

Hartest Parish Council

DRAFT Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Institute on Wednesday 8 February 2017 at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Chris Browning (Chair), David Burr, Neil Chappell, Will Luttmann-Johnson, Jo Pask and Nick Price

In Attendance: No members of the public in attendance

- 16/126 Apologies for absence: Co Cllr Richard Kemp and Dist Cllr James Long due to the changed meeting date/prior meetings.
- 16/127 Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 4 January 2017: These were approved and signed.
- 16/128 Matters Arising: None
- 16/129 Declarations of Interest: None
- 16/130 Public Forum: No Members of the public present. It had been expected that Mr S Bottomley would attend regarding the Hartest Hill Climb (Cycle) Race. However, updated draft details of the race (now to be scheduled for 14 July) had been provided and circulated to Members.
- 16/131 County Councillor's Report: Cllr Kemp's February report had been circulated and is attached.
- 16/132 District Councillor's Report: No report provided in Cllr Long's absence.
- 16/133 Finance & Administration
- (a) Bank Balances as at 31.1.17: £7,267.74, Savings: £15,714.74
Total: £22,982.45
 - (b) Receipts: Nil
 - (c) Bank Reconciliation: October-December 2016: Awaiting information from SALC re presentation method. Documents will be circulated as soon as that response is received. Clerk
 - (d) Payments
Clerk: Taxi (following operation): 4.1.17: £45.00 (Chq No 100165)
UK Servers Renewal of Hartest.com Domain Name: £13.20 (100166)
Boxted & Hartest Institute: Hall hire: 14.12.16 & 4.1.17: £45.00 (100167) Clerk
 - (e) Review of Internal Controls: Cllr Chappell had kindly reviewed this document recommended for use by SALC as at the year end. This is to be circulated to all Councillors for comment with a view to it being approved/signed at the March meeting. Clerk
 - (f) Nation's Tribute: An email had been circulated from the Pageantmaster re the proposed lighting of 1000 WWI Beacons of Light at 7pm on 11th November 2018 and representing the 'light of hope' that emerged out of the dreadful darkness of War as the guns fell silent on 11th November 1918. Cllr Burr recommended that this communication be passed to Chadacre Estate, which he felt would be interested in participating. Cllr Burr will confirm that this proposal is acceptable. DB
- 16/134 Planning
- (a) Decisions Received: None
 - (b) Withdrawn Applications: None
 - (c) New Planning Applications: None
 - (d) Tree Preservation Order/Tree Conservation Area applications:
B/17/00008: The Old Stores, The Row: Tree work in garden

B/17/00077 TCA: The Hatch, Cross Green: Removal of 1 no Horse Chestnut
B/17/00140 TCA: The Hatch, Cross Green: Work proposed on trees in "The Paddock". Having received advice from Tree Warden, Michael Feather, Members agreed to support these applications.

Clerk

(e) Appeals: None

(f) Other Planning Matters

Resignation of Mr M Feather – Tree Warden: The PC had received, with regret, The resignation of Michael Feather from this voluntary role. Michael will present his final report at the Annual Parish Meeting in April. He has also been able to recruit John Kemp (creator of Giffords Hall Vineyard) to take over from him. The PC extends heartfelt thanks to Michael for all the help and expertise he has provided to the village over many years and welcomes, and thanks, John Kemp for *stepping into the breach*. The PC looks forward to receiving his advice and guidance in the future.

Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Price thanked everyone for their comments on the consultation document recently circulated. Cllr Browning welcomed the document and thanked Cllr Price and, through him, all members of the Working Group for all the efforts, which had got the project this far. A majority of Councillors supported the document, but there was an in depth discussion on the topic of Housing (vis-a-vis policy CS11), and it was agreed that Cllr Burr would express some comments, in an email, to Cllr Price for the consideration of the NP Working Group.

DB

Village Shop: No report.

Affordable Housing: Overlooked letter to be sent to Tom Baker.

Clerk

Section 106 Funding: An initial favourable email response had been received from Nick Elliott of BDC to the possible use of these funds towards the repair of the School swimming pool. He advised, however, that he would have to check the actual totals, which we understand to be available. (Post meeting it was confirmed that the figure of £10,501.37 previously provided to the PC is correct.)

16/135 Green, Cemetery and Churchyard Cemetery

(a) Cemetery

Fallen Headstones

Nothing further to report.

Overhanging Branches

Two quotations had been received for the cutting back of the overhanging trees; one in the sum of £285 and one in the sum of £300. Members agreed to accept the latter, as this sum included the chipping of the branches (rather than burning), which would damage the ground.

Clerk

(b) The Green

Nothing to report.

16/136 Highways and Footpaths

- Resurfacing/shared space

Cllr Price advised that the two buff pads have been installed.

- 'Whitcroft': Cllr Price advised that matters in this area of the Row have improved since a triangular sign had been placed on this property to alert drivers to the overhang and a new road narrowing sign had been installed.

- Outstanding Repairs: Mr Paul Gant had provided an updated list of remaining works in his email dated 20.1.17, which had been circulated. He thanked the person, who had managed to free the flow of water at Smithbrook Lane bridge. Cllr Price advised that he had done this, but recommended that SCC double checks (for possible damage to the bridge supports) when weather permits.

Clerk

- Shimpling Road: It was reported that the road surface has been repaired, but the ditch is deeper.

- Somerton Road: It is understood that an inspection chamber is to be installed.

- Request for Extension of 30 mph Speed Limit: Cllr Browning confirmed that, currently, Hartest is part of a general village rota for use of SCC's mobile SID service, which is provided without charge. No information had, as yet, been

received as to the costs and responsibilities of owning this equipment although it was understood that the unit would require regular charging and re-siting every 3-4 weeks. Cllr Browning was concerned that a reasonable service, as currently provided by SCC, would be lost and its replacement be entirely dependent upon, as yet, unidentified volunteers. Cllr Price offered to email all those residents, who had been part of the Traffic Group, to ascertain whether there might be any interest amongst its members to assist in this regard.

NP

- Hedge from PC Notice Board: Cllr Pask advised that Mr Stephen Stone, who has kindly been trimming this SCC owned hedge, is hoping to complete the work on Saturday 18 February. As a courtesy, a letter would be sent to the residents advising them of the intended date for the remainder of the work (as agreed on site) and advising that it will not be necessary to cut the top of the hedge. However, it was noted that the hedge would require reducing in height next year (and subsequent years) and SCC is to be asked to arrange flail cutting for this time next year.

Clerk

- Rogers Lane, Fallen Branch: Paul Gant had advised that the landowner has been asked to clear this very large branch.

- Parking in Designated Passing Place, Shimpling Road: SCC had confirmed the status of this area as a passing place. After some discussion, it was agreed to seek the advice of the Police in this regard, after which letters would be sent to the person reporting the situation.

Clerk

16/137 Correspondence: None

16/138 Matters of report only: Cllr Pask suggested that, as well as the notices on the Parish notice board, web site etc re the Annual Parish Meeting on 26 April, to which all parishioners are encouraged to attend, it would be useful to place an item in 'Contact' too.

Clerk

16/139 Matters for consideration at next meeting: Year End Documents

16/140 Date of next Meeting: Wednesday 1 March 2017 at 7 p.m. in the Institute

The meeting closed at 2110 hours

