

HAVERSHAM cum LITTLE LINFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HAVERSHAM CUM LITTLE LINFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT HAVERSHAM SOCIAL CENTRE ON MONDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 2016 at 7.30pm

PRESENT.

Cllrs I Burgess (Chair), P Furniss, N Watson, P Williams, C Langham, B Clift and E Neal. Ward Councillor A Geary. 4 members of the public and Mr Philip Turnbull.
Clerk J Vischer.

1. APOLOGIES

None.

2. **PRESENTATION ON CREDIT UNIONS BY PHILIP TURNBULL, SWAN CREDIT UNION** – gave a brief but comprehensive summary of the role of credit unions in general and Swan Credit Union in particular. He explained that he had been a long-time supporter and volunteer but only recently moved to the parish. Later in the meeting it was agreed to allow the insertion of an article advertising Swan Credit Union's services in the Parish Magazine – the editor had requested Parish Council approval - provided it was presented from a personal angle so that readers would not presume Parish Council endorsement.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

A resident complained of cars being parked regularly on the verge outside nos. 64/66/68 Wolverton Road that did not belong to those residents. Clerk to report. **Clerk**

4. **COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF INTEREST** on any matters pertaining to this agenda – Cllrs Watson, Furniss and Neal declared a standing interest in item 6.6 as adjacent residents. Ward Cllr Geary on all Planning.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th October 2016 were approved. These had been circulated via email for the first time to elicit comments from councillors prior to the meeting.

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

6.1 Skate Park proposal – the Clerk reported that the revised grant application form had been submitted a few days after the last meeting but no decision had yet been communicated by the Hockey Foundation. The Clerk was instructed to ask the Foundation for a timetable. **Clerk**

6.2 Email communication review – it was agreed that the initiative seemed to be working well. It was further agreed to add 'for info' or 'for action' in the subject box on all emails.

6.3 Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Williams had attended the meeting with James Williamson MKC officer at Development Planning, along with Cllrs Furniss, Langham, Clift and the Clerk. In spite of the fact that PlanMK, currently being revised, could trump any Neighbourhood Plan the upshot of the frank and informative meeting had been that it would be better to initiate the process now and modify the Neighbourhood Plan according to the outcome of the PlanMK than to wait until the latter had been completed - some time well into next year. This proposal was now agreed unanimously – Proposer Cllr Burgess seconder Cllr Williams. The first stage in this process would be to establish a Working Group comprising both councillors and residents. The Chair would be involved from time to time in a steering capacity. Cllrs Williams and Watson would represent the Parish Council. It was agreed that the Group should generally not exceed 7 members. **Cllr Williams**

6.4 Signage on recreation field – The Chair reported that he had removed the old signs and posts but a new post needed to be erected. This was agreed. It was also agreed that the play area signs could be

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replaced but new more accurately worded signs were needed for the footpath crossing the Field. The Chair would determine the wording and circulate prior to ordering. **Chair**

6.5 Speed Indicator Device (SID) – Cllr Neal reported that he could discern no data that could be simply interpreted and communication with the Castlethorpe Parish Council SID person had not proved possible. He had purchased a new SD card for the device. The Clerk had gone through the files passed on by ex-Cllr Gibbons but there had been no information concerning interpreting data. The Chair offered to contact Castlethorpe PC, furthermore it was time to use the equipment again.

Chair/Cllr Neal

6.6 Land Registry - Former Anglian Water land behind Brookfield Road – no update.

6.7 Reinforcement of brick planters – the Clerk had established that there were two issues – a) the ‘Broadacre’ planter and b) slight damage to the others. In the first case ex-Cllr Gibbons (who still maintains the re-planting of the planters – had initiated repairs, with the consent of the Chair, for which an invoice had been submitted (*see below*). This had required major work on the semi-circular backing wall and was now complete. The Chair instructed the Clerk to write a letter of thanks to Mrs Gibbons following the successful re-planting of the planters. In the second case the Clerk had met with a local contractor and toured each of the planters. 3 of these required repairs to the corners of the low front wall where at least one brick was knocked out of place or mortar dislodged. The contractor had subsequently submitted a quote for £260 for the works. It was agreed to go ahead with this work.

