

HARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 11th January 2018
at 7.30pm in Hargrave Village Hall

PRESENT

David Taylor - Chairman (DT)
Ron Ambridge (RA)
Sue Hammond (SH)
James Perry (JP)
Peter Reddick (Pred)
Paul Rogers (PR)
Antonia King (AK) - Clerk

Clive Pollington, Borough Councillor (CP)
Mary Evans, County Councillor (ME)

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

1.1.	DT welcomed everyone to the meeting.	
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2. WELCOME TO NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR

2.1	DT welcomed Ron Ambridge as councillor to the meeting, paperwork not fully complete, RA to finish and return to AK asap.	RA
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3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3.1.	SC gave her apologies in advance, JP and RA apologised for late arrival.	
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4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

4.1.	None raised	
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5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 9TH NOVEMBER

5.1.	The minutes of the last meeting were approved by all present and signed by DT.	
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6. PUBLIC FORUM

6.1.	A member of the public was present for the school transport discussion	
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7. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

7.1.	Lower section of Church Lane – PRed confirmed he would send a report on the poor road condition, together with photographs to ME, for ME to follow up with Highways.	PRed/ME
7.2.	Grass cutting of footpaths – Following DT article in the newsletter, a concern was raised over the Church Lane/Denham footpath. See item 8.4	
7.3.	Newsletter receipts – Chris has the bank details and has undertaken the banking of newsletter monies.	
7.4.	Parish Council Standing Orders – PR confirmed all changes have been made.	
7.5	2018 Precept – Option 3 (with £280 increase due to DPO expense) agreed and signed by DT. AK to send to the council by January 26 th .	AK
7.6	Knowles Green grazing licence – Mark Carsdale wants to renew licence on current terms. PRed to investigate appropriate rates, following this DT to write to Mark Carsdale. Must be agreed by end of March 2018.	PRed/DT
7.7	Asset register – Updated and signed by DT. It was later identified that 1 park bench is missing from the asset register. AK to update for signature at next meeting.	AK
7.8	Clerk training – Training booked and to be undertaken Feb 23 rd and March 2 nd .	
7.9	Footpath Maps – Maps have been printed and collected by Vic.	

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

8.1. PLAY AREA

8.1.1	Ref to item 10.1.2.	
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8.2. VILLAGE HALL

8.2.1.	SH had nothing to report, next village hall meeting end of Jan 2018.	
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8.3. OVERGROWN TREES ADJACENT TO FREISTON LODGE

8.3.1.	<p>Following communication from Colin Painter regarding concerns of potential damage to his property and power lines, and having previously established that the trees are the responsibility of highway maintenance it was agreed that action should be taken.</p> <p>ACTION: AK to contact UK Power Networks and speak with their Tree Management team to remove the branches affecting the electricity cables, and to draft a letter to Highway Maintenance to inform them of the unstable trees. AK to ask them to advise or take action due to safety concerns to the adjacent roads and properties.</p>	AK
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8.4. FOOTPATHS

8.4.1.	DT raised concern over changing the footpaths to be cut without upsetting	DT
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	<p>people. Options put forward were that the current footpaths remain maintained by the council and the parish undertakes the expense to cut more. Estimated cost for this would be £55 per path.</p> <p>Further discussion over how many times the current footpaths were actually cut and their location on the perimeters of the village was debated. It was felt unlikely that they were cut 3x per year as was understood to be the current agreement.</p> <p>ACTION: Further investigation was required to be better informed about all the village footpaths. DT is to contact the council for clarification over what our expectations for upkeep should be. DT also to walk the various footpaths to get a better idea of need, condition, location, etc.</p>	
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8.5. SCHOOL TRANSPORT

8.5.1.	<p>ME reported that the council are considering removing free school transport to all but the nearest schools. This translates to Barrow Primary and King Edward VI School for Hargrave school children. This will come into effect in 2019 either as a phased process or as a blanket go ahead.</p> <p>As a village this poses many issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vast majority of the school children currently attend Ickworth Primary and County Upper both of which are catchment area schools. • There is very little difference in distance/route for buses to take children to County or KEGS • Barrow Primary may not have enough spaces because of the expansion of housing within Barrow. • If no free school transport is available then it becomes a deterrent to young families moving into the Hargrave, and thus having a knock on effect on the demographics of the village. • Impact on the Green agenda of the county – with more cars on the road, pollution, etc. <p>A public meeting in B.S.E is organised for Jan 26th. It was agreed that this could be overwhelmed with parents from B.S.E and so it would be more beneficial to organise a local meeting involving Chedburgh, Chevington and Hargrave villages.</p> <p>The end of the consultation period is February 28th.</p> <p>ACTION: JP to coordinate and collate the village responses to this issue and feed them back to ME.</p> <p>ME to try to organise a more local meeting with the council. CP to be copied into all school transport communication, as it was felt the Borough should be kept in the loop.</p>	JP/ME
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9. FINANCIAL REPORT FROM THE RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER

