

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HUNTON PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Thursday 13th September 2007 at 8.00pm at Hunton Parish Hall

PRESENT: Cllr Roger Sawtell Chairman
Cllr Keith Eatwell
Cllr Gary Thomas
Cllr Moira Walter
David Swan Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Brian Mortimer Borough Councillor
Sue and David Heaton Editors, Hunton Herald
Mrs Margaret Carpenter Hon. Secretary, Hunton Bowls Club
Mike Nichols Hon. Treasurer, Hunton Bowls Club

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chairman welcomed all present. Apologies were received from Borough Cllrs Adrian Brindle and Colin Parr, Cllrs Les Leonard and David StJohn and Hannah Percival, PCSO.

2. REGISTER OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

The Register was displayed. The new forms completed by all Members had been sent to the Monitoring Officer.

3. POLICE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH BUSINESS

3.1 Police Community Support Officer

The sessions in the Hall had not been successful. The Clerk suggested that a police questionnaire distributed with the Hunton Herald as was being done in West Farleigh with Lifeline might be a good way forward. David and Sue will approach Hannah direct.

ACTION: SUE AND DAVID HEATON

Members had seen the reply to the Clerk's letter to the Chief Constable about transport for the PCSO. It was agreed that he would write to the Chief Constable again with a copy of the reply which had been sent.

ACTION: CLERK

3.2 Crime figures

The Clerk advised the meeting that the following had been reported in the period from 2nd July to 9th September: Between 12th and 19th August, theft of lead flashing from the Church and on 25th August, criminal damage to four cars on the drive of a house in Amsbury Road.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF 12th JULY AND MATTERS ARISING

The Minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record. Matters arising were covered later in the agenda.

5. FINANCE

5.1 Cheque book and reconciliation

The Clerk reported that having written to Nat West Bank on 16th June when the previous cheque book had nearly expired a replacement book had finally been received on 18th July.

Members endorsed the Clerk's report which showed carry forward of £10524.14, income of £10158.32, expenditure of £9342.93 and reconciled bank and cash book balances of £11339.53 in the year to date. Members endorsed payments authorised since the last meeting to cheque 843. Expenditure of £250 requested by the KGV Field Committee for the removal of moles was agreed.

ACTION: CLERK

5.2 Concurrent Functions

Members discussed the Borough review of the scheme. The Clerk would write to say how valuable the scheme was, particularly to smaller parishes.

ACTION: CLERK

6. EXTERNAL CONTACTS

6.1 KAPC Maidstone Area Committee 17th September

Cllr Walter said she would attend this meeting, in Coxheath, if at all possible.

6.2 Kent Police

The Clerk drew Members' attention to the Marden meeting on 26th September.

7. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS BUSINESS

7.1 The caravan off Lughorse Lane

Cllr Mortimer reported that the Inspector had granted three years temporary permission. The MBC Review of traveller sites was complete.

7.2 Devolved budgets

Cllr Mortimer reminded the meeting of the devolved budgets held by Borough Cllrs.

7.3 Recycling

Cllr Mortimer reported that glass could now be put in wheelie bins. It would be recycled through the Allington incinerator.

7.4 Phone box

The BT response to the Clerk's enquiry about the red phone box was discussed.

7.5 The comments of the Chairman of Planning

These were considered inappropriate but the letter from Steve Goulette on the same subject was acceptable although the figures seemed doubtful. The Chairman would reply.

ACTION: CHAIRMAN

8. REPORT ON THE KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD

Cllr Eatwell reported continuing progress. Trustees had walked the boundaries at their last meeting and had noted that there is a PROW from Lughorse Lane to the Field which could provide an alternative route to the Hall and Church from the Barn Hill part of the village.

The problem of rabbits would be dealt with as suggested by Margaret Carpenter and the invoice for dealing with the moles would come through the Cricket Club.

ACTION: CLERK

It was hoped that the Field Committee would take the lead on a village Fete next year which was excellent news.

9. HIGHWAYS AND FOOTWAYS

9.1 Footway between Bensted Close and the Parish Hall

Members discussed the reply from David Bond about the footpath. It would again be raised through TRAMP.

9.2 Lorry routing and speed limits on A and B roads

Work on these issues in our area was understood now to be out to contract.

9.3 Speed limits and control of HGVs in East Street

The Clerk would ask the Linton Clerk what arrangements it had for the use of a speed gun.

ACTION: CLERK

9.4 The Coxheath traffic calming scheme

This was again on hold due to other building work on Heath Road.

10. PARISH PLAN

This would be held in abeyance for the present but would be included on future agendas. It remained an important issue for the village.

ACTION: CHAIRMAN AND CLERK

11. PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

The number of caravans on Mulberry Farm, raised with the Clerk by Cllr StJohn, had already been reported to the Borough. planning cases were considered in Committee.

ACTION: CLERK

12. RECRUITMENT

The casual vacancy on the Council was discussed. No immediate decision would be made. Clerk reported on the applications made for his job.

13. OTHER MATTERS FOR INFORMATION OR FUTURE DECISION

14.1 Notice boards

The Chairman and Clerk had looked at the present boards and discussed the one at the club. They had decided that new boards were not needed.

14.2 Council email address

It was decided to await the arrival of the new Clerk before taking action on this.

15. CONCLUSION INCLUDING DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The final meeting in 2007 would be on 15 November.

There being no other business the meeting ended at 9.35pm.