Clerk

6.8 Clerk’s Pay Increments – it was agreed to award the Clerk an additional spine point increase from SCP22 to SCP23 with immediate effect. Proposer Cllr Burgess seconder Cllr Furniss. Unanimous.

6.9 Land Registry rectification on BM 338140 (Rec. Field) – Milton Keynes Council (MKC) officer Heather Baker had not confirmed to the Clerk whether the Land Registry rectification had been initiated by MKC. Cllr Furniss, who had received all relevant details from the Clerk, volunteered to pursue the matter.

Cllr Furniss

6.10 Any Other Matters – overgrown hedge by Beech Tree Close - Cllr Watson reported that the contractors had done a splendid pruning and clearing-out job. Gaps in the planting were revealed and he proposed that these be filled in at a future date with recommendations of planting options from the contractors. This was agreed - to be added to budget discussions.

7 **PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ENVIRONMENTAL ITEMS**

7.1. Streetlights 4&7 Crescent reported 17 Oct.–FS8875122. 4 ‘seems to be fixed’ (Pat G), 7 ‘constantly flickering’ – re-reported 10 Nov ref FS9635804 – ‘fixed’ 14th Nov. Still flickering 16th Nov – reported again. [*post-meeting note*: this did appear to have been fixed 22 Nov]

7.2. Mill Road gate (not Parks Trust) reported 25th October MK ref FS9120625. As the land was not Parks Trust Ward Cllr Geary suggested that it would in fact belong to the local farmer whom he offered to contact.

Ward Cllr Geary

7.3. Mill Road, river Ouse life-belts – the Clerk had determined finally that these were the responsibility of the Environment Agency. The Agency had been very positive on the phone and promised the local branch of the organisation would attend to the matter. Cllr Williams offered to verify if any action had been taken. No update had been sent to the Clerk.

Cllr Williams

7.4. Traffic light sequence by Old Wolverton railway bridge. Reported 20th October ref FS9079105 – Cllr Neal reported no change.

7.5. Speed bump pothole - reported 19th Oct FS9059263. On Nov 7th the file was marked: “does not require immediate remedial work”

7.6. Overgrown vegetation, Old School House to Church – the Clerk had written to Randall Estates. Chair to verify if work had been carried out.

Chair

7.7. Footpaths 42 & 43 – it was not known if this work had been completed.

7.8. Old ‘Watch Your Speed’ sign to be removed – re-reported 25th October FS9196085

7.9. Railway bridge/Old Wolverton roundabout – overgrowing shrubs reported 20 Sep: FS6850944. Still uncut.

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7.10. Triangle Green culvert/drain blocked reported 20 Sep: ref FS6975137 –‘under investigation’.

7.11. Drains – a) Drain by planter and adjacent drain, Wolverton Rd. – reported 23rd April & 16th May - FS2704048 & FS3040422 ‘investigated’ 27th Oct; b)Drains on the hill between the upper and lower villages – new ref FS4297097; c) Drain on Lt Linford Lane – new ref FS4300030; d) Several blocked drains in Wolverton Road (resident); e) Triangle Green culvert/drain blocked reported 20 Sep: ref FS6975137. The drains in the High St had been cleared – but nowhere else. Thus in the recent wet weather the run-off from very sudden heavy showers cascaded down the slopes into the lower village and down Wolverton Road. The Clerk reported that he had written to Duncan Sharkey, Service Director Housing and Community, on the advice of Ward Cllr Geary on 25th October but had not received a response, or even an acknowledgement. Clerk to chase. Failing this it was agreed to write to the CEO Carole Mills in conjunction with the Chair, to arrange a meeting (copy in Ward Cllr Geary).

Clerk

7.12. Recycling lorries (using the village as a shortcut) – The Chair reported that the same recycling lorry was continuing to use the village as a shortcut and had now been joined by another one. Clerk to arrange meeting between the Head of Waste and Environment, Andy Hudson and Chair/Clerk. **Clerk**

7.13. Verge by Little Linford Lane MK Council depot reported 23rd March given MKC Ref 890639 – The clerk had re-reported dumped concrete on June 23rd ref FS4283073 - logged as resolved 4 July. Subsequent to further information/photographs from Cllr Williams the matter was re-reported 4th October - new ref: FS7897000. Still not cleared 21st November.

