

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HAVERSHAM CUM LITTLE LINFORD PARISH COUNCIL HELD
AT HAVERSHAM SOCIAL CENTRE ON MONDAY 20th July 2015 at 7.30pm.**

2015/03/09

PRESENT.

Cllrs Burgess (Chair), Gibbons, Neal and Watson.

Clerk J Vischer

Members of the public: Mrs Burgess

1. **Apologies** – Cllr. Furniss (arrived 8.40pm)

2. **PUBLIC FORUM**

Mrs Burgess complained of noisy dogs near her property; at this point the Chair declared an interest as her husband. Mrs Burgess went on to say that the noise of barking and howling from the dozen or so greyhounds kept at No 15 the High St. could be set off at any time but principally when the owners came to feed them. Other neighbours had agreed with Mrs Burgess that it was a nuisance and upsetting and can happen in the middle of the night. It was agreed to inform environmental health and noise officers in MK Council. It was further agreed to investigate whether a business was being run from the premises.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 15th June 2015 were approved. Proposer Cllr. Burgess, Seconder Cllr. Gibbons. Unanimous.

4. **COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF INTEREST on any matters pertaining to this agenda**

None

5. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- a. **Website** – The clerk had met with David Vallance from the website builder Kithappens and Lucy Aspinall to iron out the final stages of the website. Ex-councillor Lucy Aspinall had agreed to hand over the reins to the clerk. The 'draft' website was viewed and Mrs Aspinall's suggested 29 alterations gone through. Apart from one change that would have required an increase in pages and hence budget all these changes are to be effected by David Valance. The clerk volunteered to track down the old domain name as it was hoped to use this. Subsequently the clerk had established that the latter was still in the name of the original founder of the website, Andy Greig, who has since deceased. Unfortunately his wife did not know the necessary login details. Cllr. Neal offered to check a contact of Mr Greig's.

Clerk/Cllr. Neal

- b. **SID's** – Cllr. Gibbons reported that the clerk had provided some spare brackets and fixing straps courtesy of Stoke Goldington Parish Council. Although she had been in touch with Adrian Carden the operating chip was still not available.

Cllr. Gibbons

- c. **Bids for Section 106 funds** – Possible play/exercise equipment budget. Awaiting a quote for installation from MKC who will need to approve the choice as suggested by ex-cllr. Lucy Aspinall. **Clerk** The Chair had arranged to meet with the Revd Caddell after the community church service with respect to funds for the entrance modifications but this proved to be impractical in the circumstances. To be rearranged.

Chair

- d. **Former Anglian Water land behind Brookfield Road** – proposal to amend the PC Title (BM142461) so that it refers to the covenants of the 1950 Conveyance. The clerk had spelt out the wish of the Parish Council for action on this to Scott Fowler Associates but still there had been no confirmation of any activity.

Clerk

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e. **Land Registry rectification** on BM 338140 (Rec. Field) – MKC had replied to another request from the clerk for confirmation of action on the day of the meeting. They had put the relevant changes in motion working on the assumption that the Parish Council was in possession of the deeds.

f. **Proposed Car Park** – Nothing received officially but the Chair had been informed that the Secretary of State had given permission for the scheme to go ahead.

g. **Planning** - delegating role for a councillor to investigate an application on the ground – the clerk had been advised that this would not be a problem as long as common sense prevailed and private property was respected. In fact this might prove useful to the applicant who could take advantage of a visit to explain details. Councillors agreed that the purpose of a visit was purely as a fact-finding exercise to gather information that might help councillors' deliberations. It was agreed that a councillor living near to a given planning application would perform this role on an *ad hoc* basis.

h. **Training for new councillors** – there would be new courses in September, awaiting new schedule from BALC.

Any other matters

None

6. PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ENVIRONMENTAL ITEMS

Clerks' report.

