

HENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES (Unapproved) of a Council Meeting

Date: Thursday 2nd February 2017

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: OSCA, Henham

Present: Cllrs N.Baker, S. Lee, F. Frindle, D. Marshall, J. Bawden, K. Lafferty-George, A. Malins and Clerk M. Dacey

1. Apologies for Absence: Cllrs LeCount, Fisher, District Cllr R. Gooding

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the December 2016 meeting were approved and signed by the Chair. There was no meeting in January 2017.

3. Matters Arising

4. Reports and Recommendations

(i) Greens and Village Estate – Cllr. Baker

1. **Village ponds** – All work was finished in time for Christmas. The Parish Council thanks Mark Fiddler for the negotiations and his hard work during the pond work. The project has been a huge success and we will reap the benefits in years to come. Following a discussion it was agreed to trim back the growth in the 20 lime trees in Crow Street and in the churchyard at a cost of £680.00. In addition, a cost will be sought for trimming back some branches at the back of the village ponds which are taking light from gardens. It was also agreed to undertake the final grading and seeding, preparation of the silt on the allotment, moving of fish and painting of the railings in the Spring. Due to the extent of mud by the footpath along the second pond it was agreed to lay bark chipping on the footpath and install chicken wire on village bridges to prevent slipping. Cllr Baker agreed to seek professional advice regarding pond landscaping/planting and the silt trap design. Cllr Frindle agreed to monitor if there is a problem with rats. It was decided that a do not feed the ducks sign is not required although the Parish Council ask residents not to feed bread to the ducks as this is bad for them and encourages rats. Following a discussion it was also agreed to remunerate Mark Fiddler an additional £600.00 in light of the additional pond works and management required in connection with the project management of the extensive pond works. The removal of the silt has uncovered blocked pipes running from the road into the ponds. Cllr LeCount is to investigate this with Essex Highways.
2. **Henleys pond** – Cllr Baker will liaise with the owner of the adjoining property as regards replacement/removal of the remaining fence. The area will be seeded in the Spring.
3. **Parking on the Village Greens** – Residents continue to be reminded that it is an offence under the Village By Laws to park on the Village Greens. Cllr Frindle has spoken to relevant owners/builders. A new no parking sign for the bottom of Woodend Green has been installed.
4. **Restoration of damaged Greens** -The Council will commence a programme of reseeding areas of damaged greens and verges to include damage around ponds, greens following the recent pond/gas works. The HGV damage to the war memorial has already been carried out. The Clerk has written to the BT subcontractors regarding the outstanding claim for verge damage caused in December 2015. No response received as yet.
5. **Stumps and other objects** - To date it would appear that not all residents have removed stumps. Cllr Bawden agreed to speak to those residents on behalf of the Parish Council.
6. **Billy's Barn** -The Parish Council continues to monitor the damage to the roadway/greens triangle outside Billy's Barn at Birds Farm. The Parish Council is also investigating a possible solution to the damage on the village green triangle by the pub/church by using concrete grass mats. The Parish Council awaits a second quote for the work.

7. **Pavement outside Snow Cottage** – Parish Council contractors have re-examined the work and in particular the puddling in the middle of the stretch which was tarmacked. They discovered a large hidden drain between the pavement and Snow Cottage garden which was blocked. They have cleared the drain and are hopeful this has solved the problem. The Parish Council will look at putting a finer tarmac top on the pavement when similar work is needed in the village to help with the cost.

Henham Information Brochure - Cllr LeCount has produced a Henham Information Brochure that lists useful services and telephone numbers in and around the Henham area with a view to publication with the March issue of the Dragon. Copies will also be available in the village shop.

Village Hall - With regard to the plans for the Village Hall extension/refurbishment, the Parish Council awaits a business case for a Village Hall renovation from the Village Hall Committee.

Henham Website – The Clerk, Cllrs LeCount and Lee have reviewed the new website which continues to be expanded. It is hoped that the website will develop yet more content over the next few months and Cllr Lee requests any residents wishing to add material to the website should contact him or the Clerk. As soon as the IT training has been completed, then the Parish Council will resume full control over the website. Cllr Lee to review remuneration for the Clerk’s time in connection with running the website once in full control.

Emergency Plan Review – Cllr Lee and the Clerk have updated the Emergency Plan Review for inclusion on the Henham Website. UDC have given the Parish Council a free plug in telephone which has been installed in the Village Hall.

Field View Close Hedge – The Parish Council awaits a quote for the reinstatement of the hedging.

Superfast Broadband – Resident Faye Roth has kindly volunteered to take up the role of Superfast Broadband Champion for our area and will liaise with ECC.

National Grid Works – National Grid continue to conduct extensive work around the village in order to bolster the gas supply to Blossoms Hill Farm and Field View. Cllr Frindle and the Clerk have been liaising with the National Grid contractors, Trio, to ensure the verges/greens are correctly reinstated.