7.14. The pavement on the hill between the upper and lower villages – ref 737382. The Clerk had re-logged this under the new system – given ref FS4301554 - re-reported 13 July. The pavement surface was greatly improved but still uneven in places especially the higher up the hill. [*post-meeting note – now marked ‘closed’ – so re-reported for the uneven surface 22 Nov*]

7.15. Street gutter weeds in Brookfield Rd – new - ref FS4300224. Work not carried out yet.

8. POSSIBLE DEVOLUTION OF SERVICES

The Clerk explained that MKC were opening a dialogue with parish councils about the possible devolution of non-statutory services. An email had been circulated providing the estimated costs of running Cleansing, Landscaping and Play Area maintenance services in the parish. This amounted to £5,282. Ward Cllr Geary added that Ward Councillors had been told the costs of these services would be passed on to parish councils in the form of a grant receding from 100% next year to 0% in 5 years. The Clerk had attended a special meeting called by the local clerks group (SLCC) attended by the CEO of MKC, Carole Mills, and the Head of Public Realm, Tom Blackburne-Maze. No mention of any grant or payment was made and there was no written evidence of such a proposal. The only incentive was that service levels could be maintained instead of most probably deteriorating as MKC struggled to bridge its funding gap. Clerk to establish if there is any grant/payment or not. [*post-meeting note – the Clerk had received confirmation from the secretary of the local clerks group that no such offer had been made officially or informally*]

9. LANDSCAPE CONTRACT RENEWAL

Cllr Watson had contacted the Clerk to enquire as to whether the letting of next year’s landscape contract had to be put out to tender again. The Clerk was of the opinion that the two remaining contractors from the 2015 tendering round should be asked to re-submit prices but that it was not necessary to hold a fresh round of tendering. This was agreed. Clerk to contact contractors. **Clerk**

10. ALLOTMENTS.

Cllr Watson reported that he was delighted with the standard of workmanship carried out by the new landscapers on plot clearance. He had agreed to the crew’s offer to quote for taking the large amount of revealed rubbish away. The gateposts work was to be moved on to the following month. The consultative group had agreed that half-plots rentals would commence this coming year. There

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was currently no waiting list. Cllr Furniss had drawn up a policy document on plot rental renewals procedures and timetable.

11. PLANNING MATTERS

Planning Applications

- 11.1. Previous - 16/02270/OUT** Land At Linford Lakes, Outline planning application (all matters reserved except for access) for the residential development of land north of Wolverton Road (Linford Lakes) (up to 250 units), with access and provision for drainage, open space and amenity areas and the creation of an area for car parking (25 spaces) on land off Little Linford Lane for use in association with the use of land for an extension to the River Valley Park. *Pending*
- 11.2. 16/02825/FUL** 15 High Street Haversham Demolition of existing rear conservatory, attached store and front and rear outbuildings and the erection of a two storey rear extension to existing dwelling and proposed new dwelling to south of existing dwelling and hard-standing to the front. *Pending*
- 11.3. 16/02948/FUL** Hall Farm Little Linford Lane Little Linford Prior notification for change of use of existing agricultural barn to dwelling house (use class C3) and associated works. *Pending*
- 11.4. In-between meetings - 16/02748/FUL** Erection of uPVC conservatory to front of dwelling at: 3 Granary Close Haversham. No objections (*canvassed by email*). *Pending*.
- 11.5. NEW – 16/02896/FUL** 20 Rowan Drive Haversham, First floor extension above garage and single storey extension to rear, replacement of existing flat roofs with pitched roofs.
- 11.6. 16/02984/FUL** Vicarage Spinney Fishing Lodge Little Linford Lane, Reconstruction of fishery lodge destroyed by fire and reuse as a residential dwelling.

As MKC had failed to send out hard copies in time for this meeting for both the above applications it was agreed that the Clerk would deliver the drawings, on receipt, to the Chair for scrutiny. All other councillors volunteered to view the plans/information online and send comments to the Clerk for collating as a Parish Council view.

Clerk/All Cllrs

- 11.7. Other Planning related matters - 11/01193/FULEIS** - A wind energy development comprising the erection of fifteen wind turbines, each with a maximum overall height of up to 120m together with access tracks and hard standing areas and a temporary site compound. - Stoke Lodge Farm Purse Lane Stoke Goldington Newport Pagnell MK16 8LW. *Pending*. It was agreed to remove this long-standing item from the agenda, as, although not finally resolved, clear notice of activity would be flagged by MKC.

12. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

- 12.1. Cllrs Williams, Langham, and Clift** had attended the Open Space Assessment Consultation Workshop which they agreed had not been very relevant or useful to Haversham. However comments from a number of attendees were taken on board and had helped make the organisers extend the remit and breadth of the 'green spaces' being considered.. The consultation period has been extended into the New Year as a result of comments received.
- 12.2. Cllrs Williams, Langham, and Clift** had attended the planning training workshop organised by MKC. Although informative it was not really a 'training' event. They had learned that the National Planning Policy Framework trumped all lesser authorities' planning policy; that MKC's short-term housing supply was 800 housing units short of the required number (leaving them open to challenge by aggressive developers); and that parish councils were not statutory consultees.
- 12.3. Cllr Furniss – Save St Peter's – latest meeting attended.** The Parks Trust was due to install interpretation boards at the ruin by next Spring.
- 12.4. Cllr Clift** - Haversham Social and Community Centre (HSCC) committee - latest meeting attended. The Firework Display had been a great success both as an event and as a fundraiser. The Xmas Party for Children was arranged for 3rd December. On 7th December a Craft Tasting evening would be held and on 10 December Xmas Bingo. No update on the disputed Car Park contribution.

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- 12.5. **Cllr Clift** had also attended the MK Highways Winter Roadshow where he had been led to believe that the drains in the village were down to be cleared next (*see above*: it turned out this was only for the High St.)
- 12.6. **The Chair** – Haversham School governors - reported back from the meeting. With regard to the planned extension a meeting had been arranged for 13th December and 9th January 2017 in the Hall to run from 14.45 – 18.30 when plans and options would be on view and officers present to provide information. It was noted that the Clerk had not received notice of this on behalf of the Parish Council. Ward Cllr Geary agreed to refer this to MKC officers and to make the point that a presentation on the options to be held after working hours as well would be a very useful ‘consultation’. A letter drop to residents has been arranged. **Ward Cllr Geary**

13. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Accounts for Payment -

a) Haversham Social & Community Centre - £28.00; b) NBR newsletter printing - £842.50; c) Dog bin emptying - £30.00; d) Landscaping (incl. allotments) - £870.00. Clerk’s salary - £259.76; Admin expenditure - £42.98; Chair’s expenses (planters) - £20.00; Repair to Broadacre planter - £250.00

13.2. **Financial Statement** to 26th October 2016 –

Lloyds bank statement	£15,471.28
Presented cheques since last report	£1,567.41
Receipts since last report	£0
National Saving Account at 1 st January 2016	£10,378.62
Total of Lloyds and NSB Accounts	£25,849.90
Less Allocated reserves	£13,732.57
Less Outstanding Cheques	£2,373.24
Available funds at November Meeting	£9,744.09

Resolved: The above financial statement and payments were approved.

14. COUNCILLORS NEW ITEMS

- 14.1. **Cllr Langham** – enquired as to the costs of a new bin: £160 installation. £2.50 per empty.
- 14.2. **Cllr Williams** – fly-tipping of car tyres by the Little Linford planter towards the M1. **Clerk**
- 14.3. A resident complained again about traffic speeds along the stretch of road above. Although invited to report to the Clerk this had not happened. **Clerk**
- 14.4. **The Chair** – asked the Clerk to thank HSCC for the successful Firework Night on behalf of the Parish Council. **Clerk**
- 14.5. Enquired as to any update on the Action Group concerning Haversham development. Ward Cllr Geary stated that there was nothing new to report at present. **Ward Cllr Geary**
- 14.6. Enquired as to any reply from the Environment Agency regarding the hard road installed off Little Linford Lane down towards the parish boundary. There had been none. Cllr Neal offered to verify through a contact from the Old Sailing Club. **Cllr Neal**
- 14.7. Raised the subject of whether any one was aware that there might be developments afoot to increase the use of Dovecote Lakes for recreational purposes; [*post-meeting note* – sold to Carp Fishers UK, Nov 2015, Day Ticket and Night Camp Tickets offered]

15. PUBLIC FORUM

None

16. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** 19th December 2016 at Haversham Social & Community Centre at 7.30pm
Then 16th January 2017.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

Signed

date