

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2006 at 8.00pm at Hunton Parish Hall

**PRESENT:**

Cllr Roger Sawtell	Chairman
Cllr Keith Eatwell	
Cllr Les Leonard	
Cllr Lorraine Redfarn	
Cllr David St John	
Cllr Moira Walter	
David Swan	Clerk

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Dudley Farman	Web master, Hunton Village website
Sue and David Heaton	Editors, Hunton Herald
John Williams	Borough Councillor
Sue Wood	Head Teacher, Hunton Primary School

### 1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chairman welcomed all present. Apologies were received from Cllr Gary Thomas, County Cllr Paulina Stockell, Borough Cllrs Brindle and Mortimer and Alan Bishop of Hunton Hall Committee.

### 2. REGISTER OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

The Register was available for public inspection.

### 3. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF 9<sup>th</sup> MAY AND MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record. Matters arising were dealt with later in the Agenda.

### 4. POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

#### 4.1 Crimes

PC Shaw reported four crimes which were discussed.

#### 4.2 Forthcoming change to PCSOs in December

PC Shaw outlined what was proposed. Members were concerned that the present level of policing in the village would reduce after the changes. They felt that traffic issues, work with young people and enforcement would be particularly at risk. The Clerk was asked to write to Chief Superintendent Pope to express the Council's concerns.

ACTION: CLERK

### 5. FINANCE

#### 5.1 Income & expenditure and bank reconciliation – 2006/7

Members endorsed the Clerk's report which showed income of £22955.13, expenditure of £3575.06 and bank and cash book balances of £19380.07 in the year to date. Members endorsed payments authorised by the Finance Sub-Committee since the last meeting to cheque 743.

#### 5.2 Grant to school for lighting

Ms Wood spoke to Members about the new lighting at the school which would make great improvements to safety. Some time back the Chairman had said that he was sure the Council would wish to help with this and after discussion a cheque for £500 was issued. Ms Wood expressed her thanks.

### **5.3 Insurance**

As planned last year it was agreed to make a contribution of £1540.72 to the Village Hall Committee towards the costs of buildings insurance. A cheque was prepared.

Two of the three sports clubs' buildings insurance was already paid for by the Council. It was decided to include the Bowls Club in this arrangement and a cheque for £243.60 was prepared.

ACTION: CLERK

### **5.4 Churchyard**

The Clerk had been approached by the Chairman of the church fabric Committee about the possibility of a grant towards the costs of maintaining the churchyard. No figure was possible at present. The Clerk indicated that despite the bar on public funds being used for church development the churchyard was a public open space and help could be given. A further approach would be awaited.

ACTION: CLERK

### **5.5 Grant to Kenward House**

The Clerk would check to see if the Council made a grant last year.

ACTION: CLERK

## **6. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTWAYS INCLUDING REPORT ON MEETING 26TH JUNE**

### **6.1 Access to the school**

Ms Wood asked for the help of the Council in implementing the school's travel plan. The new entrance had received planning permission, shared car usage had increased from 6% to 38% and a staggered arrival time had been introduced. However, no matter what the school itself did, the best solution would be for a walking bus from the hall car park and this would be possible only if there was a safe pedestrian route.

A footpath between the hall and Bensted Close had long been a Parish Council priority and had recently had been accepted as a priority through the TRAMP process. That said, as it seemed likely that the funds available this year would be used in the urban area, our hopes should not be raised too high and alternatives should be considered.

After a full discussion it was agreed that Ms Wood would write to KCC and the Chairman would make an informal approach to John Scott. The Clerk would examine the possibility of coach transportation between the two points. The possibility of an approach to the Local Board should also be kept in mind once likely costs were known.

ACTION: Ms WOOD, CHAIRMAN AND CLERK

### **6.2 Highways Meeting 26<sup>th</sup> June**

The Chairman reported on this meeting, held at KCC Highways office to introduce new senior staff and explain the revised arrangements which were being introduced.

The parishes present were virtually unanimous in their view that despite the appointment of a Liaison Officer and the introduction of Lengthsmen the service being provided to parishes had deteriorated since the closure of the HMUs. It seemed that the best bet currently was the use of the 24-hour number, **08458 247 800**. Notes of the meeting were awaited.

## **7. BOROUGH COUNCILLOR'S BUSINESS**

Cllr Williams focussed in particular on the recycling petition which he and Cllr Mortimer were sponsoring. Several offers of help were taken up.

#### **8. REPORT ON THE KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD**

Cllr Eatwell reported on the last Committee meeting which had begun on site. This had enabled Committee members to look together at various points of concern before discussing them.

It was felt that by-laws would be helpful on the Field, if only as a reference in the face of unsociable behaviour. The recent case of a lad riding a small motorcycle on the Field with the encouragement of his father was a good example. We had draft examples from the ODPM (and the Clerk would circulate a copy of those he had written for West Farleigh Green) but it was thought that the NPFA might themselves have specimens designed for KGV Fields. The Clerk would check.

ACTION: CLERK

#### **9. PARISH PLANS**

The Clerk would circulate for information those plans he had received as a result of enquiries made after the meeting with Jim Boot.

ACTION: CLERK

#### **10. KCC PROPOSAL TO AMALGAMATE HUNTON AND LADDINGFORD SCHOOLS**

The end of the consultation period was imminent but it was agreed that everyone should do their best to ensure that the Hunton message was heard. Ms Wood encouraged all those who had not signed the form to do so and the Chairman recommended individual letters which would require individual replies.

#### **11. PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT**

The Clerk reported on several planning matters which had arisen while he was away. He would circulate the papers but pointed out that the plans for the school access and for storage space at the hall had both been passed. It was understood that the costs of the hall works were much greater than expected but it was felt that the hall committee should not be discouraged. It was not known if Alan Bishop had arranged for an application to be made to the KCC Local Board after the last meeting as he had discussed with Paulina Stockell.

The Clerk would write to the Housing Trust about the location of new bollards in Bensted Close and to the Borough Enforcement team about a new entrance to Barnside for which planning permission did not seem to have been sought and which was considered dangerous.

ACTION: CLERK

#### **12. CONCLUSION AND DATES OF MEETINGS IN 2006**

Further Parish Council meetings in 2006 were planned for 13<sup>th</sup> September and 8<sup>th</sup> November. Those of the KGV Field Committee would be on 9<sup>th</sup> August, 11<sup>th</sup> October and 13<sup>th</sup> December.

There being no other business the meeting ended at 9.45 pm.