

HUNTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2009
AT HUNTON PARISH HALL

PRESENT : Cllr R Sawtell in the Chair, Cllrs K Eatwell, D Heaton, G Thomas and M Walter and Mrs V Stancombe, Clerk

IN ATTENDANCE: PC Gary Shaw was in attendance at the start of the meeting, County Cllr P Stockell was in attendance to Item 11 and three parishioners were in attendance throughout the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr R Porter and Borough Cllrs B Mortimer and J Wilson.

2. COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS

Cllr Eatwell for Item 8.1 being Chairman of the King George's Field Management Committee and Hunton Football Club.

3. MINUTES of the FULL COUNCIL MEETING held on 9th JULY 2009

The Minutes of the meeting had been previously distributed and were unanimously **Agreed** to be an accurate record. The Chairman signed off the official copy.

4. POLICE BUSINESS

PC Shaw reported one crime since the last meeting being an incident of attempted burglary.

5. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES ACT

Members considered a request from Local Works for support for the Act to include Local Councils that has the potential to devolve powers down to local level and allow local people to have more say over how public money is spent in the area. Following some discussion it was **Agreed** to write to our MP to request the Act is amended to include Local Councils.

ACTION: CLERK

6. MBC GYPSY & TRAVELLER DPD

Members **Noted** MBC plans to prepare a DPD which will be part of the LDF with the specific purpose of allocating sites for occupation by Gypsies and Travellers with the aim to identify sufficient sites to cover the period 2006-2012. Members considered MBC's request for information about any further potential sites and **Agreed** the sites that are currently in the Parish are sufficient for the small Parish of Hunton.

7. HIGHWAY AND FOOTWAY MATTERS

7.1 Footpath – Benstead Close to Village Hall

Cllr Sawtell updated Members on the position regarding the two pieces of land adjacent to West Street and reported he has made contact with the landowners and will continue to try to move this project forward with a view to obtaining permission from the landowners to install a footpath inside the hedge on their land.

ACTION: CLLR SAWTELL

7.2 West Street

The meeting with Michael Heath of KHS on 5th August was discussed and the Council was disappointed to learn that the white lining and roundels would need to be submitted for a bid in the next financial year which Members who attended considered was contrary to what was promised at the meeting. Cllr P Stockell offered financial support for the project and the Clerk was asked to contact KHS to establish how quickly the white lining could be installed if the funds were made available.

ACTION: CLERK

7.3 Triangle George Street/Redwall Lane

Members **Noted** Cllr Porter and Cllr Sawtell had a site meeting with a resident to discuss the problems of verge erosion of the triangle and also discussed this matter at the meeting with Michael Heath on 5th August. KHS will install posts at each point of the triangle to alleviate the problem of vehicles eroding the corners of the triangle. Members also discussed the siting of a salt bin at the same location and following confirmation that KHS was happy to install a salt bin at the location it was **Resolved** to purchase a salt bin for installation at the triangle of George Street and Redwall Lane.

ACTION: CLERK

8. RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT MATTERS

8.1 King George's Field Management Committee

Cllr Eatwell reported the meeting of the KGF Management Committee was held on 12th August when hedge trimming, the footpath from Benstead Close to the Village Hall and inspection of the play area was discussed. Three quotations for work on the football changing rooms were also considered together with funding for the project. Rabbits on the field have been a problem but the matter is now resolved. The Committee is looking at liaising with Hunton School for a combined Fete in 2010.

8.2 Play Area

Members discussed the Annual Play Area Inspection Report and were puzzled by comments regarding lifting tiles as the surface is now wet pour with no edges that can lift. The Clerk was asked to contact PlaySafety and speak to the Inspector about the discrepancy regarding the surfacing. The KGF Management Committee will look at the Report in more detail and conclusions will be reported at the next meeting. Members discussed options for obtaining the annual inspection report in 2010 and Cllr Sawtell proposed from the Chair **“that Craigdene Ltd is appointed to carry out the Annual Inspection in 2010”**. This was **Agreed**.

ACTION: CLERK/CLLR EATWELL

8.3 Citizens Advice Bureau

Members considered a request from the CAB regarding nomination of a representative on the Trustee Board for the coming year. It was proposed by Cllr Heaton, seconded by Cllr Eatwell **“that Cllr Roger Sawtell is appointed as the representative for Hunton Parish Council”**. This was **Agreed**.

9. MATTERS OF REPORT

Reports were received from:

9.1 County and Borough Councillors

There were no Borough Councillors able to be present.

County Cllr P Stockell had nothing specific to report and briefly outlined the savings that Highways is required to make and the situation regarding housing in the Maidstone area with a further LDF meeting to be held on 15th September.

9.2 Chairman

Cllr Sawtell reported attendance at the MBC Planning Committee in support of the Council's recommended refusal of the Goldings planning application for a 5-bay garage/workshop which was Approved by the Committee. There followed discussion regarding discrepancies in the report prepared for the Committee by the Case Planning Officer and it was proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Heaton **“that the Clerk writes an appropriate letter of complaint to MBC”**. This was **Agreed**.

