

# Hartest Parish Council

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## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Boxted & Hartest Institute on Wednesday 2 January 2019 at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Chris Browning (Chair), Neil Chappell, Jo Pask and Stephen Welfare  
In Attendance: Co Cllr Richard Kemp, Dist Cllr J Long and Parish Clerk

### ACTION

- 18/114 Apologies for Absence: Cllrs D Burr, N Price and W Luttmann-Johnson.
- 18/115 Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 5 December 2018: These were approved and signed.
- 18/116 Matters Arising: None
- 18/117 Declarations of Interest: None
- 18/118 Public Forum: No members of the public present.
- 18/119 County Councillor's Report: Cllr Kemp extended best wishes for the New Year to the PC and all volunteers giving their time to benefit the community. He also mentioned various health issues and the agencies available to help. SCC is proposing savings of some £11.2m across the Council's directorates; these proposals will be finalised and presented to the Cabinet in January, before being debated by Full Council in February.  
Council tax will increase by a total of 3.99% in 2019/20 – comprising 2.99% increase in general council tax and a final 1% increase for the Social Care Precept.  
The Orwell Crossings decision had been pushed back to January 2019; so a decision should be forthcoming shortly.  
Potholes: Between 1 January and 16 October 2018, Suffolk Highways had paid out £68k for vehicle damage (including insurance pay outs, costs and legal fees); a significant increase from 2017, when payments totalled £26k. Claims had also doubled from 598 in 2017 to 1,265 in 2018 (to date).  
Please refer Cllr Kemp's attached report for full details.
- 18/120 District Councillor's Report: Cllr Long advised that the new NPPF details are being submitted to Full Council for discussion on 22 January. The Paddocks: It is likely that a second Judicial Review would be permitted (within 6 weeks). The vote at the Planning Committee on the 12 December saw 7 votes in favour of permission and 6 against. It was thought that the alterations to the July submission of the Local Plan would be quite minimal, but Cllr Long hoped to provide this information before the next PC Meeting.
- 18/121 Finance & Administration
- Bank Balances as at 30.11.18: Current: £6,594.77, Deposit: £25,082.52. Total: £31,677.27 (Includes transfer of £10,692.33 from Deposit to Current Account on 2.11.18)
  - Receipts: 27.11.18: £23.25 from Barclays re their error
  - Bank Reconciliation as at 30.11.18: To be circulated
  - Payments  
O G S Cornish: Grounds Maintenance: 1.10-31.12.18: £950.00  
Clerk's Salary & Mileage: £760.06 + £22.50: £782.56  
HMRC: PAYE: £177.00  
The above were approved for payment.
  - Budget and Precept 2019/20  
Cllr Chappell had circulated details pertaining to suggested

Clerk

budget/precept figures for consideration. Increased expenditure included the Clerk's approved salary increase, backdated pay and PAYE, GDPR prep, office admin and tree works. The likely increase in expenditure for the 2019/20 budget is £2k. It was agreed to seek to reduce some of the expenses in next year's budget. A spreadsheet showing potential precept increases was considered. Members agreed to request a precept of £11,696.39 reflecting an increase of five per cent (£506) over the current year. The precept for 2019/20 will provide £506 of the additional £2k required for the 2019/20 budget. The precept form was accordingly completed and signed in readiness for submission to BMSDC.

Clerk

18/122 Planning

(a) Decisions Received: Permissions Granted:

DC/17/04049: The Paddocks, Lawshall Road: Erection of 6 no single storey dwellings and associated outbuildings

DC/18/04717: 4 Green View: Erection of a first floor extension

DC/18/04865: Larkrise, Hartest Hill: Application of render to all elevations

DC/18/05385: The Lake, Brockley Road: Discharge of Conditions re DC/17/03284

(b) Withdrawn Applications: None

(c) New Planning Application:

DC/18/05392: Glasshouse Barn, Mill Road, Brockley: Erection of outbuildings ancillary to main dwellinghouse.

The above application was considered; Members agreed to support it.

Clerk

(d) Appeals: None

(e) Neighbourhood Plan

It was considered likely that the NPWP would await receipt of BDC's new Local Plan and the decision re The Paddocks PA. A joint meeting comprising the NPWP and the PC is to be arranged. It is understood that BDC should have re-consulted all interested parties within six weeks of the Planning Committee's decision on 12 December 2018. Cllr Browning is to speak to Cllr Price to ascertain whether he would be able to make appropriate enquiries in this regard. Joint PC/NPWP meeting on ?? February. Mr Ian Poole to attend?

