

These are the unadopted Minutes of the Meeting of 2 October 2006, please refer to the unadopted Minutes of the November 2006 meeting for any amendments.

Present: Cllr. S. Ambler (Chairman)
Cllr. P. Ashton
Cllr. Mrs. J. Brooks
Cllr. P. Crawley
Cllr. Dr. I. Sinka
Mrs. C.A. Leversha (Clerk)
Mrs. A. Sayers (RFO & Assistant Clerk)
Mr. P. Dickinson (Hon. Planning Consultant)

In attendance: Ward Cllrs. Appleton and Radley and PC Alec Batten

160/06 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs. Jackson, Hall and Collins. Cllr. Dr. Sinka will be late.

161/06 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman introduced Mrs. Angela Sayers (Responsible Finance Officer) to those Councillors who had not yet met her.

162/06 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 5 SEPTEMBER 2006

The Minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

163/06 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ANY MATTER ON THE AGENDA

Standing declaration from Cllr. Jackson with regard to being Chairman of the Zebon Copse Residents Association and its connection with the Velmead Community Centre. Standing declaration from Cllr. Ambler with regard to the Velmead Community Centre as being a Member of HDC which is party to the negotiations. Standing declaration from Cllr. Hall with regard to boundary fencing and the Velmead Community Centre.

164/06 CONSIDER CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

The Chairman reminded Members of their duty to consider the crime and disorder implications that may arise from any decision they may make tonight.

165/06 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (maximum of 3 minutes per speaker)

The Chairman asked permission to adjourn the meeting for public participation. Cllr. Appleton raised the issue of the Hitches Lane development – HDC have dropped the legal challenge with Berkley Homes without consulting with Cllr. Appleton as the Ward Member. This possible development will have a big impact on the parish. PC Batten said he was pleased that PC Webster had introduced herself to the Council. Over the last month there had been 6 incidents in the village which he recounted to Members. With regard to Basingstoke Canal one of his colleagues had dropped a sandwich into the canal and it had attracted American crayfish. He invited questions. PC Crawley said how he welcomed the summary of events which PC Batten had related. This was something which had not happened in the past and it was a welcome change. Cllr. Appleton asked if the traffic data had recently been updated and PC Batten said “yes” and he could retrieve information if the Council had a specific query. Cllr. Appleton said he would be interested in the accidents in Hitches Lane which had happened a couple of months ago. The Chairman echoed the views of Cllr. Crawley and thanked PC Batten who then left the meeting. The Chairman then reconvened the meeting.

166/06 HDAPC MEETING – 10 October

The Chairman invited Members to attend if they so wished. He would be going and would be raising the funding for the canal again.

ACTION: CHAIRMAN

167/06 FINANCE

(i) General

A request was received from the Hampshire County Youth Band for assistance with purchasing two instruments. Members debated the request and agreed that we could support this in the sum of £100.

ACTION: RFO and also find out how much encouragement they give to local young people and where is the most accessible point is for our youth to utilise this facility.

A cheque was received for £380 from Zurich in settlement of the claim for the stolen seat from Lea Green. An estimate from A. Fisk had been received for the works identified in the RoSPA annual safety check. Members asked that he submit a quote for levelling the soil on the safety matting rather than start taking up the matting and clearing away underneath it.

After checking each item and debating the matter further it was agreed to accept the quotation.

ACTION: Clerk

(ii) Treasurer`s Report

1. Interest received from the Bank of Ireland was £275.39 in respect of August 2006

2. The following transaction was made between last month`s meeting and today:

NatWest current account

Cheque no. or direct debit		Payee	Item	Gross amount (£)
DD		VirginNet	Clerk`s internet account (Sept)	14.99
000103		Andy Fisk	Leaf blowing	16.20
			Total	31.19

3. The following cheques presented for payment.

Cheque no. or direct debit	Payee	Item	Gross amount (£)	
000104	Simon Ambler	Office supplies	134.46	
000105	Inland Revenue	Tax on Clerk`s & Assistant Clerk`s salaries	300.10	
000106	Assistant Clerk	Salary and expenses	276.28	
000107	Clerk	Salary	1000.36	
000108	Anne`s Final pay	Salary	472.98	
000109	Bank of Ireland	Precept (surplus t/f from NW to BOI)	12800.00	
			Total	14984.18

4. Bank balances

Bank of Ireland as at 30 September 2006 – per statement 81,825.32

NatWest Bank as at 30 September 2006 – per statement 15,358.41

NB Six cheques totalling £14,984.18 have not yet cleared in the Nat West Account. This means there is £374.23 available & one cheque of £12800 is still to be paid in (Precept surplus) to the BOI account so available funds are £94,625.32

5. Progress on audit

The completed audit form and supporting documentation were sent to the Audit Commission for the 14 August deadline. To date, I have not heard from the Commission.

