

## HUNTON PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2010 AT HUNTON PARISH HALL

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Borough Cllr C Parr was present until Item 10.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from County Cllr P Stockell, Borough Cllrs Mortimer and Wilson and Cllr Porter.

**2. COUNCILLOR DECLARATIONS**

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

**3. MINUTES of the FULL COUNCIL MEETING held on 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2010**

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**

While there was no official crime report the Chairman reported a break in at a house in Water Lane and theft of some collectors models and a motorbike.

**5. CLERK**

The Chairman and Vice Chairman will interview four prospective candidates during the next week to appoint a replacement for the existing Clerk whose contract comes to an end on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2010.

**6. HIGHWAY AND FOOTWAY MATTERS**

**6.1 Footpath – Bensted Close to Village Hall**

Members **Noted** David Smith of KCC has met with Tregothnan Estates and is progressing with the Footpath Agreement. Mr Smith has also made contact with David Hubble and plans to do same. The Chairman will contact Mr Smith to establish the current position.

ACTION: CLLR SAWTELL

**6.2 Gateways**

Members **Noted** the plans for the Gateways on West Street and the Clerk was asked to follow up to establish the current status of the project.

ACTION: CLERK

**7. RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT MATTERS**

**7.1 King George's Field Charity**

Cllr Eatwell reported on the last meeting of the Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> August. A new contractor had been used for grounds maintenance that had proved successful. The emptying of the bins on the field continues to be a problem and the Clerk was asked to establish what exactly is the service that is provided by MBC.

ACTION: CLERK

**7.2 Parish Plan**

Members discussed the forthcoming Hunton Calling!! Day on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September and Cllrs Leonard, Thomas, Sawtell and Heaton **Agreed** to be available for the Parish Council Stand that will be in the Village Hall from 12 noon to 5 pm.

**7.3 KALC Finance Conference**

Members **Noted** that the Association is launching a new training programme and the first conference will be on Finance on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September at Lenham.

#### 7.4 Election Costs

Members **Noted** that further to recent communication regarding Parish Council Election Recharges, MBC has rescinded this programme for the time being.

#### 7.5 Government Consultation – Excessive Council Tax Increase

Members **Noted** the Government Consultation and that KALC will be responding on behalf of local councils.

### 8. MATTERS OF REPORT

Reports were received from:

#### 8.1 County and Borough Councillors

Borough Cllr Parr reported that the search for cuts in expenditure continues within the current MBC administration and there is likely to be some impact but it is hoped that the smaller parishes are not unduly burdened. Cllr Parr also raised the issue of the poor state of the road through “the gorge” at the bottom of Hunton Hill and plans to have a meeting with Highways to try and get the matter resolved.

As a member of the Neighbourhood Forum, Cllr Parr reminded the Council that he could take any issues it wished to be discussed to the meetings.

#### 8.2 Chairman

The Chairman reported attendance at an MBC Planning Committee meeting as the Council representative on a planning matter. The Chairman was given three minutes to state the PC’s case but felt that the comments were not considered. There followed some discussion regarding the procedure at Committee Meetings.

#### 8.3 Individual Councillors

Cllr Thomas reported attendance at a TRAMP meeting when nine Parish Councils attended and it was agreed that TRAMP would concentrate on pedestrian and cycle problems. Cllr Thomas also reported attendance at a Highways meeting to discuss ramblers and cyclists problems.

#### 8.4 Clerk

The Clerk has nothing specific to report.

### 9. FINANCE

#### 9.1 Budget Monitoring Report

The Budget Monitoring Report to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2010 was **Noted**.

#### 9.2 Income received since the last meeting

Cllr Heaton perused the records and was satisfied that the balances in hand agreed with the Clerk’s records. Actual payments received since the last meeting were:-

HMRC – Refund of VAT	£153.61
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#### 9.3 Confirmation of payments already made

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

S/O - Mrs V Stancombe – Net salary & Office Allowance for July	£390.31
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DD – ICO – Data Protection Annual Fee	£35.00

#### 9.4 Cheques for signature

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

973– Kent County Council Landscape Services – Grounds Maintenance (KGF)	£525.75
974 – Robert Cox Country Services – Grounds Maintenance (KGF)	£1145.00
975 – KM – Ad	£88.50
976 - CPRE –Annual Subscription	£29.00
977 - V Stancombe – Reimbursement of Expenses	£34.05
978 –MBC – Litterpicking (KGF)	61.10
979 – HMRC – PAYE	£255.24
980 – MBC – Litterpicking (KGF)	£61.10

**9.5 BTCV – Tree & Pond Warden Scheme**

The Council considered the request to make a contribution to the running costs of both Schemes. It was **Agreed** to defer this item to the next meeting and the Chairman to make enquiries regarding whether the Tree and Pond Warden uses the facilities of BTCV.

ACTION: CLLR SAWTELL

**10. PLANNING**

**10.1 Planning Applications**

The following application was considered and recommendation made:

**10.1.1 1 Shepherds Cottages, Water Lane – MA/10/1034**

Erection of a first floor rear extension and single storey side extension. Council recommendation: No objection.

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next full Council Meeting is on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 8.00 pm at Hunton Parish Hall.

**There being no further matters to be discussed the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.**