

HOPTON-ON-SEA PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTE of the Meeting held on 12 October 2009 at Hopton Village Hall Station Road Hopton-on-Sea commencing at 7pm.

Present:

Cllrs. Mike Butcher (Chairman), Ken Hicks (Vice-Chairman), Jay Formosa, Lenny Gent, Brian Howard, Val McGee, Maureen McGovern, Howard Shepherdson, Lilian Walker and Julie Woods. Also in attendance: Julie McNair, Clerk to the Council. Six members of the public were present.

1. To consider apologies for absence.

Apologies received and accepted from Parish Councillor Vicky Mummery, Borough Councillor Steve Ames and County Councillor Gerry Cook.

2. To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda.

Cllrs McGovern, Walker and Woods declared a personal interest in item 11 on the agenda as they represent Hopton in Bloom.

3. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14 September 2009.

Unanimously resolved to approve the minute as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Resolution to suspend the meeting to receive PCSO Dave Nickerson's report.

PCSO Dave Nickerson advised there were 35 calls to the Norfolk Constabulary from Hopton during the month of September, which resulted in 4 crimes. KIN priorities for Hopton are speeding and parking. Two verbal warnings have been given in respect of speeding down Coast Road. The meeting was reconvened.

5. To receive and consider the Clerk's reports:-

(i) **Correspondence** (as outlined in the attached list). The Clerk reported on paper correspondence received since the last meeting.

(ii) **Planning applications.** 06/09/0585/F 26 Kennel Loke. Proposed loft conversion which includes extending the hip roof to form gables and provision of dormers to front and rear elevations. No objections by the Planning Committee. 06/09/0627/CU Around a Pound Gift Shop Warren Road. Change of use from a gift shop to coffee shop serving drinks and snacks. Application currently with the Planning Committee.

Planning Permissions granted by GYBC. 06/09/0546/F 23 Anglian Way. Retrospective application for erection of conservatory to rear. 06/09/0547/F 34 Watsons Close. Single storey rear extension.

06/09/0521/F 3 Cliff Lane. Variation to condition 2 of 06/05/0432/F.

(iii) **Finance - to agree invoices for payment.** The Clerk presented 10 cheques to the meeting numbered 1310 to 1319 with a total value of £3192.22 and two further cheques from the St. Margaret's Ruins account numbered 1 and 2 with a total value of £204.00. It was resolved to pass these for payment.

6. To receive a brief update on matters arising from the Minutes:-

(i) Drains Lowestoft Road. No further information.

(ii) Neighbourhood Watch Scheme at Trafalgar Grange. Cllr. McGovern advised that four new signs have now been put up at various locations around Trafalgar Grange and window stickers delivered to residents.

7. To receive a report from the Village Hall Management Trust concerning progress of the New Community Village Hall project.

Cllr. Hicks read a report which was previously submitted to all Councillors. Tenders have been received and opened from seven contractors. The lowest two are being checked by the Quantity Surveyor and will be sent to the Big Lottery Fund, who will ultimately appoint the builder. Tender prices are lower than envisaged which means that the loan from the Parish Council to the Village Hall Management Trust will be much reduced. This loan will be repayable by the Village Hall Management Trust.

8. To receive and consider a report and update by the St. Margaret's Ruins Committee (old church on Coast Road).

A positive and supportive letter was read out from Darren Barker Conservation Officer GYBC in respect of the clearance works that have already taken place.

Cllr. McGee read a report which was previously submitted to all Councillors. A survey has been distributed throughout the village seeking feedback on the future of the ruins. Responses will be collected next Saturday and data collated. The committee is working on the Heritage Lottery Fund bid (stage 1) and are on target to submit the application in January 2010. A fundraising race night has been organised for 12 February 2010, details are on the notice boards and in View magazine.

9. To receive information and consider quotations re signs on the recreation ground and supply of free dog poo bags.

The Chairman advised that dog poo dispensers and bags have been purchased as agreed.

