

These are the unadopted Minutes of the Meeting of 7 November 2006, please refer to the Minutes of the December meeting for any amendments.

Present: Cllr. S. Ambler (Chairman)
Cllr. P. Ashton
Cllr. Mrs. J. Brooks
Cllr. P. Crawley
Cllr. C. Hall
Cllr. D. Jackson
Cllr. Dr. I. Sinka
Mrs. C. Leversha (Clerk)
Mrs. A. Sayers (RFO)

In attendance: Cllr. Mrs. J. Radley

181/06 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. Hutcheson sent his apologies he has a prior engagement.

182/06 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman advised Members of a Countryside Alliance letter regarding Post Office Closures – he gave a copy for each Member so that they can respond individually if they so choose. He also advised that on 22 November it is the Fleet Town Centre festivities and he wondered whether anyone wished to volunteer as a marshal. The contact is Philip Crane. The Chairman proposed to introduce, as an urgent item (as it had been left off the Agenda), the election of a Vice Chairman which will be dealt with between items 9 and 10.

183/06 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 2 OCTOBER 2006 TO APPROVE

Page 1, Min. 166/06 insert "issue of" between "the" and "funding". The Minutes were then agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

184/06 MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF 25 OCTOBER 2006 TO APPROVE

The Minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

185/06 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 being a Member of Hart District Council which is the other party to negotiations regarding Velmead Community Centre and item 10 (a personal interest) which is the Boundary Review of which he participated in the Parish petition. Cllr. Radley also requested that it be Minuted that she declared an interest in the Boundary Review and the Velmead Community Centre. Standing declaration from Cllr. Hall with regard to the Velmead Community Centre and the boundary fencing.

186/06 CONSIDER CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

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

187/06 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (time limit of 3 minutes per person)

The Chairman sought permission to adjourn the meeting for public participation.

Cllr. Hall left the meeting at this point. Mrs. Hall raised the poor state of repair of the fence at the boundary of the Community Centre she asked that the Parish Council would bring to bear whatever pressure it could – she had failed to receive responses from HCC to any of her correspondence. She then read out the conditions which related to the fence and handed out a copy of the paper to which she was speaking.

Jodi Hill introduced herself to Members – she had come along this evening to ask what sort of events Members believed should be put on at the VCC and was open to suggestions. There being no other member of the public who wished to speak the Chairman reconvened the meeting.

Cllr. Jackson asked, in view of Mrs. Hall's presentation, whether we could deal with the VCC item 19 early on in the Agenda. The Chairman said that the non-confidential part of that item could be dealt with early. The item will appear in the Minutes under its Agenda order.

188/06 FINANCE

(i) General

The Chairman advised Members of an enquiry from Mapledurwell & Upton PC. It is seeking expressions of interest as to whether at least 15 other Parish Councils are interested in seeing if Norwich Union can offer cheaper insurance than Zurich. After some debate Members said to respond that we might be interested providing it would prove feasible without us having to go to great lengths to document our needs.

The Clerk had revised the value of the metal seats to reflect the increased amount received from the Insurer. Members agreed a donation of £25 each to PDSA and Alzheimers Society in memory of Mr. Terry Gadsby (in lieu of a wreath).

(ii) RFO's Report

1. Interest received from the Bank of Ireland was £285.82 in respect of September 2006

2. The following transactions (all cleared) was made between last month's meeting and today:

Nat West current account

Cheque no/ direct debit / BAC	Payee	Item	Gross amount (£)
PAYMENTS			
DD	Virgin Net	Clerk's internet (Oct)	14.99
000110	Simon Ambler	Domain Registration	25.83
000112	Transglobe 3000 Ltd	Dog bins and Dog bags	193.29
000113	BT	Clerk telephone bill	57.99
		Total	292.10
RECEIPTS			
000012	Zurich Insurance	Re stolen park bench	380.00
BAC	HMC&E	Re Vat Qtr to Sept 2006	72.57
		Total	452.57

