

HAWKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 11TH 2010 AT 7.30PM IN HAWKLEY PARISH HALL

DRAFT

PRESENT: Peter Cregeen (Chairman); John Scutt; Susan Sinclair; Charlie Butcher; Jilly Caesar; Geoff Brighton.

Sue Harwood (Clerk) was in attendance.

ALSO PRESENT: District Councillor Judy Onslow and five members of the public.

Several residents voiced their concern about the 'Half Acre, Hawkley Road' application for permanent planning permission. Councillors sympathised and expressed regret that EHDC appear no nearer to establishing an authorised site than 3 years ago. Judy Onslow reported that this remained a number one priority for EHDC in the face of great difficulties, not all financial. The perceived inequalities in the current system were felt by all present to be unfair. While the approach of the new Government may bring about changes to redress the balance, these will take time to be reflected in changes to planning legislation.

10/16 Apologies for Absence

Councillor Nick Davis and County Councillor Vaughan Clarke were both on holiday; Councillor David Caukill was absent due to another commitment.

10/17 Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting

Councillor Susan Sinclair pointed out that she was not present at the last meeting. The minutes of the last meeting held on May 26th were otherwise approved and signed as a true record.

10/18 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Jilly Caesar declared an interest in agenda item 6d) recorded below as 10/21d), the nature of that interest being the same as that declared at the previous meeting, and Councillor Charlie Butcher declared an interest in the same item, as he is helping to organise the event. Both left the room for discussion on this matter.

10/19 Report from District Councillor

Judy Onslow agreed to arrange a meeting between Parish Councillors and officers of EHDC in order to discuss the Half Acre situation. Nothing further to add to the discussion that had already taken place.

Judy Onslow then left the meeting.

10/20 Report of County Councillor

No report due to absence

10/21 Finance:

- a) The financial statement showed recent transactions and payments to be approved.
- b) HPC has passed the internal audit with no queries arising. However the auditor had pointed out that the Parish Council must be careful not to hold onto high reserves without a budgeted cause, to which the Clerk had responded that a grant had been promised to Hawkley Parish Hall but not yet paid and that the amount was not yet fixed. The Clerk also informed Councillors that such a grant would not in fact be categorised as 'section 137 expenditure' with its attendant limits and could therefore be higher than previously proposed, if Councillors wished.
- c) It was agreed that Liss and District Voluntary Care Group provides a very worthwhile service and a grant of £200.00 was approved.
- d) All present agreed that the plan to hold a party on the village green was extremely worthwhile, in promoting the village hall project and in enabling the whole village to get together. A grant of £500 towards the cost of it was agreed.

10/22 Planning Matters

John Scutt reviewed recent planning applications and decisions.

10/23 Half Acre, Hawkley Road

It was agreed that the Parish Council must object to this application. It was further agreed that if necessary the advice of a barrister could be funded up to £750. Local residents who object to the application would be encouraged to do so officially to EHDC.

10/24 Ham Barn Roundabout

Clerk to write once more to Mel Kendall HCC Executive Member for Environment regarding the apparent lack of progress towards a solution.

10/25 Wheatham Hill

HCC has sought the support of Hawkley Parish Council for a project to improve access to the viewpoint on Wheatham Hill, situated in Ashford Hangers. It was unanimously agreed that this is a very worthwhile project. The Chairman has written accordingly.

10/26 Reports of Representatives

a) Hawkley Parish Hall

Active fundraising continues and optimism was expressed that the target would be reached.

b) Footpaths

Fallen trees continue to block the footpaths from Cheesecomb Lane, despite the Parish Council's written request to clear the way through. The Chairman agreed to contact the landowner directly.

c) Ashford Hangers

Mrs Madeline Allison has kindly agreed to join the Ashford Hangers Committee as the Parish Council's representative. She will attend a future meeting to update Councillors on the committee's work.

d) Lengthsman

John Scutt requested a litterbin for Lower Green.

e) Coryton Trust

Peter Cregeen reported that the trust continues to function smoothly.

10/27 Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 24th November at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10pm.

Chairman

Date