

HEIGHINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

c/o 17 East Green, Heighington, Co Durham. DL5 6PP

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 2018 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT. Cllr B Anderson (Chairman)

Cllr M French

Cllr E Thompson

Cllr L Garner

Cllr M Woodward

Cllr G Lee

L Dunn

063.2018 APOLOGIES.

Cllr L Bedocs, Cllr G Blenkinsopp, Cllr C Teare

064.2018 RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS

None

065.2018 APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING ON 16 AUGUST 2018

The minutes of the meeting on 16 August 2018 were approved and signed by the Chairman accordingly.

066.2018 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Cllr Woodward has checked the fire risk assessment for the changing rooms and it is still relevant. He will update the date accordingly.

Cllr Anderson has not yet had the opportunity to speak to Heighington Pre School regarding the garden at the sports field. He will endeavour to do this before the next meeting.

ACTION: Cllr Anderson

A copy of the Title Register of the former Cumby Arms has been received but shows no details of a right of access. Following discussion, it was thought that the right of way is shown on the deeds of the sports field. It was agreed that Cllr Anderson would locate such deeds so the matter can be investigated further.

ACTION: Cllr Anderson

Cllr Garner reminded the meeting about the proposal received some time ago from DBC regarding the use of the sports field car park. He stated that there were a number of school staff who used the facility to park their cars each day and he thinks there should be a charge levied to the school for the use of the car park. The income received from the levy would contribute towards the upkeep and ongoing maintenance of the facility and could also be used to for installing a footpath from Beech Crescent, using the right of access through the former Cumby Arms land up to the sports field which could be used by residents of the new development to get to the school. He therefore PROPOSED

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that a charge of £1,000 per annum should be levied on Heighington School for use of the car park. This proposal was SECONDED by Cllr Woodward and it was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

Cllr Lee mentioned that S106 monies could also be used to build a footpath. He also informed the meeting that there was a rumour that the residents of Heighcroft (the former Cumby Arms) had purchased Trafalgar House in the village and had the intention of building on the land in front of their house. Cllr Lee has contacted DBC and at present no planning application has been submitted so he emailed the residents but has had no reply.

Cllr Woodward informed the meeting that he had noticed a camper van which has been regularly parking in the car park overnight and it was agreed that investigations are needed to try to find out who it is. It was suggested that a notice should be installed stating that there should be no overnight parking and this was agreed.

ACTION: Cllr Anderson

Cllr Garner stated that as the new pre school was up and running the Village Hall will be more financially secure. He asked whether the contribution towards the projector had been given and the Clerk confirmed that it had. He was going to suggest that the contribution be pulled if it had not already been sent. There then followed a general discussion on the annual grant for the Village Hall and it was agreed that the matter would be discussed nearer the time when the grants were considered.

067.2018 HEALTH AND SAFETY

Risk Assessment Review

The Parish Council's risk review document was due for its annual review. The document had been updated by the Clerk and was circulated prior to the meeting. Each item was reviewed individually at the meeting.

The following action points / updates to the risk assessment were agreed:

Subject	Amendment	Action Required	Action By
Public Toilets	Add detail that a COSH register is maintained	COSH register to be set up	Cllr G Blenkinsopp

Cllr Thompson proposed to accept the updated Risk Assessment. Cllr French seconded the proposal and it was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED to accept the document.

Cllr Garner asked how the precept worked in relation to the new houses which are being built in the village. Discussion followed to try to determine how it worked and it was decided that the question should be posed to DBC.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

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The report from the recent inspection of the play equipment has been received and circulated.

There are a number of items which require attention. Cllr Anderson suggested that the best course of action would be to contact Playdale, the company who installed the equipment to ask them for a site meeting in order to discuss the recommendations from the report. He informed the meeting that his intention was to go through the report in details and address all recommendations, including those deemed low risk.

ACTION: Parish Clerk, Cllr Anderson

068.2018 SPORTSFIELD

Cllr Anderson informed the meeting that the edges of the sportsfield had been cut by DBC.

