

**HAWSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON 15th September 2016.**

Present: Cllrs John West (Chairman), Clive Robinson, Henry Brewis, Ros Alexander, Michael Harrison and Christabel Carr. Catherine Hibbert (Clerk). 6 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllr. Penny Barham.

The meeting opened at 7.30pm and the Chairman noted that filming/recording of the meeting would be permitted in line with current legislation.

The meeting recessed for Public Forum at 7.30pm.

The following matters were raised during public forum:-

- A reported recent improvement in Broadband service in parts of the village;
- Request for additional support for the fete from all village organisations;
- An incident of fly tipping on Bull Lane.

The meeting reconvened at 7.40pm.

1. APOLOGIES.

Noted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

None.

3. MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATED 21st July 2016.

3.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 21st July 2016 were **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED** as a true and accurate record and signed accordingly.

4. REPORTS.

4.1 County Council report; see below.

4.2 Borough Council report; see below.

4.3 Police; the SNT September report for Haverhill (encompassing Hawstead) was noted and will be loaded onto the website. It was **AGREED** that enquiries would be made as to whether Hawstead could be attached to a more appropriate Safer Neighbourhood Team.

4.4 Communications; Cllr Brewis, reported that; (i) the fibre optic box which has been installed at Pinford End is still yet to be connected and the proposed fibre optic box for the Green is still yet to be installed. The Council continues to chase BT Openreach/Suffolk CC for information as to when the works will be completed; and (ii) sponsors for the Hawstead Journal (£25 per edition) are sought. The meeting thanked Cllr Brewis for his efforts to secure the Broadband upgrades.

4.5 Greens; Cllr Carr reported that; (i) Bull Green has been tidied up (thanks to Mr J Carr and Mr D Lebben); (ii) the owl boxes on the Greens have been recently surveyed with evidence of one box having been occupied by an owl and others by stock doves. The meeting noted that there was recent evidence of vehicles being driven onto the Green. Councillors to monitor the situation. It was **AGREED** that; (i) Councillors would visit the area adjacent to Brook Green to review the layout; (ii) the number of annual Green cuts would be reviewed before the next cutting season to avoid a build-up of cut grass on Pound Green; and (iii) the clerk would contact Command Pest Control (retained contractor) re mole control for winter 2016.

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4.6 Footpaths and trees; Cllr Alexander confirmed that there was nothing of note to report. Clerk to follow up outstanding tree work. The meeting noted that Cllr Barham has been working to keep some of the footpaths around the village clear over the summer, for which many thanks.

4.7 Highways and safety; Cllr Harrison confirmed that there was nothing of significance to report, although he did report some apparent reluctance on the part of SCC to respond to pothole repair requests outside the Parish. The August playground equipment inspection report has been received from St Eds - no action required.

4.1 County Council Report (taken out of turn); C Cllr Clements presented his report (highlighting the ongoing devolution consultation and continuing availability of Locality Grant). The report will be uploaded onto the website.

4.2 Borough Council Report (taken out of turn); B Cllr Rushen presented her report which will be uploaded onto the website. B Cllr Rushen highlighted the continuing availability of RIGS monies for capital projects.

4.8 Speedwatch; Cllr Robinson continues to seek additional volunteers for this scheme.

4.9 Clerk. The clerk report was received and noted.

5. TO CONSIDER

5.1 Invite MP to attend future PC meeting; The possibility of inviting Matthew Hancock MP to attend a future PC meeting (possibly in conjunction with other PCs) was discussed and it was agreed that contact should be made with his office to explore this proposal further.

5.2 Tyre tracks on Green; the meeting noted that an area of the main Green is apparently being used for regular parking and it was **AGREED** that this should be investigated further.

5.3 Request re use of Millennium Field; a letter from the PCC confirming that, subject to certain conditions, it has no objection to the proposed use of the Millennium Field for a wedding reception was received and noted. It was **AGREED** that subject to some clarification from the PCC on the wording of the letter, the clerk should follow this matter up with the applicant.