9.1.	The RFO had circulated reports in advance of the meeting which were agreed. The reports provided were as follows:	
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Treasurers Account reconciled with bank statement dated 22 nd December 2017	£6351.78
Savings Account reconciled with bank statement dated 22 nd December 2017	<u>£2243.32</u>
Total reconciled to 22nd December 2017	£8595.10

Notes

- £840.00 of total above is ring fenced for the play area. Additional £600 contribution towards new play equipment awaited from Clive Pollington

Total available as at 22nd December 2017 : **£7755.10**

9.1.1	The finance report was approved.	
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10. REPRESENTATION COMMENTS

10.1. BOROUGH COUNCIL

10.1.1.	CP reported that he has secured approximately £600 of funds for the village.	
10.1.2.	With regards to the claim for the play area, as yet nothing has happened, but the current contact is Katie Sargent who hopes to come to the next parish meeting.	
10.1.3.	The forming of the larger single Borough Council is going ahead. It will result in a saving of £800k p.a., protecting revenues. The Borough Councils will reduce in numbers and cover a larger area, likely incorporating 2 extra villages.	
10.1.4.	There has been an increase in the uptake of brown bins, there will be no increase in the cost. Churches remain exempt to the charge.	
10.1.5.	The waste hub facility is extremely likely to go ahead.	
10.1.6.	In relation to the school transport issue CP offered a possible solution should it become a reality: grants could be possible for villages to buy a minibus, with funds that could be made available for servicing, etc.	

10.2 COUNTY COUNCIL

10.2.1	The Speed Safety Limit team has decided that it is not worth changing the speed limits within the village to a constant 40mph through to the 30mph zone. ME feels that this decision should be contested and has already sent a report with photos of the numerous signs warning of bends, bridleways, pedestrians, etc.	
10.2.2	There is a Police meeting, with the Rights of Way team in attendance on February 7 th at the Sports Pavillion in Clare, 7.00-8.30pm. Local Parishes are encouraged to attend.	
10.2.3	An Energy Advice Clinic was held in Clare Library, and was a great success. They would like to run it again, and a minibus would be available to collect	

	residents of local rural villages and take them to Clare for the meeting if they are interested. The clinic offers advice to the elderly on how to manage their energy finances and tariffs, and how to change the tariff if necessary. In the previous clinic they managed to save one lady £600 on her energy bills.	
10.2.4	School transport – refer to 8.5	
10.2.5	<p>Following on from the work that Highways carried out in the Wash it was pointed out that further problems have been created. The new gullies have resulted in the carriageway becoming narrower on an already narrow road. Cars and lorries are now having to mount the kerb causing damage and erosion of the new earth verges. The collapsing earth is blocking the gullies as a consequence.</p> <p>ACTION: PRed to send photographic evidence of the damage to ME. ME to follow up with Highways.</p>	PRed/ ME

10.3 POLICE

10.3.1	The Police did not attend the meeting and had not submitted a report. It was noted that there has been no Police presence or report since the Force underwent reorganisation 18 months ago.	
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11. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

11.1	No applications had been received since the last meeting.	
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12. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

12.1	The Parish Council approved the submission draft Hargrave Neighbourhood Plan December 2017 to the Borough Council and have been briefed on the procedures to follow, including, in due course the referendum and confirms its support for its process.	
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13. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

13.1	<p>PR provided a report of incidents in local areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A barn was broken into at Grove Farm at the end of November 2017, a Fuel Bowser was stolen. • Heating oil was stolen from a property in school cottages, it was at the same time as the Fuel Bowser theft, and it is assumed that the two crimes are related. • Reports of a tramp sleeping rough between Ousden Road and Green Farm. No sightings have been seen since the first report on January 9th 2018. 	
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14. CORRESPONDENCE

14.1	All correspondence received had previously been circulated by AK.	
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15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15.1	SALC have been allocated 2 invitations to a Buckingham Palace garden party. Hargrave Parish Council agreed that their nomination should be Colin Painter. ACTION: DT to write to Colin to ensure he is happy for his name to be put forward, assuming he is, AK to submit the nomination.	DT/AK
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16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on **Thursday 8th March 2018 at 7.30pm.**

Signed (Chairman) Date.....