Signage – Cllr LeCount has requested signage for The Row and the reflective strips have been replaced. The 30mph sign which had fallen down by Birds Farm has been re-mounted.

District Councillor Election – The two Liberal Democrat District Councillors serving Henham and Elsenham have resigned triggering an election to be held on 16th February 2017.

UCT donation – UCT had written to the clerk requesting whether the Parish Council would consider a donation. UCT provides low cost, door to door transport for Uttlesford residents. It was agreed not to donate precept money to charities.

Chickney Road Reservoir – The Clerk finally received a response from a contractor of Affinity Water regarding the Parish Council’s request that the concrete lorries refrain from speeding in the village and are not overfilled with concrete following an incident in December 2016 and has now a direct point of contact should any further issues arise.

(ii) Finance

<u>Receipts</u>		
<u>From Whom</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Henham SOV	Henham SOV 100 Club July 2016 (November Draw)	£381.00
Henham SOV	Henham SOV 100 Club July 2016 (December Draw) including a £318 donation from R Golden	£692.00
<u>Expenditure</u>		

<u>To Whom</u> (Invoice no.)	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
M. Dacey	Clerk's salary (November)	£ 328.32	£ 0.0	£ 328.32
GJ Cox	Village Christmas tree	£100.00	£0.0	£100.00
Pat Doughty	Carters Lane post repair	£40.00	£0.0	£40.00
Blueclouds Training	Defibrillator training x 2 dates	£200.00	£0.0	£200.00
Emery Electrical Ltd (2191)	OSCA extended PIR and external plug fitting	£985.21	£197.04	£1,182.25
BT (direct debit)	Village Hall telephone and broadband	£41.90	£8.38	£50.28
M. Dacey	Clerk's salary (December)	£328.32	£0.0	£328.32
Candy Chlapik (321)	War memorial garden maintenance	£202.90	£0.0	£202.90
Amenity Water Management Ltd (17-1)	Village pond dredging works	£31,018.00	£6,203.60	£37,221.60
MAJ Fiddler (0561)	Pond Works	£2,300.00	£0.0	£2,300.00
L. Beresford (1)	Village signs cleaning	£40.00	£0.0	£40.00
BT (direct debit)	Village Hall telephone and broadband	£41.90	£8.38	£50.28
M. Dacey	Printer ink	£48.08	£9.62	£57.70
MAJ Fiddler (0564)	Installing no parking sign and salt delivery labour	£184.80	£0.0	£184.80
Barry J Poole (BJP5)	Reinstatement works to War Memorial and laying new turf	£120.00	£0.0	£120.00

Treasury Management Investment Policy and Strategy 2015/16 – nothing to report on the policy.

Annual Return for Henham PC–The EALC has written to the NALC and Local Councils Audit on HPC's behalf, their response is still awaited.

Henham Parish Council Receipts and Expenditure records for Quarter 2 of 2016-2017 financial year are with Cllr Fisher for review.

2017-2018 PRECEPT

Whilst the HPC Income requirement has remained at £39,220, as agreed in the December meeting, an email was received by the Clerk from UDC on 14 December 2016 confirming that the LCTS grant has now been reduced by 50% to £442.50 (compared to £744 in 2016/17). The 2017-18 precept is £38,779.00 (rounded up) (it was £38,496 in 2016/17).

However, the net tax base for Henham (i.e. number of properties paying council tax) has gone up slightly from 606.23 in 16/17 to 608.77. This has the effect of slightly increasing the amount of council tax raised per household for the precept; for example, the band D rate for 2017-18 will be 20 pence more ie £63.70 compared £63.50 in 2016/17 (£67.38 in 2015-2016). All bands will increase by 0.3% for the 2017-18 precept contribution. The precept form was submitted to UDC by the Clerk on 9 January 2017.

(iii) Planning and Developments

Applications:

- UTT/16/3487/HHF proposed Conversion of store/office to store/office/hobbies room with WC, Datchet Mead, High Street, Henham
- UTT/16/3569/LB proposed removal of internal wall and erection of partition wall Mondis Cottage, Crow Street, Henham
- UTT/16/3676/FUL proposed conversion of garage to 1 no. dwelling, Meadows Old Mead Road

- UTT/16/3393/FUL proposed S73A retrospective planning for the retention of 20 external lights and reduction in size from 5m to 2m, Hill Top Yard, Mill Road. Residents have been asked to object to this planning application.
- UTT/17/0129/FUL proposed use of land for the stationing of caravans for residential purposes, together with the formation of hardstanding, and utility/dayroom, Land North of North Hall Road. It was agreed to instruct the Parish Council's professional advisors and to liaise with Ugley Parish Council.