Before these are installed, a visual survey to record the level of dog poo on the field is required and Cllrs Formosa, McGee, Butcher and Hicks will co-ordinate this. A quotation has been obtained for five new signs, one at each entrance to the recreation ground, at a cost of £325.00 plus VAT. Cllr. Formosa will obtain a further quotation.

10. Organisation of the Over 60's and Family Christmas Parties.

The Clerk advised that the Over 60's Party is to be held on Sunday 13 December and the Family Party on Sunday 20 December, both between 3 – 5pm. Hopton's own Out of the Ashes live band will be playing at the Over 60's and the Tricky Twister has been booked for the Family party. It was unanimously agreed to set a budget of up to £1,000 for these events. Please could volunteers, for one or both parties, let the Clerk know via e-mail.

11. To consider a donation and sponsorship of Hopton-in-Bloom.

It was unanimously agreed to provide £750 to HIB by way of support. A sponsorship plaque to be erected at a suitable location.

12. To receive and consider information concerning the Parish Council Christmas Meal.

The Chairman outlined a couple of possibilities. It was agreed to visit Ambitions Restaurant at GY College on Wednesday 9 December, at a cost of £17.50 each. A £5 deposit per person to be provided to the Clerk as soon as possible to secure the booking. [The total cost is being met by each person and not the Parish Council]

13. To consider the communication from Leathes Prior reminding the Council that a Lease of the land on Hall Road, next to St. Margaret's Church, is still available.

The Chairman advised that Mr Oakes' legal advisers have reiterated that a Lease option is still on offer, on the same terms as before. The matter was discussed, and it was unanimously agreed to continue with the Compulsory Purchase Order.

14. Resolution to suspend the meeting for the Public Forum, County Councillor and Borough Councillors' Reports.

Resolved to suspend the meeting. Members of the public raised the following points:-

- Item 13 Compulsory Purchase Order. It was confirmed that the CPO is to continue and that if successful at the Inquiry, the land will be transformed into a walk through nature area with seating, litter bins and information boards. It is intended to keep the character as it was prior to the land being vandalised.
- Now that Trafalgar Grange has formed a Safer Neighbourhood Scheme, the cost of household insurance renewal is likely to be around 20% less.
- The two lights illuminating the signs at the entrance to Hopton are still not working.
- The East Coast Erosion Committee, through Cllr. Weymouth, will be convening a meeting shortly.

- Caulking works have still not started, despite promises. The Parish Council will continue to pursue this with GYBC.
- Following closure of the beach walkway between Hopton and Corton earlier this year, large amounts of the walkway and support wall just past Radar Lodge (Corton) have now collapsed.
- The footpath along Hall Road to the Post Office is in need of maintenance. Request to be sent to GYBC.
- Can GYBC let residents in Seafields Drive know when the road sweeper will be in the area so that vehicles can be moved off the road. The paths also need spraying with weed killer.
- The bottle banks on the Lowestoft Road are being vandalised, there is broken glass surrounding the area and children sit on the banks. The Parish Council will ask Somerfield whether the banks could be re-located near their site which should cut down on vandalism.

No further items were raised and the meeting was reconvened.

15. To read Parish Councillors' Reports (previously submitted in writing).

Warren Road footpath/cycle path. A meeting was held recently with Borough Councillors, County Councillors, nominated residents and the Golf Club. It is looking positive that matters may be formalised. This will allow more children to cycle to school between Hopton and Gorleston and greater use of the pathway.

16. Items for the next Agenda (not for discussion).

(i) VHMT New Build Project (ii) Dog poo survey and sign quotation (iii) Neighbourhood Watch (iv) St. Margaret's Ruins (v) Drains (vi) Warren Road cycle/footpath (vii) Precept 2010/2011 (viii) Staffing

17. Confirmed the date and time of the next meeting of Hopton-on-Sea Parish Council will be Monday 9 November 2009 at 7pm Hopton Village Hall (behind the new Health Centre Station Road).

The Chairman thanked the public (and any press) for attending. The meeting closed at 8pm.

Signed Date
Chairman / Vice-Chairman

These Minutes are unconfirmed until approved by the full Council.

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