6. Handover - update

HMC&E – address now changed.

HM Revenue & Customs – I will bring change of address slip for Carol to sign.

NatWest & BOI – letters sent by Anne. Revised letter to be signed at meeting for NatWest.

I have completed bank reconciliations for NatWest and Bank of Ireland ready for Phil du Gay.

I have also set up a password system with NatWest to allow me to enquire about our account balance on the phone.

7. Vat return re QE 30/09/06 – completed. Refund of £72.57

Angela Sayers, Treasurer
2 October 2006
E. & O.E

The Chairman advised that the amount of £134.46 against his name was incorrect as it covered the purchase of items of equipment for the Assistant Clerk and he had asked the RFO to alter this accordingly as it appeared as though he had personally had this amount of office supplies. With this alteration Members accepted the report.

168/06 PLANNING

(i) General

There is no planning report due to the absence of the Chairman of the Planning Cttee.

The Chairman then advised Members of the press release from HDC with regard to the Hitches Lane application. One of the country's leading planning experts had advised that there was a 90% chance of losing the inquiry with costs of £50k. Mr. Dickinson was invited to comment. What he had not appreciated was that the original decision was taken on "marginal" advice which had not been much more than a 50/50 chance. Lengthy debate took place. The Chairman said the Parish would probably wish to feed into the S106 agreements and he would look back at what had been said originally. Mr. Dickinson said there should be signed agreements held by the Council on the basis of what had been said to the Inspector. Cllr. Appleton said he would be interested in seeing if a Trust could be set up for the running of the country park. Mr. Dickinson said the best chance was to seek amendments when the developers come back to alter densities.

AGENDA ITEM FOR November meeting.

The Chairman advised the meeting that amended plans had been received for an application on Cross Farm which had only a 7 day window for response. As far as he could see the alteration was only for a mistake in the drawing. The principle of development was the same.

Mr. Dickinson said that it was not necessary to reiterate previous comments as they still stood. Mr. Dickinson asked what was the response of Members to the use of the website – the downside for him was not being able to measure the actual documents – printing off plans distorted the measurements. Cllr. Crawley said he found that the actual drawings were difficult enough to understand without having to try to work things out on the website. This view was supported by the other Members of the planning committee. Cllr. Mrs. Brooks said that from the time of being notified of an application it sometimes takes several weeks before it actually goes on the web.

Cllr. Dr. Sinka joined the meeting at this point.

Cllr. Ashton raised an item from the Enforcement Notices with regard to a small fence which had been erected on public open space off Brandon Road. After a very lengthy debate the Chairman asked Members to leave the matter with him to follow up on. Mr. Dickinson said that in future wherever there is POS the Council should ask for the Permitted Development Rights to be removed and this would prevent any erection of fences etc.

ACTION: Chairman

Cllr. Appleton left the meeting at this point.

(ii) Trees

Cllr. Crawley said he had only a couple of minor issues which he was dealing with.

Outstanding ACTION: Clerk to write to Mr. Seale asking permission to put up a stock fence around the Hillyborough Copse at no cost to him.

Mr. Dickinson left the meeting at this point.

169/06 MATTERS ARISING

(i) Lea Green

Weekly check reports no problems.

(ii) Community Transport

Cllr. Mrs. Brooks will attend a meeting on the 17 October. We have still not received an invoice for the Call & Go Service.

(iii) Youth Facilities

Nothing further to report.

(iv) Parish Plan

Cllr. Dr. Sinka advised that she was awaiting action from Cllr. Collins. Cllr. Mrs. Brooks said that Cllr. Collins had informed her this evening that he was resigning as a Councillor. The Chairman said that this was needed in writing.

Cllr. Crawley said what was needed for the second stage of the Plan was to look at what other parishes had done as a result of the responses to their questionnaires. The Chairman said perhaps this was now the time to get Davina Bowe (HDC Parish Plans) involved.

Cllr. Dr. Sinka said it would be helpful to get a template and she felt that we should have a meeting with the relevant officer and the "parish plan" team. The Chairman said he had noted that a lot of the other parishes used people other than councillors to carry this forward.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Hart and advise Cllrs. Dr. Sinka & Crawley and Angela and also invite the Chairman. Ask for dates at the end of October and endeavour to make it 4pm.

(v) Tall Pines

The Clerk had received a map which showed that the land in question does not belong to HCC. Cllr. Crawley said he would contact Dave Millett and see if he could identify the owner.

ACTION: Cllr. Crawley

(vi) Zephon Common & Crow Act

Two documents in the circ folder with regard to Commons. Await comments from Cllr. Jackson when he has read these documents.

(vii) Dog Bins

Ordered.

