

HANLEY CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 15th March 2012 at 7.00pm in Hanley Swan Village Hall.

Present: Councillors: Sue Roberts (Chairman) Sue Adeney* Tony Atkinson
Jackie Bass Alex Grimwade** Francis Harcombe* Wendy Roberts-Powell
John Taverner

In Attendance: WCCllr T Wells Mike Andrews (PPW) Mrs Susan Hughes (Clerk)

33/12 Apologies: DCllrs M Morgan & T Perry West Mercia Police

34/12 Declarations of Interest: a) Declarations of Interest (Personal & Prejudicial): Cllr Sue Adeney declared a personal interest in Min 38/12 below as Leader of the Local Youth Club; Cllr Tony Atkinson declared a personal interest in Min 38/12 below as PC Trustee of the Village Hall & also in planning applications in general as the owner of a shop selling OS maps; Cllr F Harcombe declared a personal interest as a neighbour in Min 39d & 40b **and b) any Changes to be Notified to the Register of Interests and Gifts & Hospitality:** There were none.

Closure of the meeting to allow the public present to speak on any matters relating to Hanley Castle Parish.

35/12 Report of the Local Police Officers
The police had tendered apologies for the meeting.

36/12 Minutes
The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 16th February 2012 having been previously circulated were **approved** and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

37/12 Matters Arising & Progress Reports not Listed Elsewhere on the Agenda
a) Min 13/12b Update on the Jubilee Celebrations (Part of the Environmental Report) See Min 43/12

* Cllrs Sue Adeney & Francis Harcombe arrived during discussion on the following item

38/12 Projects Related to the Section 106 Funding
The chairman spoke to the previously circulated e-mail in which MHDC had requested further and new information in relation to both the Village Hall & Youth projects. Following discussions on the general lack of direction to the Section 106 process and the constant time delays, members agreed to seek a meeting with the Chief Executive and senior officers.

Action: The clerk to contact MHDC

39/12 Planning: a) *To consider planning applications referred by MHDC for comment:*

12/00213/FUL	Demolition of single storey extension and erection to two storey side extension Orchard House, Hanley Swan
--------------	--

Members welcomed the proposed improvements to the property & recommended approval of this application

12/00247/FUL Change of use of land to be included within residential curtilage and proposed detached carport, workshop and store. Veeda Glenta, Blackmore Park Rd

Members noted the detail of the proposed domestic curtilage. If the LPA was minded to approve this application, members request that the use of the workshop be detailed to charitable & non-profit days and organisations and not for commercial use.

12/00264/FUL Erection of replacement dwelling Coverside Farm

Members noted the proposed large replacement dwelling and if approved by the LPA requested that it be of the highest eco-specification levels (no mention in the support & design statements) and where possible the use of local labour and materials.

b) To Consider under the Scheme of Delegation any Planning Applications received between publication of this agenda and the Meeting: There were none

c) Details of Decision Notices Received to-date:

12/00078/HOU Single storey rear extension 19 Winnington Gardens
Granted 21st February 2012

12/00102/HOU Proposed potting shed, log store, garden store & loggia
The Balconies, Hanley Swan **Granted 9th March 2012**

d) To Receive a Report on the recent Planning Appeal hearing for the site of the former incinerator: Cllr Tony Atkinson advised that the applicant had removed from the application on the day of the Appeal the three proposed houses closest to the dairy unit. It had been generally agreed that the HUB was not large enough to meet the requirements of the 'work-live' legislation. The Appeal decision was expected in approximately seven weeks.

Members noted that the correct line of the footpath adjacent to the incinerator site would be shown on the definitive map.

e) Affordable Housing Update: Cllr Atkinson advised that all properties would be occupied by the end of the month. The Housing Association had been keeping a film diary which would be shown at various events and used as part of an application for a build & design award for the site.

An 'open day' on site would be held in the near future, possibly on a Saturday morning.

40/12 Highway Matters

a) Surfacing, The Holloway and Worcester Road: See Min 44/12

b) Resurfacing Footway, B4209 de-restriction signs towards Traffic Lights: Members had noted the partially completed works. The footway appeared to be well used although concerns were raised over the lack of cycle track markings and possible damage to the verge opposite caused by wide vehicles turning.

