

## HOPTON-ON-SEA PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTE of the Meeting held on 13 July 2009 at Hopton Village Hall Station Road Hopton-on-Sea.

### Present:

Cllrs. Mike Butcher (Chairman), Ken Hicks (Vice-Chairman), Jay Formosa, Lenny Gent, Brian Howard, Val McGee, Maureen McGovern, Howard Shepherdson, Julie Woods.

Also in attendance: Julie McNair, Clerk to the Council, County Councillor Gerry Cook and Borough Councillor Steve Ames. Nine members of the public attended.

### 1. To consider apologies for absence.

Apologies received and accepted from Parish Councillors Vicky Mummery and Lilian Walker.

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

Cllr. Formosa declared a personal interest in item 6(ii) as the problem affects his personal dwelling. Cllr Val McGee declared a personal interest in item 6(iv) on the agenda as her dwelling is close to the cycleway/footpath.

### 3. To confirm the minute of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8.6.09

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

### 4. Resolved to suspend the meeting to receive the monthly Police Report.

PCSO Dave Nickerson reported there were 81 calls to Norfolk Constabulary during the month of June which resulted in 20 crimes being recorded. A home watch pack now provided to Cllr. McGovern providing details to enable a neighbourhood watch scheme to be set up at Trafalgar Grange. The meeting was re-convened.

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

(i) **Correspondence.** The Clerk reported on paper correspondence received since the last meeting.

(ii) **Planning Applications considered by the Parish Council's Planning Committee.**

06/09/0349/F 13 Potters Drive. Erect PVCu conservatory to rear of property. 06/09/0363/F Bungalow, rear of Bakery Station Road. Use as domestic dwelling. 06/09/0361/F 4 Groomes Close. Extension to western elevation. 06/09/0369/F. Potters Leisure Resort. Car parking link roads. 06/09/0370/F Potters Leisure Resort. Proposed indoor shooting range facility. 06/09/0371/F Potters Leisure Resort. Alterations and extensions to existing facility building (update). 06/09/0417/F 2 Brett Cottages Sidegate Road. Demolish existing kitchen and erect new larger kitchen extension. All the above – no objection by the Planning Committee.

06/09/0442/F Hopton Post Office. New shop front. 06/09/0436/F 7A Cliff Lane Gorleston (Hopton parish). Raising roof to form bedrooms and bathroom (amended plans). 06/09/0434/F 18 Watsons Close. Erection of garage on parking spaces to complete a block of three. These applications are with the Planning Committee for their comments.

#### **Planning Permissions granted by GYBC**

06/09/0349/F, 06/09/03634/F and 06/09/0361/F as outlined above.

(iii) **Finance**

(a) The Clerk presented 11 cheques to the meeting numbered 1283 to 1293 with a total value of £1989.90. It was resolved to pass these for payment.

(b) The amendments to boxes 2 and 3 of the annual return were approved.

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

(i) **Traffic calming** – feasibility study. A copy of the final report has now been received from NCC. It is recommended to extend the existing 20mph zone between the frontage of the shops (McColls) on Station Road and Hopton CE Primary School on Coast Road. New gateway treatments to be provided, near to the school and shops to correspond to the change in speed limit. Speed hump (flat top) to be provided near the school on Coast Road – within the 20mph zone. Realignment of the junction with Warren Road to provide deflection, slow vehicles making the left turn manoeuvre and give better vehicle path guidance through the bend. The additional benefit of this realignment is that it simplifies the junction layout, narrows the carriageway for crossing pedestrians and improves visibility. Dropped kerbs/tactile paving to be added so as to provide an uncontrolled crossing for pedestrians to and from the school. A zebra crossing or uncontrolled flat top speed hump on Station Road, to be located near the existing shared use facility to Trafalgar Grange (via Cumby Way) and near the doctors surgery/village hall. The type of crossing will be determined at the detailed design stage, with possible public consultation. All proposed works are subject to NCC member's approval and funding. The Parish Council is pleased with the proposals as outlined.

(ii) **Drainage problem old Lowestoft Road.** A response has been received from Anglian Water advising that they are arranging for a CCTV survey to be carried out on the section of sewer serving the properties concerned, which will

be carried out in the next four weeks. They will write to the Parish Council with the results of the survey by 17 August.

It was agreed to write to Anglian Water concerning the persistent failure of the pumping station on Warren Road.

**(iii) Hopton beach.** A response has been received from Peter Hardy Executive Director GYBC advising that the Monitoring Agreement (between Great Yarmouth Port Authority (GYPA), GYBC, WDC, The Environment Agency, English Nature (now Natural England) and the Port of Lowestoft, requires GYPA to undertake regular surveys of the coastline, extending north and south from the outer harbour site and including the beach at Hopton. Bathymetric surveys of the area local to the outer harbour site are also to be undertaken. The areas to be surveyed extend well beyond the area where studies had predicted any likely direct effect from the outer harbour development. The Monitoring Agreement goes on to require GYPA to commission annual reports by a suitable independent expert in order to establish what changes to the coastline or nearshore bathymetry has occurred and the extent to which such changes may have resulted from the construction of the outer harbour. Provisions in the Order confer powers on GYBC and other statutory agencies to require GYPA to undertake any remediation work that may be necessary as a consequence. The Order can be found at [www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2005/20052601.htm](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2005/20052601.htm) As part of the transaction leading to the construction of the outer harbour, EastPort UK have taken on responsibility for discharging GYPA's obligations under the Monitoring Agreement and Order. GYBC has received two reports from EastPort UK. The first is a factual baseline study which analyses the results of beach and bathymetric monitoring from 2000 to 2007, immediately before any construction work on the outer harbour commenced. The second report, by consultants HR Wallingford, seeks to analyse the survey results for the 12 month period from mid 2007 to mid 2008, as the outer harbour construction got under way. GYBC are hoping to receive confirmation from East Port that the baseline report can be circulated. In the meantime, GYBC advise that the report demonstrates quite significant patterns of natural change in the beach profiles within the study area, with erosion in the Hopton area continuing at about 0.2m/yr. This long term trend of erosion at Hopton has been independently confirmed by the Environment Agency's surveys. The 2008 HR Wallingford report, still in draft, contains too few data to draw any firm conclusions as to whether the outer harbour is having any direct effect on beaches to the south. It is Mr Hardy's view that it will be necessary for HRW to update the report to a summer 2009 base, using additional survey data gathered this year, before any meaningful interpretations can be made. He has asked EastPort UK to confirm a target date for releasing an updated report.