Cllr. Radley arrived at this point.

(viii) Noticeboards

Cllr. Brooks to check out the condition of existing noticeboards.

Ask HDC to clear the vegetation away from the Brandon Road/Gally Hill noticeboard so people can see the notices.

ACTION: Clerk

ACTION: Cllrs. Brooks & Collins to investigate and report back to a Council meeting on refurbishment of boards.

(ix) HAPTC 59TH AGM

Members confirmed that Resolution 5 was the one which they wished to have the word "rural" deleted from with regard to parking policies.

ACTION: Clerk to find out whether it is within the Constitution to amend a Resolution by emailing Steven Lugg.

(x) Allotments

Debate took place on this matter and it was acknowledged that there was a need and we need to chivvy Hart up.

(xi) Dr. D. Reader

Cllr. Crawley proposed that the Parish Council should be a partner in a proposal by other interested parties. He agreed to follow up on the matter.

ACTION: Cllr. Crawley

170/06 LIGHTING

(i) General

Nothing to report.

171/06 HIGHWAYS

(i) General

Cllr. Crawley asked what Members wished him to raise with regard to the speed of traffic on Hitches Lane, which Cllr. Appleton had raised at an earlier meeting. Debate took place and it was thought that this was something which should feed into the proposed development of

Hitches Lane. The Chairman said the initial point to raise is request what were the two accidents which had taken place recently – were they speed related? Request that the SIDs be put along there for information gathering.

ACTION: Clerk find out where we are on the list for the SIDS on The Street and Crondall Road.

(a) A287 Junction

The Chairman had spoken to Cllr. Bennison and he had contacted Alison Quant, who had instructed the Area Surveyor (Brian Millen) to arrange a meeting.

(ii) Pilcot Road Footway

Cllr. Sinka said that for the 70 hours of work put she put into the Travel Plan she had received a copy of a school newsletter saying “thank you to the school travel team”. The HCC officer said that the Plan had been the best she has ever received. The Dfes have agreed that this qualifies for the Safer Routes to School funding.

ACTION: Clerk to find out how much funding has been allocated to the School Travel Plan and confirm that they intend it should be a contribution towards the Pilcot Road footway.

Also contact our County Councillor Peter Hutcheson for support for getting S278 funding for the footway.

(ii) Footpaths General

Cllr. Jackson had met with Phil Allen on site and it had been agreed that the stile would be relocated and that he would look at what could be done with regard to the surface – however it would take at least 6 months to get anything done.

172/06 RECORD OF CORRESPONDENCE CIRCULATED

Circ 18.9.006

Copy ltrs/CPRE Catalogue/Hampshire Now/Local Council Review Sept/Rural Services/Clerks & Councils Direct/SEERA Partial Review of South East Plan – Provision for gypsy and traveller caravan sites

Circ 18.09.06

HDC Mins & Agenda Planning Cttee 12.9.06/Scrutiny Cttee 19.9.06

Circ: 27.9.06

Copy ltrs/HAPTC Mail 094-06/095-06/096-06/NALC Annual Report & Accounts/Crookham almshouse Financial Statements/Communique/Hart Voluntary Newsletter/HCC Minerals & Waste update

Circ: 27.9.06

HDC Agenda & Mins Staff & GP Cttee 26.9.06/Council 28.9.06/

Circ: 30.9.06

Community Action News 77/Charity Law/Youth Work Solutions/Rural Housing Trust ltr/Hart Housing Forum Update/Hampshire Police Authority/Signage circular/ HCC Planning Hampshire`s Future & Draft Southeast Plan/CPRE AGM 25 October & Newsletter/HDC Mins & Agendas Cabinet 5.10.06/Licensing 9.10.06

173/06 INFORMATION SHARING & AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Members asked that bookings for the VCC should be booked for Mondays if possible for next year.

Cllr. Radley gave Members a briefing on issues which she believed were relevant for the parish.

174/06 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 7 November 2006 at Velmead Community Centre.

Dates and Venues for the remainder of the year:

WI HALL

Monday

4 December 2006

VELMEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Tuesday Monday

9 January or 8 January

There being nothing to report under Confidential there was no exclusion of Press & Public.

175/06 VELMEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE & ADJACENT AMENITIES

The Chairman reported that HDC Cabinet had agreed funding to the end of the financial year but this decision had been called in and was to be looked at by Scrutiny. Internal meetings had taken place and we await the outcome of the Scrutiny Committee. Cllr. Crawley asked if there were any moves on using the S106 money to improve facilities at the Centre in order to make it more viable.

The Chairman gave a lengthy and detailed response on how things stood at present which meant that nothing had moved forward with regard to utilising Zebon Copse S106 money..

The meeting closed at 10.40pm.