

**MINUTES OF THE HILTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5th OCTOBER 2015
7.30 IN THE VILLAGE HALL**

Present: Cllrs P. Balicki (Chair), G. Barradell (Vice Chair), K.Dunk, A. Goodridge, A. Parkinson, S. Partridge, J.Perez and Willie Wilson (left at 9.15)

In Attendance: 3 parishioners and Frank Mastrandrea (HDC)

1. To note Apologies for Absence

J.Perez (Clerk) due to a family commitment. S.Perry due to a work commitment.

Declarations of Interest

J.P item 5.2 Clerks salary, K.D item 3.5 Beacon.

Parishioners Open Session

Parishioners were invited to participate stating to which item on the agenda they wish to comment.

Margaret Shadlow:- item 3.1 Defibrillator - If the PC go ahead with the Defibrillator please ensure the location is known by the Parish. Item 3.5 Beacon - Concerns that the original cost of the Beacon would be recovered, she also advised the PC that a number of individuals contributed to the cost of the Beacon and this should be considered - Chair responded advising that there is no information in the PC minutes regarding any individual contributions. Item 3.6 Queens 90th Celebration - would like the village to unite.

Andy Bush:- Was pleased to see the draft minutes out early. 4.2 Policy document - would like an answer to previously raised question - Chair responded advising that the Policy Committee would meet early next year to discuss policies. Letter to homeowners (adjoining the Green) - would like to know what was in the letter? - This letter was read aloud at the last PC meeting. Wanted to know how many maps had been sold and revenue raised.

2. To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th September 2015

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting 7.9.15 were approved as a true record, K.D prop, A.P 2nd, J.P, P.B and W.W abstained as not present at this meeting , all other Cllrs were in favour.

3. Matters arising or carried forward from the last meeting for discussion and decision

3.1 (3.1) Defibrillator - update from Cllr Goodridge and further discussion.

The Chairman produced some information regarding possible funding for defibrillator from The British Heart Foundation. The proposal is that the PC move forward with the proviso that funding can be secured, including application to The British Heart Foundation, a central location can be secured and personnel to maintain it assured. The Clerk to write to the Methodist Church, Pub and Village Shop to see if any are willing to have the defibrillator housed on their properties. K.D prop, A.G 2nd, 1 abstained, all others in favour.

3.2 (3.2) Rural Housing Exception Scheme - Proposal to have a survey carried out.

The proposal is for the PC to conduct their own survey within the Village to get a general feeling from the Parishioners and to find out their views. Also, to ask Frank Mastrandrea to send the PC a copy of the ACRE survey questions. P.B prop, K.D 2nd, A.G abstained, all rest in favour.

3.3 (3.3) A14 - update

A Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) was signed by the PC but Highways England modified it and sent the PC a draft just a few hours before the deadline the PC refused to counter sign it. The PC thanked all those that have sat through the A14 hearings. The W.G has a meeting booked with our MP Jonathan Djanogoly on 16th October. Waiting for the draft response from the Planning Inspectorate on 13th October, the PC has to review and respond by 30th October 2015. The PC's sound expert and the Highways England sound expert have conflicting results. If the PC continue to challenge this then it will be at a further cost to the PC. HCV ban through the Village needs to be looked at further and the PC will continue to

look at this once we have more information regarding the A14 outcome. The PC will continue to push for mitigation.

3.4 (3.4) Easements - recommendations for Councillors to consider for St Francis Toft and Gault Close and discuss easement request 12 Church Lane. To discuss further action for Pecks Coppice.

The W.G has met to discuss easements: - Gault Close – The proposal of the easement in its current form should be rejected. There are suggestions the PC would make, inc some areas of the easement taken out, a license drawn up between the parties currently accessing the land. This would be renewable and would mean the PC would not lose control of the use and that inclusion of a maximum width of 4m. St Francis Toft:- residential property, there is no maximum width currently included. License for Clare Cottage, the original license was that there is one entrance to enter and leave. The W.G propose the PC would consider the easement if the original license is adhered to. The easement for St Francis Toft would then be considered. P.B proposed the above is agreed, K.D 2nd, all Cllrs in favour.

12 Church Lane: - Easement for a new dwelling in the garden of property. The proposal is that the PC is in principle happy to grant an easement, but there will be a cost- P.B Prop, A.P 2nd, all Cllrs were in favour. The PC will approach HDC valuation department in order to get a valuation on the new dwelling and work out a percentage charge for the easement.

Pecks Coppice:- The PC have written to the homeowner on a number of occasions to ask them to stop accessing over PC land as there is no easement. The W.G propose that the PC send a further letter by registered mail to the homeowner and their solicitor including affidavits that had been provided to the previous landowner pointing out that there is no vehicle access across this piece of land. Prop P.B, 2nd A.P, all Cllrs were in favour. Further action will be taken if this is ignored.

3.5 (3.7) Beacon - Following ideas put forward at the last meeting, further discussion.