Breaches: N/A

Appeals:

- **Proposed 35 Houses, Land South Of School Lane School Lane Henham (UTT/15/2982/FUL)** – Refused by UDC in May 2016. Deadline for appeal was 10th November 2016. Appeal Inquiry deadline 6th March 2017. The Parish Council will oppose the Appeal.
- **Hill Top Yard (UTT/15/0623)** – The deadline for removing the lighting is 12th December 2016. The Parish Council has written to UDC requesting enforcement.
- **APP/C1570/W/16/3165787** – Appeal relating to proposed removal of existing dwelling, garages and outbuildings and replacement with new oak framed dwelling and garage. The Cedars, Old Mead Lane, Henham, CM22 6JJ (UTT/16/2400/FUL).

Decisions- None

(iv) Highways – Cllr LeCount:

(a) Cllr LeCount has submitted to ECC changes in GPS road name of North Hall Road to correctly Old Mead Road (the area is from the White House to the Toot Toot Bridge) and a continuation of the 40mph speed limit on Old Mead Road to the Toot Toot Bridge. Essex Highways have now agreed to this.

(b) Potholes by Toot Toot Bridge – Essex Highways will reinvestigate as the holes are getting worse.

(c) Protective metal pipes and posts outside The White House, Old Mead Road – Essex Highways is to investigate.

(d) Bus fare increase impacting schools – no update.

(e) School parking – Cllr LeCount is liaising with the School and a local resident in order to provide Essex Highways with more detail regarding the proposed installation of double yellow lines on the corners of Pimletts and Carters Lane.

(f) Pot hole on High Street outside Yarrow Cottage – Essex highways have now confirmed they will now re-inspect this. We await an update from them.

(g) Cllr Gooding continues to liaise with Essex Highways regarding the kerbing on Crow Street.

(h) The blocked drains outside Snow Cottage have now been logged with Essex Highways who have confirmed action within 28 days.

(i) The Clerk received an email from Mr Bateson regarding a pothole on Crow Street bend. Cllr LeCount has reported it.

(j) Residents are being urged to take advantage of a 'once-in-a-lifetime' opportunity to improve the A120 in Essex and boost the local economy. From 17 January 2017 there will be an eight-week public consultation into five alternatives for a new dual carriageway link for the A120 between Braintree and the A12. The five options have been picked for consultation following an in-depth analysis of nearly 70 separate routes. Drivers, residents, businesses and other interested parties can make their views known by filling out the survey online at www.a120essex.co.uk.

5. Correspondence

Sent: Various emails to Affinity Water.

Received: Planning Applications - see 4(iii) above

- Clerk – approximately 200 emails in December 2016 and 250 emails in January 2017.

6. Waste and Minerals Development Issues – The hearing of the application for a waste incinerator on the road to Elsenham Golf Club was heard in October. We await the Inspectors decision. In the meantime Essex County Council have issued a Modifications consultation regarding the Replacement Waste Local Plan. The consultation will be open for comment for six-weeks until **16 February 2017**. The Parish Council have responded to the consultation.

7. Stop Stansted Expansion – There is also a consultation on night flights at Stansted airport. The Government consultation document can be downloaded at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/night-flight-restrictions-at-gatwick-heathrow-and-stansted>. Responses need to be submitted by **28 February 2017**. The new night flights regulations for Stansted are expected to come into force in October this year and to apply until October 2022. SSE are urging residents to respond. More detail is available on the Henham website.

8. Governance – The updated Standing Order and Financial Regulations (taking in account NALC updates) were distributed in advance of the meeting. Cllr. Frindle proposed their adoption and Cllr. Lafferty-George seconded the proposal; the councillors unanimously voted in favour.

9. Local Plan – Following an Extraordinary Council Meeting at UDC was held on 16th November 2016, there will be a three month period of reassessment of the Local Plan following a District wide consultation.

10. Neighbourhood Planning – Nothing to report.

11. Henham SOV 100 Club draw Cllr. Fisher –

December Draw

Ken Sammons conducted the draw on behalf of the Henham SOV 100 Club. He drew from a black bag containing 150 lottery balls. The winning numbers were:

1st Prize Number 32 (S & N Izatt) £218
2nd Prize Number 28 (L Peake) £105
3rd Prize Christmas Cumulative Bonus Ball £53

Total funds received were £750 half will be paid out in prize money totalling £376 with the balance of £374 will be paid to Henham Parish Council SOV Funds. Henham Parish Council thanks Richard Golden for his generosity for donating his Christmas bonus ball winnings totalling £318 back to SOV to continue supporting the village.

January Draw

Cllrs Lafferty-George and Malins conducted the draw on behalf of the Henham SOV 100 Club. They drew from a black bag containing 150 lottery balls. The winning numbers were:

1st Prize Number 86 (T Wilsher) £218
2nd Prize Number 15 (S Lee) £105
3rd Prize Christmas Bonus Ball £53 - Cumulative total £106

Total funds received were £750 half will be paid out in prize money totalling £376 with the balance of £374 will be paid to Henham Parish Council SOV Funds.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Thursday 2nd March**, 7.30pm at OSCA. **Mareike Dacey, Clerk**