

Hartest Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at The Institute on Wednesday 7 September 2011 at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Chris Browning (Chairman), David Burr, Howard Hirst, Jo Pask and David Turner
In Attendance: Dist Cllr J Long, Mrs S Turner, PCSO 3169 L Chapman and Mrs P M Lamb (Parish Clerk)

ACTION

- 11/066 Apologies for absence: Co Cllr Richard Kemp
- 11/067 Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the 6 July 2011 were approved and signed.
- 11/068 Matters Arising: None
- 11/069 Declarations of interest: None
- 11/070 Public Forum: No matters raised.
- 11/071 Police report: PCSO Chapman provided the report for the period 2 July to 6 September 2011. Two crimes had been recorded (compared to 5 crimes for the same period last year) – both burglaries of dwellings – one in Somerton Road on 16 August between 0130-0800 hours and one in Brockley Road on 16 August at 0230 hours.
If you have any information that would be of interest regarding these or any other offences, please let Babergh West SNT know, or contact Crimestoppers anonymously.
- 11/072 County Councillor's Report:
Interim Chief Executive
Earlier this month Lucy Robinson was appointed as the interim chief executive at SCC. She has been employed by SCC since 2002 as the Director for Economy, Skills and Environment and had previously held a number of other roles across local and central government, including covering the role of Chief Executive since the previous CEO was placed on "gardening leave".
The role is initially for six months, during which time the recruitment of a permanent Chief Executive will take place. Mrs Robinson has been appointed on a salary of £150,000 pro rata.
Libraries
The administration has put forward a number of different options for the future structure of the service. As part of the report to Cabinet on the 19 July, these options below will go through a best value evaluation;
- A Council Business Unit
 - A Council owned company/enterprise
 - Independent Company/Enterprise
- This will be reported to Cabinet on the 8 November. In addition to this, the administration agreed to a consultation regarding the future of mobile libraries.
The Council has also moved to set up pilots for community run libraries. The pilot libraries are: Aldeburgh, Bungay, Eye, Debenham and Stradbroke, Sudbury, Thurston, Wickham Market and Gainsborough, Chantry, Ipswich, Stoke, Rosehill and Westbourne – working together. These projects will begin in April 2012, and will look to increase the

amount of local decision making, fundraising and activities and look to include more public services under one roof.

Press release sent out by the Council on this matter available at:

<http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/News/CommunityLibrariesPilotProjectsGetTheGoAhead.htm>

Mobile libraries A consultation, runs from Monday 5 September to Friday 14 October. The council is consulting on the plans set out in the July Cabinet paper:

- to move from fortnightly to monthly or four-weekly stops, as neighbouring library authorities have done, and
- to remove stops in communities that are served by a static library.

This would save an estimated £225,000 a year, while maintaining the mobile library service to communities that do not have a static library.

Refer consultations at:

<http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/CouncilAndDemocracy/Consultations>:

A report on the outcome of the consultation and subsequent recommendations will go to Cabinet in November, and full Council in December. Suffolk's bid to improve Broadband across the County has finally been approved. The £41m scheme, which has up to £10m backing from the County, was given the green light by the Government early last week. This follows a revised bid by the County Council in which they increased their bid significantly after the last submission was rejected. The total funding from the Government for this scheme will be £11m. The private sector will be matching the bid from the public sector to reach the £41m total. I will update you further when I have more information about the timetable for this plan. As usual members of the public can ask questions to the administration at both Full Council and at Cabinet. In order for your question to be picked for either of the meetings, it must be submitted four days prior to the meeting at 12 o'clock. This means that, for the Cabinet meeting on the 13 September, questions must be submitted by Wednesday 7 at noon and, for those questions to Full Council, which takes place on the 22 September, they have to be submitted by the 16. For more information, about the type of questions that can be submitted, and to whom to send your question, please head to the link below;

<http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/CouncilAndDemocracy/DecisionMaking/PublicQuestionTimeatMeetingsoftheCountyCouncilandCabinet.htm>

As you probably already know National Grid has announced its intention to build pylons along Corridor 2, travelling past Hintlesham, between Hadleigh and Upper Layham, and through the AONB before getting to Twinstead. Curiously National Grid has failed to say whether it favours Corridor 2a or 2b.

