.

Mark Pritchard from Medway Valley Partners was scheduled to be invited to the 26th June meeting of this group, to discuss the hedgerow work that could be done alongside the footpath (this invite would be postponed to September, because the hedge cutting cannot take place during nesting season)

Action:

MikeS to contact Mark Pritchard if/when the Footpath is completed.

7. Neighbourhood Plan

There had been no recent progress report on the MBC Core Strategy or Neighbourhood Plans, but activity is being monitored by the Parish Council (it is believed that Coxheath is producing one, at MBC request). See also AOB item 13e, related to the land north of Bensted Close.

8. Sustainability/Biodiversity

Mike Summersgill suggested that there may be a need for Working Groups on certain topics in the Summer, but that he was still seeking the existing/archive information on Trees and Ponds from the Parish Warden. Council had renewed its membership/subscription to the Kent tree/pond wardens scheme.

Action (continuing):

MikeS to scope/establish a baseline survey for biodiversity in Hunton, to help identify future projects/funding.

Plan Priority 4 – Community

9. Litter Picking

Last one (March) produced 23 black sacks, even in poor weather conditions – but noted that larger items seem not to have been dumped. Next litter picking event is to be on 16th June 2013 in the morning (pre-Fete; date to be confirmed); Di Martin had ordered equipment and has to confirm Insurances.

10. Village Hall Events

Two events were planned for May, neither of them Applause (a call for support was made). This Committee confirmed that they would assist the Hall Committee members, as requested by Alan Bishop at last meeting, and new members of the Hall Committee were awaiting a convenient date to meet up.

11. Hunton Court Events

Annette updated the Committee on proposals for future events at the Court. The Napoleonic War re-enactment group will be returning on the May Bank Holiday (25-26th May), and there will be a south-eastern regional Pony Club dressage event on 7th July. There is a general request for villagers to assist!

12. Reporting Back to Village

Annette will be reporting back to the Parish Council AGM on 20th May.

13. AOB

- a. Re-planting the hedge alongside the Playing Fields (and West Street); Steve Wyles confirmed this had been done in March.
- b. Neighbourhood Watch activity in the village?; no-one knew for certain and it was suggested the PCSO was contacted to find out (but who?)
- c. Guy reported that the Church clock now works and chimes (not 22-08)
- d. David reported back on an enquiry by St. John's Ambulance for emergency response capability within the village; Parish Council action
- e. Annette advised that she had received a communication from David Hubble expressing concern about the apparent lack of action/activity on the Proposal for land re-deployment adjacent Bensted Close. Mr. Hubble advised that he has put forward this land to MBC for potential development or re-zoning in the future (as part of the Core Strategy call, see 7 above). The Committee expressed understanding about his frustration with the timescale, but it was not clear that immediate action could take place until MBC decide on their Core Strategy, and the Government explains its national Planning Framework implementation.

14. Future Meeting Dates

These were published for 2013 on the Agenda for this meeting, next one **26th June** – possibly Mark Pritchard will attend on 4th September (or 30th October).