069.2018 FUNDING AND FUNDRAISING

An email had been received from Heighington WI regarding the planting of daffodil bulbs which had previously been agreed by HPC. They detailed the cost of purchasing the bulbs last year and asked whether HPC were willing to contribute towards the cost of the bulbs this year. Following discussion Cllr French PROPOSED that a donation of £150 be made from the Community Fund, Cllr Woodward SECONDED the proposal and it was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

070.2018 REDWORTH

Cllr Anderson informed the meeting that he had repaired the damage bench, fitting three new slats. He also stated that he would be inspecting all benches for their condition in due course.

071.2018 THE CHESTNUTS

Cllr Anderson informed the meeting that following the last meeting, when he went to put copies of the minutes in the notice board that it had fallen over due to wear and tear at the bottom. This has now been repaired and the board has been re-erected.

Cllr Lee mentioned the latest concern with the Oaklands development, whereby the developer has failed to reinstate trees and shrubs cut down in order for the installation of a water main. Cllr Lee has contacted DBC who requested that an email be sent to the developer, copying DBC in as in their opinion this should have been done. DBC will then take the matter up with the developer.

ACTION: Cllr Lee

072.2018 PLANNING

Planning Application Ref: 18/00825/ADV – Display of 2 no. flagpoles and 1 no. free standing board hoarding at Field 6500 Walworth Road

Agreed a No comment reply given for all due to insufficient information provided.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

Parking at Hopelands

Cllr Woodward raised concern about the loss of green space where children play in Hopelands if it were to be developed to provide more parking spaces which he understood had been proposed by Cllr Lee. He suggested that the two existing parking areas could be joined to give more space rather

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than using the large area of grass. Cllr Lee stated that residents now seemed to be parking correctly and that the £15,000 that had been allocated for the work from S106 monies could possibly be used elsewhere, such as the footpath from the Beech Crescent development. He stated that he was happy for the plans to be changed now that the threat of closure of the sportsfield car park had dissipated and that he would contact DBC accordingly.

ACTION: Cllr Lee

The Clerk informed the meeting that an email had been received from DBC Highways stating that they had received an application from the developer of Walworth Road for the following street names in the development; Orchid Drive, Buttercup Close, Yarrow Close and Clover Court. DBC Highways were asking whether HPC had any objections to the names. It was agreed that the names were suitable.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

Cllr Lee informed the meeting that he had been in discussion with DBC regarding the Beech Crescent development with the proposal that a street be named Kieran Maxwell Lane. Kieran's parents had been contacted and were happy for this and DBC required consent from HPC. It was agreed that this would be a fitting gesture to Kieran and it was therefore UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.

ACTION: Parish Clerk, Cllr Lee

Cllr Woodward asked the meeting if it was known how many caravan plots had been asked for at the Dog Inn as the ground seems to have been levelled out recently for groundworks and the area is large. The rumor is that someone originally from Hull has purchased the land and is intending to build log cabins. Following discussion, it was agreed to write to DBC for clarification on the matter.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

073.2018 FINANCE

The bank reconciliation for July had been circulated and balanced.

External Audit Conclusion

The Clerk advised the meeting that the external auditor had completed the audit of the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2018 and a statement confirming this along with confirmation that the statement of accounts has been published had been published on the website. There was one recommendation on the report which was that the Council should ensure that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return should be accurate and complete. This is due to the initial omission of a fixed asset acquisition during the year.

Asset Register Review

The asset register was circulated, reviewed and approved.

074.2018 REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

None

075.2018 OTHER MATTERS

Cllr Lee reported that DBC had recently won their case regarding Swan House roundabout and that the current occupants will be given notice to leave by 4th October 2018.

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Cllr Lee informed the meeting that issues with the Beech Crescent development reported to him by residents had now been resolved. Cllr Garner mentioned that a temporary footpath had been put down opposite the entry to the site which in his opinion did not conform with appropriate standards. There were some rubber matting sheets which were turned up at the edges which are a tripping hazard. It was agreed that Cllr Lee would speak to the site manager regarding the issue.

ACTION: Cllr Lee

The landlord of the Bay Horse had been in touch requesting permission to hold a bonfire, similar to the event last year, this year. It was agreed that this could be done.

It was agreed to send a card to Cllr Bedocs wishing him well due to his recent ill health.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:31pm.