As part of Stage 2 of the consultation, National Grid has been holding a number of community information events, and will in the future be looking to create community fora along the route to involve the local population.

This second stage still allows responses to the decision, and the form for doing this can be found on the website; <http://www.bramford-tinstead.co.uk/have-your-say.aspx>

According to its website, the next stage of National Grid's plan to build a new line between Bramford and Twinstead, will give greater consideration to mitigation measures such as woodland planting, shorter pylons or using underground cables.

- 11/073 **District Councillor's Report:** Cllr Long extended congratulations to Cllr Browning on his election as Chairman. He advised that only new properties with septic tanks, or properties, where such tanks have been renewed/upgraded, have to be registered with DEFRA. On the subject of car parking, Cllr Long confirmed that there is a shortfall in expected

income. It was noted that many of the pay car parks in Sudbury are empty whilst drivers are choosing to park in neighbouring residential streets.

Budget: Cllr Long highlighted the questionnaire circulated by BDC, to enable Parish Councils to influence this process. Members agreed to consider the PC's response at the next meeting.

The new CEO has been in post for five months, and the DC continues to consider further integration of services with MSDC.

All

11/074 Finance & Administration:

- (a) Income: £250 received from UK Power Networks Ltd
Payments: The following payments were approved:
ICO: Registration Renewal: £35.00
SALC: Postage costs re Good Councillor Guides: £2.88
Boxted & Hartest Institute: 1.6.11 and 6.7.11: £32.00
UK Servers Ltd: Renewal of Hartest.com: £24.00
Mr O Cornish: Grass cutting: 1.6.-1.9.11: £1,000.00
Suffolk Acre: Insurance Renewal 1.10.11-30.9.12: £285.59
Spreadsheet: This would be circulated in advance of meetings. Clerk
Clerk
- (b) Grants: Applications will be invited via 'Contact' in October and November; requests to be received by end November. Further notices will be placed in April and May 2012.
- (c) Website: PC minutes are now placed on the website, and businesses are being encouraged to advertise. Clerk
- (d) Co-Option: Mr Howard Hirst was formally welcomed as a new Member.
- (e) Parish Council Vacancies: An application had been received for one of the current two vacancies from Mrs Scilla Turner, who had been welcomed to this meeting. Following further discussion, it was agreed to co-opt Mrs Turner with effect from the next meeting on 5 October. Members are to try to encourage other residents to apply for the remaining post. All
- (f) Survey of Thatched Properties: SCC's Fire Community Safety Department had recently sought addresses of such properties, purely for the purposes of ensuring that the appropriate type and number of tenders are deployed in the event of a fire. This would be mentioned in 'Contact', and anyone wishing to have their details removed should advise the Parish Clerk. A list is to be prepared by Cllr Burr. DB/Clerk
- (g) Queen's Diamond Jubilee – Monday 4 June 2012: BDC had written re the possible lighting of beacons on the above date, as part of a countrywide celebration. Following discussion, it was agreed a bonfire would be lit in a corner of the field adjacent to Burnt House Farm. The possibility of there being a picnic was raised. DB
- (h) Annual Meeting of Town and Parish Councils – Wednesday 12 October: This meeting, which will include integration with MSDC and budget consultation, will be attended by the Clerk. Clerk

11/075 Planning:

- (a) Decisions received: Permissions granted:
B/11/00192/FHA & 00193/LBC: Appleby Cottage, The Green – Single storey rear extension
B/11/00621/FHA/GD: Mile End Lodge – Erection of 2 no single storey rear extensions. Cladding of parts of dwelling with painted weather boarding.
- (b) Withdrawn applications: None
- (c) New applications:
B/11/00867/FHA – Chadacre Hall, Chadacre, Shimpling – Proposed extensions to Chadacre Hall including construction of

two storey courtyard building as an extension to former stable block, link extension between Hall and former stable block, swimming pool and enclosure, two storey extension to North corner of Hall, landscaping works, replacement gate, walls and railings: Following discussion, Members agreed that there were No objections.