- a. Silver birch tree replacements – the clerk had been informed by Bob Widd the Tree Officer that these were now being watered.
- b. Overgrowing shrubs Wolverton Road towards bridge – (20th Oct original) Re-reported April 22nd: ref 572888. 21st May: *'In progress'*. No change.
- c. Overgrowing shrubs on Linford Lane on the left towards the Motorway Services. (20th Oct original) Re-reported April 22nd: ref 572934. 21st May: *'In progress'* No change.
- d. Pothole between lower and upper village – reported 24 April ref 575761. 21st May: *'to be repaired within 28 days.'* A new road surface had been laid.
- e. Overgrown grass on footpath from the Crescent to Wolverton Rd - reported 19 May ref 597321 - this has been strimmed but hedge needs cutting back. Updated June 16th. Because the grass was strimmed the ref no. was closed. However the hedge was ongoing -

The clerk had visited the property owner of No 2 Wolverton Rd where he had discussed the background to this issue and been shown Land Registry documents and a letter from MK Council from 2012. The clerk had photographed these documents. The bulk of the hedge lies outside of the property as is clearly shown by the line of the front garden wall and the boundary fence still extant within the hedge that runs along the rear garden. The owner saw no reason why he should be responsible for the hedge except on his side, but he also kept the top under control. The Parish Council has had more complaints - children are scratching themselves on the spiky hawthorn. In the meantime the Chair had also been to visit the owner. MK Council's response to the clerk's report/email courtesy of Andy Burton Rights of Way Officer was that if he 'had proof the hedge was not the property owner's he would take it out down to the roots'. This would not please the owner who was happy that the hedge acted as a good boundary and if this was the case he would be prepared to cut the outside. The clerk had called for a meeting in his latest email to MKC on 14 July after being told by the owner that someone had 'had a go at the hedge and left all the arisings on the footpath'. The Chair offered to call in again to talk with the owner.

Chair/Clerk

- f. Broad Acre cowslips/strip in front of planters (Euan Darling). Contacted again 16 June. Euan Darling asked for the appropriate area to be roped off again in the future, so that the landscaping crew would be alerted.
- g. Drain at the end of Brookfield Rd near the junction with Wolverton Rd – reported 17 June. ref 622227. June 18: *'identified as planned works'*. *'In progress'*. Still outstanding.

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- h. 52-seater coach damaging verges in Brookfield Rd. (Royal Latin Grammar) – letter sent post-meeting. Reply from school stating that ‘bus drops off on Wolverton Rd’. Photographic evidence sent – no further reply. The coach had ceased entering Brookfield Road.
- i. Bulk bag outside of no 12 Brookfield Rd – moved just after last meeting.
- j. Blue bulk bags outside of no. 6 Wolverton Rd – (Mike Hainge) Landscape passed this on to Highways.
- k. Overgrowing shrubs between the motorway and the humpback bridge on Little Linford Lane reported 17 June. Ref 622272. Still outstanding. Clerk to escalate as it was now becoming even more dangerous.
- l. *Reported by resident in-between meetings* – diagonal footpath across the area opposite the Old Post Office. 24th June ref 629891 This had been done immediately.
- m. *Reported by resident in-between meetings* – footpath adjoining diagonal path across the area opposite the Old Post Office running parallel to the road: completely overgrown. Done as well
- n. Rowan Drive ditch – letter written to land agent end April. The clerk had met with the tenant farmer Mr Peter Geary on 9th July who informed him that there never had been a ditch there and although he could create one where would the water run-off to? Members disputed this stating that there was a ditch with a drain in the bottom. **Clerk to visit site and pursue**
- o. [Pothole by bridge Little Linford Lane - reported 24 April ref 575738. ‘unable to locate’. Re-reported 19 May ref 596100. 22 May: ‘This has been investigated and currently doesn’t meet our repair criteria. However we will continue to monitor the situation for deterioration and action if necessary’- keep on agenda]

7. **ALLOTMENTS.**

- a. Vacant plot strimming – this had been done.
- b. Cllr. Watson reported that an overhanging branch of a damson tree had been cut off without consultation and that the hedge pruning work had not been severe enough. He suggested meeting with the contractor for a tour of the site. **Clerk to arrange**
- c. Cllr. Watson also requested that no’s 25 and 29 Brookfield Road be sent letters drawing their attention to the fact that the adjoining allotments was not a place to dump their garden waste. **Clerk**

8. **PLANNING MATTERS**

Planning Applications

Previous - 15/00875/FUL Haversham First School. Provision of car parking facility for school and community – *still pending*

15/01032/CLUP 8 The Crescent Haversham Certificate of lawfulness for the proposed loft conversion with hip to gable and rear dormer. *Lawfulness granted.*

NEW - 15/01353/EIASC Solar Farm SW of Haversham Road Gayhurst Screening opinion request for proposed ground mounted solar farm (*for info*)

15/01691/NMA 16 Chalmers Avenue Haversham Non material amendment to application 08/01865/FUL to realign Northern boundary line (*for info*)

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 *Still Pending*

9. **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES**

Cllr Gibbons - Haversham Social and Community Centre had begun work on the asbestos in the cupboards of the building. A quote for removing the asbestos garage roof amounted to £5000.

