

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Held on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2004 at 7.30pm at Hunton Parish Hall

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Cllr Roger Sawtell	Chairman
	Cllr Keith Eatwell	
	Cllr Les Leonard	
	Cllr Mrs Liz Oliver	
	Cllr Mrs Pat Parker	
	Cllr Mrs Lorraine Redfarn	
	Cllr Gary Thomas	
<b>IN ATTENDANCE:</b>	David Swan	Clerk
	PC Bryan Hillman	
	One parishioner	

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

These had been received from Brian Mortimer, Moira Walter, Alison Williams and John Williams.

### 2. REGISTER OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

The Register was available for revision and/or public inspection.

### 3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 14<sup>th</sup> JANUARY AND MATTERS ARISING

These had been distributed and were agreed and signed as a correct record. Members agreed to take no action on the Quality Parishes scheme until after the June elections.

### 4. POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH (NHW) BUSINESS

PC Hillman reported 5 crimes in the last two months of which 4 were burglaries to outbuildings. To discourage such thefts he recommended painting post codes on lawnmowers etc, preferably in fluorescent paint. This advice would be passed on. ACTION: CLLRS OLIVER & LEONARD

The Chairman kept an eye on the NHW web site but could report little activity.

### 5. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS' BUSINESS

It was noted that the Borough Council element in increased Council Tax bills would be 3.9%.

### 6. OPEN SESSION

Discussions are minuted under the appropriate agenda item.

### 7. FINANCE

#### 7.1 Income & expenditure and bank reconciliation – 2003/2004

Members endorsed the Clerk's report at 10<sup>th</sup> March which showed income of £17479.26, expenditure of £17973.29 and bank and cash book balances of £6078.71. By the end of the financial year the Council would have taken some £830 from reserves.

#### 7.2 Authorisation of payments

Members endorsed payments authorised by the Finance Sub-Committee since the last meeting.

#### 7.3 Banking

Cllr Eatwell and the Clerk advised that the NatWest mandate exercise was still not complete and authority for the Clerk to move funds between the Council's accounts had not been agreed. The Clerk would monitor progress and report back to Members at a future meeting. ACTION: CLERK

#### 7.4 Precept question

In the Open Session the reason for a grant being made to the Hunton Herald was raised by the member of the public. The Chairman explained how the grant had been used and the Clerk pointed out that it came, not from the Precept but from the Borough's Concurrent Functions grant.

### 8. KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD

#### 8.1 Insurance

Thanks to Roger Crooks the full review of insurance was in progress although the Clerk was still awaiting information from two of the sports clubs needed before the April policy review. He would follow up as necessary.

ACTION: CLERK

#### 8.2 Progress on draft constitutional documents

The Clerk had made the final local amendments and copies had been sent to the Charity Commission, the National Playing Fields Association and MBC for comment; no substantive replies had yet been received.

#### 8.3 Future discussion

It was agreed that a further meeting of the representatives of the Clubs and the Trustees would be convened when replies to item 8.2 were to hand.

ACTION: CLERK

### 9. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTWAYS

### **9.1 South Maidstone Roads and TRAMP Groups**

Cllr Thomas reported that there had been two TRAMP meetings since the last Council meeting. At one, there had been much discussion about lorries but no conclusions had been reached. Two schemes were ready, a weight restriction on Yalding Bridge and traffic calming in Coxheath. There would be consultation in all parishes through Downs Mail and advance warning of this would be carried in the Hunton Herald.

ACTION: CLLR LEONARD

### **9.2 The Thatched House, Heath Road**

The dangers of the new access were confirmed and the Clerk would write again in strong terms to the Borough. A possible proposal by the occupants, to create a one-way system, would not make the access any safer.

ACTION: CLERK

### **9.3 Drainage**

Blocked drains in Bensted Close and at Durrant's Farm would again be brought to the attention of the HMU who would also be invited to convene a site meeting including the water company to view the flooding in East Street, a site of many accidents.

ACTION: CLERK

### **9.4 Damage to road edges in Bensted Close**

The Clerk would report this.

ACTION: CLERK

### **9.5 Accident statistics**

In response to a discussion about the junction of Hunton Hill and Heath Road the Clerk was asked to obtain accident statistics for Hunton and neighbouring villages.

ACTION: CLERK

## **10. VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING PLANNING MATTERS**

### **10.1 Planning applications**

Two were considered in Committee. The Clerk would reply to one which was straightforward but would decline to comment on the other on the Council's behalf until a copy of an intermediate decision of which the Council had no apparent record was available. Members reported that the building was in fact already complete and that the changes in the most recent application would enhance it. The Clerk would check with the Borough.

ACTION: CLERK

### **10.2 Tree works**

The Clerk had no further information on this but the Chairman would enquire. ACTION: CHAIRMAN

### **10.3 Mulberry Farm**

The Clerk had sent the Inspector a letter setting out the Council's views on this site.

He advised Members that the informal hearing into the other appeal will be held in the Town Hall on 27<sup>th</sup> July at 10.00. It was reported that PROW number KM164 is no longer open through Mulberry Farm. The Clerk would report.

ACTION: CLERK

## **11. NEW SWEEPING AGREEMENT**

Members would monitor the quality and extent of cleaning from 1<sup>st</sup> April.

ACTION: MEMBERS

## **12. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE**

Cllr Redfarn reported on the recent Parish Council Seminar with MBC at which she had represented the parish. The related documents would be circulated.

ACTION: CLERK

## **13. OTHER MATTERS FOR INFORMATION OR FUTURE DECISION**

The next formal meeting would be the AGM on 12<sup>th</sup> May, details of which would be discussed. There being no other business the meeting ended at 21.25 pm.