

Hartest Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Boxted & Hartest Institute on Wednesday 6 September 2017 at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Chris Browning (Chair), Malcolm Brearley, Neil Chappell, Will Luttmann-Johnson and Jo Pask

In Attendance: Co Cllr Richard Kemp, District Cllr James Long and the Parish Clerk and Members of the Public

17/048 Apologies for absence: Cllrs Burr and Price

17/049 Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 5 July 2017: These were approved and signed.

17/050 Matters Arising: None

17/051 Declarations of Interest: Cllr Luttmann-Johnson re Item 9 PA DC/17/04259: Barn South West of Waldegrave Farm, Lawshall Road

17/052 Public Forum: Nothing to report.

17/053 County Councillor's Report: Cllr Kemp's September report had been circulated. Cllr Kemp commented on the large increase in allowances paid to the Leader and Cabinet Members, while the rest of the Members were restricted to a 1% increase. Although offset by reductions in some existing allowances, and fixed by an independent Panel, Cllr Kemp feels that, if staff are restricted to a 1% increase, so should everyone else and thus lead by example. Cllr Kemp is fearful as to the impact on the car parking situation at Endeavour House in Ipswich when BDC and MSDC relocate.

He also reported;

- 90% of Suffolk properties now have access to fibre broadband
- SCC and Open Reach signed a new contract to extend coverage to 98% during 2020
- Plans being developed for remaining 2% to complete Better Broadband for Suffolk programme.

Cycle route from Hardwick Lane/Cullum Road to West Suffolk Hospital and BSE Town Centre is now open. Costing circa £30k, it is hoped this work by SCC Highways will encourage both employees and visitors to cycle into town.

SCC continues to raise awareness of Motor Neurone Disease and its impact.

Cllr Kemp was disappointed to report the Speed Panel's decision not to extend the 30 mph limit towards Hartest Hill, but is to enquire as to whether an appeal is possible.

RK

17/054 District Councillor's Report: Cllr Long advised that the Boundary Review is well underway. Of the possible scenarios in this regard, Cllr Long said that his preferred option would be the current Chadacre Ward with the addition of Stanstead (as proposed (with one Member)), or, alternatively, there is a proposal for a two Member Ward with the addition of Glemsford, Stanstead and Alpheton. Unemployment in the Babergh area is now 3.2% (national average 5.1%). This year property prices have increased (to an average of 10% above the national figure). In response to Cllr Browning's enquiry, Cllr Long confirmed that there is a Conservative majority amongst the 43 Members of the Council. Cllr Long also mentioned the proposed move to Endeavour House, which will happen this month or next. He will advise details re the proposed Sudbury satellite office when known. JL

17/055 Finance & Administration

(a) Bank Balances as at 31 August 2017: Current: £4,214.81, Savings: £21,175.24 Total: £25,390.05

(b) Receipts: £50.00: Memorial - Kirchner

- (c) Bank Reconciliations to 31.8.17 to be circulated. Clerk
- (d) Annual Return/Asset Register
The bank reconciliation submitted to BDO (the External Auditors) was found to be incomplete. This was remedied and accepted. Formal conclusion of the Audit is awaited.
The current Asset Register is to be reviewed in the light of information received from SALC.
- (e) The insurance renewal documents had not been received from the insurers; and have been requested. As soon as received, alternative quotations will be requested from a specialist Local Council broker. Clerk
- (f) Payments
9.7.17: Places4People Ltd: Neighbourhood Plan Prep: £1,060.25(Chq 100252)
Information Commissioner: DP Renewal: £35.00 (100253)
Hartest Institute – Hall hire: 7.6 and 5.7.17: £45.00 (100254)
Cllr N Price: Printing 30 Plans for PC Meeting @ £0.50/copy: £15.00(100256)
Clerk: (6.9.17: Gift to Mr M Feather on retirement: £25.00
(4.4.17: Stamps (2 x 12 second class): £13.44
(13.4.17: Postage (PAs to NC): £1.58
(24.7.17: 1 ream printing paper: £4.00 TOTAL: £44.02 (100255)
The above were approved for payment. Clerk

17/056 Planning

- (a) Decisions Received:
Permissions Granted:
DC/17/02374: Elm Barn, Melford Road: Erection of a single-storey extension to existing annexe, with terrace over and erection of detached workshop.
DC/17/02516: Burnt House Farm, Bury Road: Erection of Single Bay Cartlodge
- (b) Withdrawn Applications: None
- (c) New Planning Applications:
DC/17/03284: Hartest Lake (Formerly known as land opposite Pear Tree Farm): Erection of 1 no Dwelling and change of use of land to domestic curtilage. This application was supported.
DC/17/03753: Springfield, Brockley Road: Erection of Replacement Dwelling and 2 no additional dwellings incorporating cartlodge parking (following demolition of existing bungalow, garage and summer house).
It was agreed to object to this PA, since none of the objections raised in the PC's previous consultation response had been addressed.
DC/17/03885: 2 Hillside Cottages, Cross Green: Erection of single storey rear and side extensions and internal/external alterations. This application was supported.
DC/17/04049: The Paddocks, Lawshall Road: Erection of 6 no single storey dwellings associated outbuildings, improvements to existing vehicular access and highway improvements. Members agreed to object to this PA.
DC/17/04189: Charity Farmhouse, Somerton Road: Erection of two bay garage extension. Members agreed to support this.
Cllr Luttmann-Johnson left the meeting for the following item.
DC/17/04259: Barn South West of Waldegrave Farm, Lawshall Road: Prior Approval Application under Part 3 Class Q (a) and (b) of the TCPA (General Permitted Development Order 2015). Members agreed to support this application.
Cllr Luttmann-Johnson returned to the meeting.
- (d) Tree Preservation Order/Tree Conservation Area Applications: None
- (e) Appeals: None
- (f) Other Planning Matters:
Joint Local Plan Consultation: This draft consultation document is currently available for comment by 5 p.m. on Friday 10 November. Cllr Pask requested sight of the PC's copy; interested colleagues should contact her to arrange to borrow the document. A Parish Council briefing session in this regard is to be held on Tuesday 26 September at 6.30 p.m. in Lavenham Village Hall, Church Street. Drop In Sessions are being held between 2-6 p.m. from 2 October to 12 October. The session in Sudbury is on Thursday 12 October at the Town Hall.

Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Price had circulated an email dated 5 September detailing the Neighbourhood Plan WP's responses in respect of the current Planning Applications and also expressing disappointment in the Speed Panel's decision not to extend the 30mph zone to Hartest Hill. It is hoped that an appeal mechanism exists in this regard.

Village Shop: Nothing to report, except that it won't be at The Crown following works carried out here.

Affordable Housing: Anne Bennett, BDC's Corporate Manager, Development (Housing & Regeneration) will be attending a meeting with Members at 6.30-7 p.m. on Wednesday. Cllr Long gave his apologies in that regard.

Clerk

Possible Use of s106 Monies: Information is awaited from Cllr Burr; an update is to be requested.

Clerk/DB

Plan Printing Costs: Cllr Browning opened discussions on this matter and thanked Cllr Price for producing 30 x A3 plans at a greatly discounted rate (compared with retail prices). After discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Chappell was happy to ordinarily print off the majority of plans (A4 size) but if there were more complex plans, he would ask Cllr Price to oblige (at a figure to be agreed with him). This matter would be discussed further at the next meeting. Cllr Pask stressed the need to discuss plans collectively.

Clerk

17/057 Green, Cemetery and Churchyard

Cemetery

Fallen Headstones – H&S Plan: This item to be carried over to the next meeting.

MB

Damage from Deer: To be carried over to the next meeting.

MB

Complaint re access difficulties – Mrs Horrex – Email dated 31.8.17. This matter was discussed and reference made to the lower, more level access. It was agreed to investigate this matter further and discuss at the next PC Meeting.

Clerk

The Green

Trees on the Green: Cllr Browning advised that a thank you note had been received from residents in respect of the PC's decision to address the matter of the tree management.

MB

Tree Safety Policy (Inspections etc): Cllr Brearley is awaiting receipt of the requested reports.

MB

Dead Oak Tree opposite 'Homeleigh': Following a discussion in this regard, it was agreed to obtain quotes for the felling of this tree. The cost would be met by the PC. It is hoped to be able to re-position the circular seat.

Clerk
& MB

Parsons Walk: Since this is not owned by the PC, no work can be undertaken.

Grass Cutting: Cllr Pask understands that, due to the growing conditions this year, Mr Cornish, the contractor, is likely to make reference to this when submitting his next quarterly bill. Cllr Brearley felt that the blades on the mower used by our contractor should be set higher. Cllr Pask will discuss all these matters with Mr Cornish and also mentioned that it might be possible to develop a wild flower area near the Old Rectory, if desired.

JP

Parking on the Green: It was reported that a car is regularly parked on the Green, which is not permissible. The current notice displayed in this regard was discussed and it was agreed that Cllr Pask would draft a new version for consideration/approval at the next meeting.

JP

Cllr Brearley reported that, in early summer, two private parties had been held on the Green complete with barbecues, music etc. Strictly speaking, with any proposed use of the Green, permission should be sought first from the PC.

ALL

Ditch by Pear Tree Cottage: This had previously been cleared. This matter would be reviewed at the next PC Meeting.

Clerk

17/058 Highways and Footpaths

- Resurfacing/shared space: Highways will be requested to leave these off future repainting schedules.

NP

- Possible Speed Limit Change: Please refer 17/053 above.

- Shimpling Road opp Cawstons: With Paul Gant's role change, it will now

- be necessary to pursue this requested repair through their base at Rougham. Clerk
- Pothole – Bury Road (after Swan Farm Bungalow towards BSE): Following a motorist damaging his tyre/wheel here, SCC carried out an emergency repair (which was subsequently done properly on 12.9.17).
- 17/059 Correspondence: Nothing to report.
- 17/060 Matters of report only: With the PC’s insurance renewal due in October, it was agreed that alternative quotations would be sought. Clerk
Budget Review: Cllr Chappell and the Parish Clerk are to review expenditure to NC/
date against budget with a view to confirming/revising current figures. Clerk
- 17/061 Date of next Meetings: Wednesday 4 October in the Boxted & Hartest Institute
With BDC at 6.30 p.m. (Not open to Public) followed by
PC Meeting at 7 p.m.

Approved at the HPC Meeting held on 4 October 2017