

HANLEY CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Thursday, 16th February 2012 at 7.05pm in Hanley Swan Village Hall.

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

In Attendance: WCCLlr T Wells Mrs Susan Hughes (Clerk)

16/12 Apologies: Cllr Jackie Bass DCllrs M Morgan & T Perry Mike Andrews (PPW)
West Mercia Police

17/12 Declarations of Interest: a) Declarations of Interest (Personal & Prejudicial): Cllr Sue Adeney declared a personal interest in Min 22e below as Leader of the Local Youth Club; Cllr Tony Atkinson declared a personal interest in Min 22d below as PC Trustee of the Village Hall: **and b) any Changes to be Notified to the Register of Interests and Gifts & Hospitality:** There were none.

* Cllr Francis Harcombe arrived during discussion on the following item

18/12 Safer Roads Partnership – Update & the Future

The chairman welcomed Rod Reynolds of the Safer Roads Partnership to the meeting and invited him to address members. Rod advised that the problem of speeding within the Village was had not reduced greatly: in the 5 months from August to December there were a total of 280 speeding offences noted of which 167 were drivers from outside of the West Mercia area. It was thought that many of these drivers had visited, either for work or pleasure, the Three Counties Showground.

Rod advised on new technology to measure the 'average speed' within a given area which would be ideal for the Village although extremely expensive. He suggested that members invite one of the companies producing the equipment to a future meeting to demonstrate the possible benefits of the system.

In response to questions Rod advised that evidence had shown that VAS signs were effective but only for a very short period of time as drivers were aware that they were only a warning and not a penalising system. Worcestershire County Council could provide further information on type and costs available.

Members were advised that the Café Market would make £1k available towards the purchase of VAS signs if requested.

There being no further questions, the chairman thanked Rod for his attendance and information and he took the opportunity to leave the meeting.

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

Parishioners present took the opportunity to raise various matters which were considered and actioned under Mins 18/12 & 29/12

19/12 Report of the Local Police Officers

The police had tendered apologies for the meeting.

20/12 Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 19th January 2012 having been previously circulated were **approved** and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

21/12 Matters Arising & Progress Reports not Listed Elsewhere on the Agenda

- a) Min 05/12 Repair of the Picnic Bench:** Cllr Atkinson advised that one bench was 'fit for purpose' and the second could be used for spare parts. Members were reminded that the benches had originally been provided on the field by the Café Market.
- b) Min 13/12b Update on the Jubilee Celebrations:** Cllr Adeney advised on the possible timetable for the weekend commencing with a village event in Hanley Castle and possibly concluding with a family barn dance in the Village Hall with the large beacon visible on the Worcestershire Beacon.

Members thanked the Working Group for their work to-date and welcomed the publication of details in the Parish Link.

22/12 Projects Related to the Section 106 Funding

- a) Arts:** The Working Group were progressing well with phase 2 of their timetable. At the conclusion of this phase they would be ready to submit a planning application to MHDC.
- b) Cricket Club:** The Club were progressing with their plans.
- c) Parish Council:** A further quotation was to be sought.
- d) Village Hall:** *The project details had been submitted to MHDC for Section 106 funding.*
- e) Youth:** *The project details had been submitted to MHDC for Section 106 funding.*

The clerk informed members that the MHDC officers' meeting to discuss the application had been postponed until 27th February.

23/12 Planning: a) *To consider planning applications referred by MHDC for comment:*

12/00078/HOU Single storey rear extension 19 Winnington Gardens

Members recommended approval of this application

12/00085/HOU Split into two residences and extensions and new access
Old Parsonage Farm, Hanley Castle

Members recommended approval of this application

12/00102/HOU Proposed potting shed, log store, garden store & loggia
The Balconies, Hanley Swan

Members noted the gateway off the B4209 and that the development on site appeared to have been substantially completed

12/00144/HOU Rear extension to lounge & kitchen, new canopy porch &
internal alterations Four Winds, Gilberts End

Members recommended approval of this application

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:* There were none

d) *To Note that the date & time of Appeal Hearing:* The application relating to Waste Incineration Unit, Hangmans Lane was scheduled for 21st February at 10am. Cllr Atkinson volunteered to sepa on behalf of the Parish Council but all were welcome to attend the hearing at Malvern Theatres.

e) *Affordable Housing Update:* Cllr Atkinson advised that four shared ownership properties were now occupied. There had been a few 'teething' problems for all on site but the Housing Association had been diligent in seeking solutions.

