

**DRAFT MINUTES OF SIBLE HEDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL, PARKFIELDS, SIBLE HEDINGHAM ON
MONDAY 10th MARCH 2014 AT 7.30PM.**

In the chair: Mrs. G. Massey
Present: Cllrs. J. Beavis J. Fennelly, S. Glen, D. Holmes, D. Horn, A. Law, S. Partridge, A. Prill,
J. Skittrall, R. Volkwyn and L. Waller.
Mr. A. Corder-Birch (Clerk)
Cllrs. G. Butland, H. Johnson & W. Scattergood (District Councillors)
Mrs. Alison Turnbull of Alison Turnbull & Associates and Mr. Tim Ward of Circling the
Square Limited

Public comment

Mrs. Alison Turnbull stated that Mr. T. Ward and herself, had been appointed by Bloor Homes to fulfill the art and public realm strategy on the former Premdor site. They were consulting SHPC to seek good locations and numbers of benches, railings, street name plates, waymarkers, interpretation boards and any other artwork required, which are to reflect the history of the site. Mr. Ward confirmed that he had carried out other work for BDC in the Braintree District including work in the villages.
There was no other public comment.

229. **Apologies for absence**
Cllrs. E. Jones (Union meeting) and D. Finch

230. **Declarations of interest**
There were no declarations of interest.

231. **To confirm minutes of meeting held 10th February 2014**
The minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 2014, having been circulated, were taken as read were confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

232. **Matters arising from those minutes**
a) **Proposed allotments**
The Clerk reported that BDC had completed consultations with ECC Highways but still waiting to hear from EA regarding the risk of flooding. As soon as BDC hear from EA, they will write to SHPC with advice. The Chairman reported that Mr. S. Partridge and herself, would be visiting another piece of land, which may be possible for allotments.
b) **Fly tipping at Hulls Mill Lane**
Mr. D. Horn reported that BDC had removed the fly tipping in Hulls Mill Lane.
c) **Parish Magazine**
Mr. D. Holmes agreed to write the next PC article for the Parish Magazine.
There were no other matters arising.

233. **To consider proposed artwork on the former Premdor site**
Consequent upon the completion of the Art and Public Realm Strategy required by the S106 Agreement the proposed artwork on the former Premdor site was considered. Councillors stated that the artwork needs to be (a) functional, (b) reflect the history of the site and (c) appropriate for a rural Essex village. It was understood that the chimney, which is being funded by earlier S106 monies, is in progress. It was agreed that the forthcoming artwork needs to be considered by the full SHPC rather than by committees or working parties. Mrs. Turnbull produced a large plan of the whole site, which can be used to mark locations of items required and Mr. Ward left a brochure of other artwork designed by him. It was agreed to arrange a special meeting during the next couple of weeks to specifically consider artwork and in the meantime Mrs. Turnbull will forward details of proposed artwork and costings.

234. **Chairman's report**

The Chairman reported upon the following:

- a) That she had attended a meeting with Mrs. W. Scattergood when a presentation had been made by RCCE about Community Building. Unfortunately the representation from SH was poor compared with Witham and it was difficult to see what SH will achieve. Mrs. Scattergood added that there had been no question and answer session and no specific information about when the public will be consulted.
- b) Arrangements for the APM were going well and there was a good response from organizations.
- c) The Welcome Packs were also progressing well. Mr. R. Volkwyn reported that the Breakfast Club will be happy to advertise.
- d) The GCH estates inspection in SH will take place on 12th March to which all Councillors were invited to attend.

235. **Youth Council Report**

Mr. S. Partridge reported that the Youth Council had raised the following issues:

- a) The loss of the footpath between the Fire Station and the Village Hall. Mr. J. Skittrall reported that this was not an official public footpath.
- b) With regard to the request for a BMX track the Youth Council were arranging to meet Mr. J. Skittrall, with Mr. S. Partridge, on site at the Village Hall.
- c) Arrangements for the Legacy Day were in progress.
- d) The proposed lighting of the MUGA had been raised again. Following some discussion it was agreed to place this on the agenda for the next R&A meeting to re-consider.
- e) A grant condition requires an arts involvement, which could be a musical contribution and if so it met with Councillors approval.

236. **County Councillor's Report**

In the absence of Mr. D. Finch no report was given but a written report had previously been circulated and the contents noted.

237. **District Councillor's Report**

Mrs. W. Scattergood reported that she had attended a recent Petchey Awards event at Hedingham School which was excellent.

Mr. H. Johnson reported on the following:

- a) That all fallen trees had been removed from footpaths in SH.
- b) That footpaths need numbers placed on them to correspond with the footpaths map. This request was referred to the Footpaths and PROW Advisory Group for consideration.
- c) A number of potholes in SH, which had been reported to ECC Highways are still awaiting repair.
- d) The footbridge should soon be installed between Alderford Street and HRW.
- e) The Rural Services Survey.
- f) Commonwealth Day when the Union flag had been raised at Braintree Town Hall.