Action: The clerk to request cycle way markings, Cllr Harcombe to check the adequacy of a local ditch

The chairman raised the possibility of planting some small native tree species along the verge, maybe through WCC Highways. Members **agreed** to leave further discussion and recommendations to the Environment Group.

c) *Works for the Lengthsman:* Members noted all of the works to-date; a request had been received to side out the footpath from the Village to Upton on the eastern side of the highway. It was noted however that there was a wide, clear, easily accessible footpath on the western side of the road.

41/12 District Councillors' Reports

Both councillors had tendered apologies for the meeting.

42/12 Report of the:

a) **Parish Paths Officer:** Mike Andrews advised that subject to the approval of WCC, Colin Rowley had agreed to accept the role of Parish Paths officer with effect from 10th July.

During the past few weeks WCC had completed numerous minor repairs plus 7 footpath signs, 2 stiles, 1 step and 1 bridge.

b) **Pond Wardens:** The wardens had tendered their apologies for the meeting.

c) **Playing Field Warden:** Members supported the request from a local parishioner for the use of the Playing Field on 29th April for a fund raising car boot sale.

43/12 Environmental Matters

a) *Report of the Environmental Working Group:* Sue Adeney spoke to her tabled report of the recent meeting of the Working Group. Four members had had their houses checked for heat loss through thermal tracing; Val Fare had agreed to write an article on the use & benefits of the process.

Litter Pick: The litter-pick had been well publicised with the parish and arrangements were in place for 24th March.

Tree Planting: Cllr Adeney advised that there had been no response from the parish with regard to tree planting. The Environment Group would take a more proactive approach to finding an area of land.

Community Energy Scheme: The Group would investigate the schemes further before reporting back to the Parish Council.

b) *Snow Clearance:* Members noted that a local person had expressed an interest in joining the WCC contractors list along with others previously notified from the parish.

Action: The clerk to advise WCC

44/12 County Councillors' Report

Cllr Wells advised that:

- he had arranged for £1k to be transferred to the Parish Council towards the refurbishment of the play area;
- he had received a number of complaints from parishioners over the expenditure on the footway on the B4209 where it had been perceived that there was little use. Cllr Wells would pursue improvements in other areas of the parish;
- the surface of the Worcester Road had been further inspected by WCC but no concerns had been raised!

Cllr Wells had visited the Primary School to discuss various budgeting issues caused mainly by the removal of funding for a teacher who was spending one day each week helping other schools and cost of music provision through the County Music Service. The Parish Council supported his concerns and agreed to write to the Director of Childrens Services.

Cllr Wells advised members to seek a meeting with the MHDC Chief Executive and local District Councillors to express concerns and agree a way forward with regard to the Section 106 money.

45/12 Finance: a) *Payment & Receipt of Accounts:* Members **approved** the payments and receipt of accounts as in the presented schedule (attached).

b) *To Receive an Update on the Repair of the Slide:* Members commented favourably on the repairs to the slide.

c) *To Consider a Request for a donation to MH CAB:* Members agreed to defer discussions pending further information on services and funding for Upton Community Care.

d) *Application for Discretionary Rate Relief – Field Ltd, Unit 11 Hanley Workshops:* It was proposed, seconded and **agreed** to support the application but not to make a financial contribution.

Action: The clerk to contact MHDC

e) *Council Tax Bills:* Members noted that MHDC had made an error with the Council Tax Bills for this parish, new invoices would be sent out to all households.

f) *Benches:* Bench on the Village Green, Hanley Castle: A local family had offered to replace the bench on The Green and had asked if the Parish Council would maintain it in the future. The clerk to check the excess on the insurance policy and detail the matter on the next agenda.

Action: The clerk to check the insurance policy

Bench adj to the Catholic Church: The café market had agreed to fund half of the cost; the clerk had ordered the bench for local delivery.

** Cllr Alex Grimwade left the meeting at this point.

46/12 Topics Raised by Councillors, Committees and Parishioners

a) *Arrangements for the Parish Meeting:* The clerk advised that Rod Reynolds of the Roads Safety Partnership had met with Siemens to discuss the provision and funding of an average speed indicator. WCC had advised that a new VAS sign would cost approximately £2,600 but that there was one locally that may be available for intermittent use.

Cllr Wells advised that if the Lengthsman were to agree to move the sign around three local parishes it could mean that the sign could be used on a trial basis from April.

47/12 Date of Next Meeting

The meeting date was confirmed as 19th April 2012, immediately following the Parish Meeting.

Signed Date: 19th April 2012
Chairman