Members asked Cllr Atkinson to pursue the details of the promised 'open day' for the site.

f) *Draft Local List Supplementary Planning Document – Consultation:* Members made no comments.

24/12 Highway Matters

a) *Flashing Lights outside the Primary School:* Although not been consulted over the placement or timing of the lights, the Headteacher was happy with the pre-set times.

b) *Surfacing, The Holloway and Worcester Road:* Both areas had been inspected but the reports were not yet available on-line.

Action: The clerk to contact Highways

c) *Sunken drain, Hanley Road:* The area was to be repaired and restored within a four-week period.

d) *B4211 The Rhydd Layby:* Members noted that the layby would be closed from 1st March for approx. 28 weeks to facilitate the storage of surface dressing chippings.

e) *Temporary Traffic Regulation Notices:* Members noted proposals from WCC to notify such Notices by e-mail only rather than as at present by hard copy.

f) *Resurfacing Footway, B4209 de-restriction signs towards Traffic Lights:* Members noted the proposed works which had been requested on many occasions by persons living at Oakmere and those working on the Blackmore Park Road.

g) *Upton Bridge Refurbishment Works, Road Closure Dates:* WCC had advised that the bridge would be closed overnight Mon 27th Feb – Fri 2nd March (8pm – 6am) and from 8pm on Fri 2nd Mar until 6am on Mon 5th March.

h) *Works for the Lengthsman:* John Taverener advised that the Lengthsman had cleared the footway from The Holloway to Hanley Castle and had begun work along the Worcester Road. Parishioners had commented very favourably on the work.

25/12 District Councillors' Reports

Both councillors had tendered apologies for the meeting.

26/12 County Councillors' Report

Cllr Wells advised that:

he had designated a section of footway and drainage improvements from the Catholic Church towards the Village to be carried out under the WC Councillors funding scheme;
new bus timetables were available in the Village Stores;
the SWDP had been delayed and would now probably be presented to Council in October.

Cllr Wells advised that there was a small amount of funding still available in the WCCllrs funding pot and, subject to meeting the criteria, he would make £1k available to the Parish Council towards the refurbishment of the play area.

WCC officers were investigating a possible scheme of reduced bus fares for all persons up to the age of 19.

27/12 Report of the:

a) Parish Paths Officer: Mike Andrews had tendered his apologies for the meeting.

b) Pond Wardens: The wardens had tendered their apologies for the meeting. Cllr Taverner reported briefly on an informal meeting at the pond with representatives of the Arts Sculpture Working Group and pond warden.

c) Playing Field Warden: There was no report for this meeting. Following a brief discussion, Cllr Atkinson volunteered to carry out the weekly play equipment check.

Action: The clerk to provide weekly check sheets

* Cllrs Grimwade and Taverner left the meeting at this point.

28/12 Environmental

a) Report of the Environmental Working Group: There had been no recent meeting but arrangements had been made for the litterpick. Sue Adeney advised that Gordon Morris had agreed to join the Group later in the year.

b) Trees on The Green: Following discussion, members **agreed** to request that the electricity power lines were moved so as not to interfere with the growth of the small oak tree.

Action: The clerk to contact e-on

c) Litter in Roberts End: Members requested that the general rubbish and litter from a specific property in Roberts End be removed.

Action: The clerk to contact Partnership Housing

d) Litter on Highway Verge: The clerk to request a litter pick from Oakmere to the Three Counties crossroads on the B4209.

Action: The clerk to contact MHDC

** Cllr Harcombe left the meeting at this point

29/12 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: The chairman advised that the recent weather had been too cold for any concrete to hold the legs to set.

c) To Consider the provisions of a Replacement seat to be sited on the verge of Worcester Road: Following discussions, members **agreed** to purchase a new bench in partnership with the Café Market.

Action: The clerk to contact the Café Market and order the bench

30/12 Topics Raised by Councillors, Committees and Parishioners

a) To Consider topics for consideration by MHDC Overview & Scrutiny Committee:
Members unanimously and rapidly agreed to recommend the Section 106 grant application procedure and timescale for consideration.

31/12 Councillors Reports and Items for Future Agendas

a) Parish Meeting: It was agreed to invite a representative from Siemens to display and explain the workings and costs of the 'Average Speed System' at the Parish Meeting to be held on 19th April.

32/12 Date of Next Meeting

The meeting date was confirmed as 15th March 2012

Signed Date: 15th March 2012
Chairman