Mrs. J. Beavis reported on the following:

- a) That the BDC budget had been reduced by 1% for the second year in succession, with no cuts in services.
- b) The improved play area in Oxford Meadow had been completed and will soon be officially opened.
- c) That she will attend the GCH inspection on 12th March 2014.
- d) That new windows had been installed in buildings at Rippers Court.
- e) The BDC Rural Work Hub on the former Premdor site will be a benefit to the community.

Arising from this report Mrs. L. Waller disagreed that the work hub will benefit the community and Mr. S. Partridge stated that when work on the community budget had been carried out it had raised issues about the condition of Rippers Court and Enterprise House, which were owned by BDC.

(Mr. H. Johnson left the meeting).

238. **Planning Committee**

The minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 14th February 2014, having been circulated were accepted in lieu of a report.

239. **Recreation and Amenities Committee**

The minutes of the Recreation and Amenities Committee Meeting held on 21st February 2014, having been circulated, were accepted in lieu of a report.

Arising from these minutes Mrs. G. Massey reported that the GOR regulations will remain without further revision.

240. **Transport and Highways Committee**

The minutes of the Transport and Highways Committee Meeting held on 19th February 2014, having been circulated, were accepted in lieu of a report.

241. **Update on proposed allotments**

(Please see minute 232(a) above)

242. **To approve representations to BDC on Site Allocations and Development Management Plan**

Mrs. L. Waller reported that SHPC had carried out a public consultation at each stage of the Site Allocations and Development Management Plan process including the current stage when a public consultation had taken place on 1st March 2014. There were constraints in the BDC guidance notes and draft representations had been prepared against a background of concerns throughout the Braintree District of which Mrs. Waller gave examples. The representations had been approved by SHPC Planning Committee meeting on 7th March 2014 and thereafter circulated to all Councillors for consideration. It was proposed by Mr. S. Partridge, seconded by Mr. A. Prill and carried that the document is accepted and Mrs. Waller was thanked for her hard work and for preparing an excellent document.

243. **Correspondence**

The correspondence received and listed in appendix 1 was referred to relevant Councillors for information and action. Arising from the correspondence Mr. S. Partridge referred to the letter from BDC relating to an increase in community transport charges, which he considered may kill off the service. Mrs. J. Beavis reported that charges had not increased for ten years and that BDC desires that the service is continued.

244. **Accounts for payment**

The accounts listed in appendix 2 were presented for payment. It was proposed by Mr. D. Holmes, seconded by Mr. J. Skittrall and carried that the accounts are paid.

245. **Any other business/exchange of information/agenda for next meeting**

Mr. D. Horn and other Councillors reported that they were unable to open the ECC report and it was agreed to forward this again in a different format.

Mr. J. Fennelly asked to attend two Councillor training days, which was agreed. (Post meeting note: Mr. R. Volkwyn has since been booked to attend the second training day).

Mr. D. Holmes referred to reports/letters in the Halstead Gazette regarding a proposed pedestrian crossing in Swan Street. Mrs. G. Massey confirmed that she will write a letter to the Halstead Gazette explaining the reasons given by ECC Highways for refusing this request. Concern was expressed regarding the number of vehicles parking along Swan Street causing congestion near Hilton House Doctor's Surgery. This should improve when the new Doctor's Surgery is built.

Mr. J. Skittrall expressed concern about the speed of traffic through the village and that motorists were not observing the pedestrian crossing outside the Post Office. It was agreed to refer this issue to the Transport and Highways Committee for consideration.

Mr. R. Volkwyn reported that the shed on the Recreation Ground had been re-roofed.

Mrs. L. Waller reported that pothole repairs had come out after just a few months and need permanent reinstatement and not temporary repairs. Mrs. J. Beavis reported that when contractors have to return a second time there is no charge to ECC.

Mr. A. Law reported that the floodgates at Alderford Mill had been closed to facilitate clearance of debris in front of the floodgates at Hulls Mill. Thereafter the gates will be re-opened and will remain open in wet weather.

Mr. S. Partridge understood that Alderford Street may not be closed until June 2014 for the installation of the footbridge and it was agreed to make further enquiries in this respect.

Mr. S. Partridge expressed concern that the Youth Bus may cease as a result of the reduction in the Youth Services budget.

Mrs. J. Beavis reported that ECC had contributed £1 million towards flood prevention. The flood lagoons in Wethersfield Road had worked well and Mr. A. Prill agreed that all flood defences in the village had worked well.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

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(Date)

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(Chairman)