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Permission to erect a canopy outside of the entrance to the Centre had been given by the school after some delay. The successful Summer Fête had raised £637.70 for Willen Hospice. A nomination for the Rose Stimpson Trophy Award had been put forward which councillors endorsed.

Cllr Neal reported the complaints he had made to MK Council through the clerk, since the bird-scarer had restarted at the end of last month. Initial reporting had had an effect but then in the last week the noise had begun again. Cllr. Furniss had also reported this. It was agreed that the clerk write and formally request an assurance that the bird-scarer be permanently switched-off, as councillors had been led to believe should happen. [*post-meeting note* – the clerk had written immediately following the meeting and had received an equally prompt reply stating that “The ‘bird scarer’ is a requirement of the Environmental Permit, issued by the Environment Agency” and goes on to say that not only is the gas gun set at a low setting (2 bangs) but the daily start and stop times have been reduced by approximately 3 hours] Cllr. Neal will be attending the upcoming Amey-Cespa liaison meeting to be held on 29th July.

Cllr. Furniss – reminded councillors that she could not attend this Thursday’s Stanton Low Restoration Project’s meeting to see the restoration work on St. Peter’s ruin. The clerk will be attending in her place.

The Chair reported back on the ‘Parish Council table’ that he manned with Cllr. Gibbons at the fete saying that little interest had been shown in becoming a parish councillor although it was a good social occasion. The Road Closure Notice fiasco concerning the resurfacing of the hill between upper and lower villages should not be allowed to happen again. Not only does the Parish Council need more detailed warnings and information but also MKC need to be more accurate in their signage as several residents had been most anxious about a supposed three-week road closure that only took three days.

The Chair had attended the Social Unity Service (*see above item 5d*)

12. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a. **Financial Statement** to 30th June 2015 –

Lloyds bank statement at 30 April 2015	<u>£14,550.98</u>
Presented cheques since last report	£1,355.43
Receipts since last report	£0.00
Net Position (confirmed by bank statement 71)	<u>£13,195.55</u>
National Saving Account at 1 st January 2015	£10,301.36
Total of Lloyds and NSB Accounts	<u>£24,852.34</u>
Less Allocated reserves	£13,732.57
Less Outstanding Cheques	£151.00
Available funds at 30 th June 2015	<u>£9,613.34</u>

b. Bank Mandate changes – completed

c. Accounts for payment -

a. J. Vischer, Salary as Clerk – July 2015 - £246.23; b. NBR Printing - £915.00; c. Drainage Board - £4.75; d. AH Contracts - £36.00; e. Warners of Bedford, mowingx2 & allotment strimming - £720.00; f. J. Vischer expenses - £28.21; g. J. Vischer, Salary as Clerk – August 2015 - £246.23; h. Chair’s expenses – plants for planters – £76.60.

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13. COUNCILLORS NEW ITEMS

a. Cllr Watson raised the issue of email communication – it was agreed that it would be preferable to receive a ‘not concerning me’ response to an email enquiry between councillors than none at all as then there was knowledge that all had seen it.

b. Cllr Gibbons reminded councillors of the request to have a bouncy castle on the Recreation Field outside of a house at the far end of Wolverton Road. This was agreed on condition that a public liability cover note was presented (normal terms and conditions).

c. Cllr. Neal asked for any update on Walnut Tree Cottage garage works which were supposed to have halted pending re-application. There had been no update from the planning enforcement team (13/01593/FUL) [*post meeting note* – this has now appeared under 15/01461/FUL Detached double garage with study above and basement]

d. The Chair reported a dead elm tree almost touching power cables 100yds up from the pub on the footpath side.

Clerk

The Chair had also noted that the gravel had spread all over the pavement outside the Old Schoolhouse again. Clerk to write and ask for a long-term solution to be installed.

Clerk

13. PUBLIC FORUM

None

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on 21st September at Haversham Social Centre at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.03pm

Signed

date