Clerk

B/11/00859/FHA: Elm Barn, Melford Road – Erection of garden store and car port. There were no objections to this application.

Clerk

- (d) Tree Preservation Order/Tree Conservation Area Applications: Permissions granted:

B/11/00797/TCA: Oakhill House and Westcroft, Somerton Road – Reduce 1 no willow by 30% (T1) and cut back overhanging branches to 1 no willow tree (T2)

- (e) Appeals: Oakhill House, Somerton Road: Informal Hearing to be held on 13 September at 10 a.m. in the Cricket Meadow View Room, Council Offices, BDC. Cllrs Pask and Hirst are to attend this meeting. Cllr Burr to provide details.

JP/HH/DB

- (f) Other Planning Matters: BDC Core Strategy: Consultation to run from 10 October to 2 December 2011. Dates of related workshop events are to be notified in the near future.

11/076 Green, Cemetery and Churchyard

- (a) Undergrounding of Cables: As previously mentioned, £250 had been received in this connection.

- (b) War Memorial: All quotations received will be gathered and details of a possible grant application to the War Memorial Trust obtained.

Clerk

- (c) Cemetery Works - Cemetery Notice etc: Cllr Pask advised that Jason Konrath recommended purchase of an appropriate ready-made frame. This would be considered.

JP/Clerk

Headstones: It had not been possible to trace the contacts re these. It was therefore agreed to place the headstones flat on top of the appropriate graves; this would be done when the planting is undertaken. Funeral directors are to be advised to use support rods in all future headstones.

Clerk

Planting: The revised quotation from Sandy Lane Nurseries in the sum of £347.76 plus VAT was considered acceptable. It was agreed to delay planting, but approval was given to the purchase and planting of two silver birch trees near the entrance.

JP

- (d) Cllr Burr had held a meeting with Mr Clements of Chadacre Estate and discussions are ongoing re the cemetery boundary.

DB

11/077 Highways and Footpaths

- (a) Traffic Management - Solar Powered Speed Sign: Details of speed surveys undertaken for one week (outside school term times) in 2010 and 2011 had been provided by SCC. It was agreed contact would be made with the new person at SCC. It was agreed that such signs are considered necessary on Workhouse Hill and between Stowe Hill and Pear Tree Farm. Investigations would be made as to size, type and price of possible signs. Responsibility for maintenance of same would also be established, e.g. insurance, replacement etc. A request would be made for another survey to be done FOC during the school term.

Clerk

- (b) SCC Restructure of Highways and Transport Services: Details had been provided: David Stiff – Central Area Highways Manager – Tel No: 0845 606 6171 - based in Ipswich. Email: customerservice@csduk.com

- 11/078 Correspondence: BDC: Review of Polling Districts. Members envisaged no change being required to the current arrangements. BDC would be advised accordingly.
BDC: Community Achievement Awards – Nomination form.
- 11/079 Matters of report:
SALC: Babergh Area Meeting – Monday 12 September at 7 p.m. No representative is to attend.
- 11/080 Matters for consideration at the next meeting:
Community Shop, re-positioning of speed signs, Darney Lane, Cross Green, BDC Budget, Recruitment of Lunch Time People – SALC.
- 11/081 Date of next meeting: Wednesday 5 October at 7 p.m.
- Remaining 2011 meetings: Wednesday 2 November (in Institute)
Wednesday 30 November (in School) – in place of December meeting.
Meetings commence at 7 p.m.

Approved at the Parish Council Meeting held on 5 October 2011