The steps leading from Hopton Holiday Village to the beach have now been repaired by GYBC.

**(iv) Warren Road cycleway/footpath.** An update has been received from NCC advising that all parties involved (Golf Club, residents in Warren Road) agree that this route is deemed a restricted byway. However, taking into account the opposition from Warren Road residents with regard to adopting the northern section of the route under S228 Highways Act 1980, to allow for future maintenance, and on advice from NCC it has been decided that it is no longer necessary to adopt this section of the route. A one off goodwill gesture payment will be offered to the Road Association Group on the understanding that this does not mean that NCC has any liability to maintain that section. The proposals for the southern end will be put to the Golf Club, Hopton Holiday Village and one other adjacent landowner with a view to carrying out the works and then adopting the route under S228. If this goes ahead then NCC will be liable to maintain the highway over this section to restricted byway standards.

It was resolved to approve the proposals as outlined above.

#### **7. To consider the installation of a bollard near the barrier on Beach Road.**

It was resolved to proceed with the installation of a fixed bollard (allowing for disabled/wheelchair access), at no cost to the Parish Council.

#### **8. To receive complaints from residents regarding unrestrained dogs on the recreation ground. To consider options available for dealing with the problem.**

A couple of complaints have been received from residents concerning unrestrained dogs and dog mess on the playing field. The existing signs are difficult to read and need replacing with more appropriate wording. The Chairman will raise with GYBC the possibility of supplying dog poo bags in local shops free of charge, and will report back at the next meeting. If this is possible, new signs at the entrance to the playing field will indicate where these bags can be obtained. New sign wording to be agreed at the next meeting. Cllr. Formosa to obtain a quotation. It was agreed that everyone needs to be vigilant and this ongoing problem will be highlighted in Village View magazine.

#### **9. To receive a report by the St. Margaret's Ruins Committee, and an update concerning the strip of land offered to the school.**

Some discussion took place concerning the report previously supplied to all Cllrs. The pre-application to English Heritage (EH) is with Darren Barker for his comments. Once this has been sent to EH, they will respond within 14 days as to whether the project meets their criteria and the level of funding available. As previously indicated, there will be no cost to the Parish Council as all fees are included in the project costs. A previous pre-

application was submitted by GYBC in 2006 and this received a favourable response from EH. If the current pre-application is accepted, a more detailed application will be submitted to EH by January 2010. It was unanimously agreed to permit the Ruins Committee to proceed on this basis. The Committee will update the full Parish Council monthly and refer any matters requiring decisions. The Ruins Committee will liaise with the VHMT New Build Committee concerning other potential funders. Cllr. Howard will seek sponsorship to cover booklet printing costs. Cllr. McGee invited all residents to the launch of the project on St. Margaret's Day next Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July. There will be a blessing ceremony in the grounds of the Ruins at 2.30pm. All are welcome. More information will be on notice boards shortly.

As agreed at last month's meeting, a strip of land has been offered to Hopton CE Primary School with outline terms. The proposals are now with NCC for consideration.

**10. To consider whether to hold a meeting in August.**

Following discussion, the meeting was suspended to allow public views to be heard. The meeting was re-convened and it was agreed by majority vote to hold an August meeting.

**11. To receive, consider and approve in principle a Deed between HPC (i) and VHMT (ii) in relation to repayment of a proposed loan relating to the New Village Hall Build Project.**

The agreement was unanimously approved in principle, subject to the final loan amount and interest rate being agreed.

**12. 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 issues:-

Dogs on the recreation ground. Raise awareness in the parish magazine. What literature is provided by the Holiday park.

Thanks to the Parish Council (NCC Highways) for organising the white lines along the Lowestoft Road.

Private front garden to the Post Office is a great improvement and very welcoming.

Re-highlighting the road markings around the roundabout on the A12 as they have worn away.

County Councillor Gerry Cook talked about the proposed cycle path on Warren Road (referred to above).

Borough Councillor Steve Ames advised that residents were pleased with the recent clean up by GYBS of side roads in the village.

GYBC is looking for a significant reduction in government grants this year.

The recent judicial review case in Suffolk is likely to cause more delay to the LGR.

A consultation process will be underway shortly concerning the third river crossing.

No further items were raised by the public and the meeting was reconvened.

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

There were none.

**14. Items for the next Agenda (not for discussion).**

(i) Summer Fete Sunday 16 August (ii) Ruins Committee (iii) Quality Parish Status (iv) Signs on the Recreation Ground and dog poo bags.

**15. To confirm the date and time of the next meeting of Hopton-on-Sea Parish Council.**

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> August 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 8.25 pm.

Signed .....

Date .....

Chairman / Vice-Chairman

These Minutes are unconfirmed until approved by the full Council.

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