NP

(f) Other Planning Matters:

The Paddocks PA: Cllr Browning thanked Cllr Pask for representing the PC at the Planning Meeting on 12 December in this connection. The Planning Committee voted 7 for the application and 6 against. It was felt that the NPPF alterations in respect of BDC would have a minimal impact on the Neighbourhood Plan. Dist Cllr Long hoped to advise in this regard before HPC's February meeting.

JL

Open Reach Poles: There had been an exchange of emails in this regard with Co Cllr Kemp, as SCC is responsible from the highways perspective. (On private land, permission of the landowner is required.) Poles adjacent to the highway are required to be sited a minimum of 1.2m from the edge of the highway. It was noted that underground ducts are available along Lawshall Road and Hartest Hill. Cllr Long advised that he is pursuing the idea of ducts being used in areas of outstanding natural beauty.

BDC PA: Cllr Long advised that BDC has submitted a PA for 78 dwellings on the site of the old BDC office, and grounds, at Hadleigh. The PA is to be considered at the Planning Meeting on 22 January 2019. It was not known whether this proposal included affordable housing.

Cllr Burr had advised Members by email of the concrete base, which had been 'created' opposite Hill Farm on Hartest Hill/Shimpling Road. Enquiries would be made with Mr R Carpenter and BDC Planning and an item placed on the next agenda.

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It was agreed that Cllr Browning would write to BDC recording the PC's concern about the process as the PC has not been re-consulted in this regard. Cllr Long recommended making contact with Cllr Stephen Plumb of Glemsford to enquire in this regard, as he was a Member of the Planning Committee considering the PA. It was agreed that contact would be established with Cllr Plumb to enquire re the following:

- Why was HPC, and two others, not re-consulted? (We understand that this, and two other actions, were required in order to comply with the JR)
- Is there a further JR? (Or is a further JR anticipated?)
- Was BDC's procedure in this connection (if there is one) followed?
- It would appear that no due diligence has been demonstrated by BDC.
- Were the grounds of the JR considered reasonable?

It was also discussed as to whether the PC should write to the Planning Officer concerned enquiring;

- Is there a written policy and procedure in respect of such cases?
- If so, was this followed?
- No apparent due diligence and other issues.
- Were the grounds reasonable?

CB

It was agreed that Cllr Browning would email Mr R Carpenter and also liaise with J Gill, both of whom were in attendance at the BDC Planning Meeting.

Affordable Housing: Mrs Lizzie Ling, BDC Housing Enabler will attend the HPC Meeting on 6 March to advise re affordable housing.

18/123 Green, Cemetery and Churchyard

The Green: It was noted that the person regularly parking on the Green had obviously not read the notice in 'Contact'; a letter is to be sent.

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Dog Fouling: An email had been received from a resident of Bury St Edmunds advising that "a family Boxing Day walk in the village (as recommended in a book 'Kiddiwalks in Suffolk') was found to be absolutely littered in dogs muck from start to finish; on the roads, bridlepaths and fields. Instead of admiring your beautiful village and its surrounding countryside, we were constantly guiding the children around the piles of dog muck! It really spoilt our walk and so I thought I should bring our experience to your attention." It was agreed to place a copy in 'Contact'.

Clerk

Cemetery: Cllr Pask advised that only one plot is left. In anticipation of commencing use of the new portion of the Cemetery, she advised that Mr R Carpenter and Mr I Leigh had agreed to mark out the new paths. In that connection, she had received two quotations for 12 posts; one from Suffolk Farm Fencing in the sum of £52.92 and one from Clarkes of Walsham in the sum of £65.04 plus delivery. Approval was given for her to order the posts from SFF. The Rating Officer is to be notified of the imminent use of the cemetery extension.

Churchyard: Brief details had been received from Messrs Birketts (Mr Hall) re the Closed Churchyard Order. It was decided to contact the Ministry of Justice to ascertain the precise circumstances of this Order; this information is expected to be received early/mid January. It was agreed to ask where the PC stands re the possible transfer of this responsibility to BDC – bearing in mind that the PC was only made aware of this matter by email from James Hall on 27 November 2018. It was noted that, depending upon the outcome, the river wall requires inspection/ attention.

Ditch: No more information had been received from Cllrs Burr and Price in this regard. For discussion at next meeting.

DB/NP

- 18/124 Highways & Footpaths  
Track across Green: These potholes had been reported to SCC.  
Somerton Road: Cllr Chappell advised that investigation of this drainage course is not planned until 2020; he agreed to keep abreast of the situation/report again as necessary.
- 18/125 Correspondence: Nothing to report.
- 18/126 Matters of Report Only: Apologies from James Long for next meeting.
- 18/127 Matters for Consideration at Next Meeting: As above.
- 18/128 Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 6 February at 7 p.m. in the Boxted & Hartest Institute.
- 18/129 The Meeting closed at 2045 hours

NC