2 options were proposed to be looked at to make the Beacon a temporary structure that would not require planning permission and therefore no costs involved and easier to use. The PC currently do not have all the details of the national design that has been used by the pageant master and so would like to postpone discussion to the next meeting. The PC will make enquiries as to how much the PC could get for the current oak beam. Cllr K.D would be interested in making an offer and Cllr A.G advised that there is another interested party. The Chair asked Margaret Shardlow if she could provide names of contributors to the Beacon so the PC can investigate why there is no record of this.

3.6 (5.2) The Queen's 90th Birthday - 'Clean for the Queen' proposal

Cllr G. Barradell advised that on 4/5/6 March 2016 there is a planned clean up, with various supporters and suggested that we look at this further. The PC would need to register and then we would get an information pack. Not just cleaning the Village but look at other areas. The proposal is that the PC register for the 'Clean for the Queen 'campaign and this will be put into Spectrum, the Clerk will register, Prop W.W, 2nd K.D, all Cllrs were in favour.

4 Committee, Working Groups and Members items

4.1 Green Open Spaces Management- update.

K.D updated – Scheme of work planned cut back to get views through to the wilderness from the Green. There will be a relocation of some self saplings planted. The PC is still in communication with the Police over the removal of the hedge along B1040/Potton Road, if anyone has photographs of this work being carried out please let the PC know. The Chair advised Andy Bush on his earlier question regarding policies, that this will be looked at when the Policies W.G meet, this will take place Jan/Feb 16.

4.2 (4.3) Fireworks - decision on date and entry fee.

Proposal is that the display is held on the 31st October, both the Fireworks committee and FW committee are available. £3 per Adult, £1 per Child. Prop K.D will speak to Craig Fleming about the selling of glow sticks. Prop P.B, A.P 2nd, all Cllrs were in favour. Volunteers will be needed to man the bonfire site and on the night, G.B will coordinate.

4.3 (3.6) Village Hall - report from Cllr Barradell following VH meeting inc Wi Fi, Hire charges, Enlarged Doorway, Fund Raising, Defibrillator, Celebrations for 2016.

Wifi was discussed for the VH at a possible cost of £40 per month. The VH are discussing possible increase to hire charges in the New Year approx £1.00 per hour increase, this would affect the PC. The widening of the doorway has been a success but some have commented on a door being needed, this is currently being investigated, money has been held back to complete the floor. Fundraising – Pie and Mash evening on 14th November. They are also considering monthly Tea and Coffee mornings. This has been discussed as a possibility of use for the Pavilion so this may be a conflict of interest. Defibrillator – general approval what support can the VH offer? The Queen’s Birthday and Capability Brown Celebrations – possible Open Gardens.

5. To consider and decide upon matters relating to Finance and Risk assessment

5.1 Authorise payment of any bills

5a	John Carter (JSC)	S/O September 2015	£ 575.00 s/o
5b	Rodney Makeham	Cricket Pitch mowing 4.9.15, 16.9.15 & 30.9.15	£ 120.00chq
5c	PKF Littlejohn	External Audit	£240.00chq
5d	Craig Fleming	Firework - order by Craig Fleming and payment made by personal credit card	£1734.09chq
5e	Kalamazoo	Minute Paper	£120.84chq
5f	Royal British Legion	Remembrance Donation	£ 60.00chq
5g	Ecotricity	Electricity Charges - 25.8.15-24.9.15	£ 9.77 s/o

It was proposed to pay all bills, P.B prop, A.P 2nd, all Cllrs were in favour.

5.2 Authorise Clerks salary and expenses

Jo Perez	Clerks Salary - September 2015	£456.30 s/o
	Telephone Expenses - April-July 2015	£ 12.82 chq
	Postage	£ 1.80 chq
	Total	£ 14.62 chq

It was proposed to pay these items, P.B prop, A.P 2nd, J.P abstained, all other Cllrs were in favour

5.3 Update from the Finance & General Purposes committee - inc - recommendation to leave precept at current level of £27,070 for financial year 2016/17. Confirmation of Wickstead annual inspection at a cost of £45 + VAT. Recommendation to switch Street Light maintenance provider to K & M.

P.B Advised the PC of the discussion had at the Finance and G.P meeting and why a precept of £27,070 was thought to be advisable for the next financial year. Some Cllrs thought that the PC should consider an increase. It was proposed that any thoughts on the budget be sent to the Clerk a week before the agenda for the November meeting so that she can put these in the supporting document to be discussed at the November meeting.

Wickstead – the Finance and G.P approved for the annual safety inspection of the Park to be carried out at a cost of £45.00 + VAT.

Street Lighting Maintenance – Proposed that the PC appoints K & M to maintain the PC owned Street Lights on a 3 year contract. P.B prop, G.B 2nd, all Cllrs were in favour.

6. Closure of meeting

Meeting closed 9.50pm

Signed.....Date.....