ACTION: CLERK

9.3 Individual Councillors

Cllr Thomas updated Members on employment figures for the KIG project and highlighted that out of the total of 3,500, a large percentage is likely to be from Maidstone, Tonbridge and Malling and Medway with the potential to increase the number of vehicles travelling through Hunton.

9.4 Clerk

9.4.1 Data Protection

Members **Noted** the Council's registration of the Data Protection Act 1998 has been renewed at the annual cost of £35.00 and will expire on 13th July 2010.

9.4.2 Annual Report and Audit 2008/09

Members **Noted** that following their perusal of our Return, the Audit Commission has given us a “clean” certificate with clarification of the procedure for recording transactions relating to the King George's Field Charity.

10. FINANCE

10.1 Budget Monitoring Report

The Budget Monitoring Report to 31st August 2009 was **Noted**.

10.2 Income received since the last meeting

Members **Noted** payments received since the last meeting as follows:-

HMRC – Online Reporting Incentive Grant	£75.00
Parish Hall - KGF Fund	£500.00

10.3 Confirmation of payments already made

It was proposed by Cllr Eatwell, seconded by Cllr Heaton “**that the following payments made since the last Meeting are approved**”. This was **Agreed**.

DD – Information Commissioner’s Office - Data Protection Fee Annual Payment	£35.00
S/O - Mrs V Stancombe – Net salary & Office Allowance for July	£297.00
S/O - Mrs V Stancombe – Net salary & Office Allowance for August	£297.00

10.4 Cheques for signature

It was proposed by Cllr Eatwell, seconded by Cllr Walter “**that the Council approve the following payments**”. This was **Agreed** and the cheques were signed:-

964 – VOID	-
965 – CPRE – Annual Subscription	£29.00
876 - Playsafety Ltd – Annual Play Area Inspection	£72.45
877 – MBC – Litterpicking	£119.60
878 – HMRC – PAYE	£185.25
879 – V Stancombe – Reimbursement of Expenses	£64.48
880 – EDF – Streetlighting	£6.92

10.5 Donations to Voluntary Organisations

Members considered requests for financial assistance from Kenward Trust and Heart of Kent Hospice and it was proposed by Cllr Walter, seconded by Cllr Heaton “**that the Council makes a donation of £25 each to Kenward Trust and Heart of Kent Hospice**”. This was **Agreed** and cheque numbers 881 and 882 were signed.

10.6 Kent Pond Warden Scheme

Members discussed the Pond Warden Scheme and it was proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Heaton “**that the Council contributes £100 to the BTCV Pond Warden Scheme**”. This was **Agreed** and cheque number 883 was signed.

11. PLANNING

11.1 Planning Applications

The following applications were considered and recommendations made:

11.1.1 Goldings, Elphicks Farm, Water Lane – MA/09/1407

Erection of agricultural barn and installation of hard standing around barn. Recommendation: Refuse

11.1.2 Whittingstall Cottage, George Street – MA/09/1394

LBC for the demolition of gabled entrance porch and erection of single storey extension. Recommendation: No objection.

11.1.3 Croftside, West Street – MA/09/1476

Extension to dropped kerb and extension of driveway access to include provision of new block paved driveway. Recommendation: No objection.

11.2 Planning Decisions

The following decisions were **Noted**:

11.2.1 Amsbury Farm, East Street – MA/09/0484

Erection of a steel framed, single skin storage building. Council recommendation: Refuse. MBC: Granted Permission.

11.2.2 Amsbury Farm, East Street – MA/09/0483

Erection of a steel framed, single skin clad fruit storage building. Council recommendation: Refuse. MBC: Granted Permission.

- 11.2.3 Scotts House, West Street – MA/09/0596**
LBC for internal alterations, including re-opening of kitchen fireplace and removal of surrounds and sealing of fireplaces in bedroom and living room. Council recommendation: No objection. MBC: Granted Listed Building Consent.
- 11.2.4 Pepper Cottage, Vicarage Road, Yalding – MA/09/1056**
LBC for installation of stove and associated flue. Council recommendation: No objection. MBC: Granted Listed Building Consent.
- 11.2.5 Lughorse Cottage, Lughorse Lane – MA/09/0708**
Erection of a two storey extension to east elevation. Council recommendation: No objection. MBC: Granted Planning Permission.
- 11.2.6 Beech Farm, Shingle Barn Lane, Yalding – MA/09/0475**
Retrospective application for the provision of a mobile home for agricultural worker. Council recommendation: No objection. MBC: Granted Planning Permission.
- 11.2.7 Hunton Court Farm, West Street – MA/09/1019**
Change of use for the storage of 3 touring caravans. Council recommendation: Refuse. MBC: Refused Planning Permission.
- 11.2.8 Hunton Court, West Street – MA/09/1159**
Application for Listed Building Consent for the reconstruction of the roof to the former playroom and nursery and formation of new boiler room of brick and block construction with a slate roof. Council recommendation: No objection. MBC: Granted Listed Building Consent.
- 12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
The next full Council Meeting is on Thursday 12th November 2009 at 8.00 pm at Hunton Parish Hall.

There being no further matters to be discussed the meeting closed at 9.50 pm.