5.4 Maintenance/use of Green; the meeting heard that during public forum at the previous meeting a request was made to canvass opinion from residents as to whether they would prefer to keep the Green cut short with no hay crop being taken (as per Cockfield) to enable wider recreational opportunities. The meeting discussed the current possibilities for recreational activities undertaken on the Green, the loss of income without a hay crop (The Basic Farm Payment and Natural England schemes from which the village currently benefits require such a crop), the continuing receipt and use of public money over a significant period to conserve the Green in this condition, the increased cost of keeping the Greens mown short, the County Wildlife Site designation and the unique environmental attributes of the Green. It was **UNANIMOUSLY AGREED** that no change should be made to the current maintenance regime on the Green.

5.5 Insurance; the meeting considered three quotes (CAS £383.82 (subject to further adjustment), Came & Co £289.47 and AON £395.02), the cover offered and the applicable excesses and it was **AGREED** to proceed with CAS, which offers comparable cover, a low excess and a proven record of good customer service.

5.6 Bank Account. It was noted that CAF Bank intends to start charging banking fees of up to £10pcm on the PC accounts and will cut its already low interest rates further; the meeting considered various alternative banking service providers. It was **AGREED** to progress a change to Lloyds which offers a suitable account with no standard charges and the potential to set up an interest bearing deposit account in due course.

6. PLANNING APPLICATIONS, APPEALS AND NOTIFICATIONS (taken out of turn)

6.1 DC/16/1834/HH – 1 no dormer window on rear elevation of Copperfield Barn, Lawshall Road, Hawstead IP29 5NR. The meeting considered the application and the relevant Development Plan (in particular policy DM24 of the FH and St Eds Joint Development Management Plan) and concluded by a majority of 5:1 to **SUPPORT** this application. One

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Councillor objected to the proposal on grounds that the scale and design of the new window was out of keeping with the existing building and its surrounds contrary to Development Plan policy.

6.2 DC/16/1800/HH – two storey side extension and single storey rear extension (amendment to previously approved DC/15/0680/HH) at 6 Bull Lane Pinford End. The meeting considered this proposal and the relevant Development Plan (in particular policy DM24 of the FH and St Eds Joint Development Management Plan 2015) and unanimously agreed to **SUPPORT** this application.

6.3 Notification of appeal re application DC/15/2242/FUL for two bedroom bungalow at Land south of the Firs, Church Road, Hawstead DC/16/0832/HH - Siting of shed/workshop at Whepstead Road, Hawstead IP29 5NS. The meeting considered the notice of appeal received from the Planning Inspectorate and **CONCLUDED** unanimously that the original statement made by the Council to the local planning authority in December 2015 when the underlying application was considered remained relevant without any amendment/addition.

The meeting noted that an additional PC meeting would be scheduled to consider planning applications received after the agenda for this meeting was issued.

7. FINANCES

7.1 To receive and review the bi-monthly financial summary for July-August 2016; received and **APPROVED.**

7.2 To approve cheques to be issued. The following cheques were **APPROVED.**

Detail	Detail	Cheque no	Net (of VAT)	Vat	TOTAL
Ricoh UK Ltd	Printing	251	89.04	17.81	106.85
SALC	Internal audit	250	124	24.80	148.80
C Hibbert	Expenses	252			11.75
P Barham	Expenses	253			10.90

8. CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY

The Chairman thanked those present for their contributions.

9. CORRESPONDENCE.

The following items was received and noted:-

Monthly playground inspection report for August 2016.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 17th November at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

Distribution

Cllr C Robinson

Cllr R Alexander

Cllr J West

Cllr C Carr

Cllr H Brewis

Cllr M Harrison

Cllr Barham

Website) following approval

Noticeboard) following approval

Documents before meeting

BC report

Signature.....

CC report
SNT report
Clerk report
Bi-monthly financial summary

Signature.....