3. The following cheques/ lodgements (uncleared) were presented for payment/receipt.

Cheque no/ DD /BAC	Payee	Item	Gross amount (£)
CHEQUES			
000111	Hampshire County youth Band	Grant	100.00
000114	Andy Fisk	Play Area Maintenance	475.96
		Total	575.96
LODGEMENTS			
000013	CVPC	Transfer from Bank of Ireland	500.00
		Total	500.00

4. **Bank balances**

Bank of Ireland as at 3rd November 2006 – per statement	94,911.14
Nat West Bank as at 3rd November 2006 – per statement	534.70

Nat West Bank

Two cheques totalling £575.96 and one lodgement of £500.00 (transfer from BOI) have not yet cleared in the Nat West Account. This means there is £458.74 available.

Bank of Ireland

One cheque for £500.00 (transfer to Nat West Account) remains uncleared so available funds are £94,411.14.

5. Progress on audit

Detailed explanations regarding variances between last years figures and this years were sent again to the Audit Commission by e-mail on the 20th October. To date, I have not heard from the Commission.

Angela Sayers,
Treasurer November 2006
E&OE

Some debate took place on the report and queries were answered to the satisfaction of Members. Members agreed that cheques should normally be drawn for payment of bills at the next available Parish Council meeting.

(iii) Budget Meeting Date

Monday, 8 January at 8pm in WI Hall.

189/06 VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCILLOR

The Chairman advised that as no election had been called and this was the next Parish Council meeting within the specified 14 days the position would be filled by Co-Option. Only one applicant had put themselves forward and had presented a CV for Councillors consideration. Cllr. Mrs. Brooks queried the 14 days as she had advised two people that they had until the 16 of November to put themselves forward if they were interested. A copy of the notice was tabled and it clearly stated that WITHIN 14 days of the date of the notice the Parish Council would fill the vacancy by co-option. This was the meeting of the council within the 14 day slot. The Clerk advised that she had also put in the notice that applicants would be welcome to put themselves forward at tonight's meeting.

Cllr. Crawley said he would very much welcome Robert Ney who had previously been a Councillor. Mr. Ney then spoke to Members and gave further background information on himself. He then answered questions from Members. The Chairman asked Members whether they wished to accept his application and the vote was taken. RESOLVED Members unanimously to accept Mr. Ney as a co-opted Councillor. He will sign his declaration of acceptance of office at the next meeting.

190/06 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Cllr. Mrs. Brooks proposed Cllr. Dr. Sinka and this was seconded by Cllr. Crawley.

Cllr. Jackson proposed Cllr. Hall and this was seconded by Cllr. Ashton.

A secret ballot was held and Cllr. Dr. Sinka was duly nominated and will sign her declaration of acceptance of office at the next meeting.

191/06 BOUNDARY REVIEW

The Chairman explained to Members the rationale behind the Boundary Review. Members considered the maps sent with the questionnaire and were dismayed to see how out of date they were. After much debate Members agreed that we should resend the original list and also request a move the boundary of the dwelling (in Redfields Lane) which is to the left of the walkway into the estate.

ACTION: Clerk

192/06 HAMPSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE CONSULTATION

The Chairman gave Members a briefing on the paper and asked whether Members supported opposing a merger with the IOW Fire & Rescue Service. After some debate this was agreed.

ACTION: Clerk

193/06 PLANNING

(i) General

A letter from Green Issues (QE Barracks Development) invited Members to a special preview of an exhibition on Friday, 10 November. Details of public viewing times were also in the letter.

(ii) S106s Hitches Lane Development

It was agreed to keep an eye on this as we might wish to have input into any new agreements.

(iii) Trees

Permission has been granted by Mr. Seale via Mr. Reg Potter to fence off the copse of trees at Hillyburrow. We cannot use stock fencing. It is preferred that we seek a grant for post and rail and failing that post and two wires (not barbed wire) is acceptable.

ACTION: Clerk to seek quotations and Grant funding. Check with Phil Allen for possible companies and get a quote from Andy Fisk.

Cllr. Jackson advised Cllr. Crawley that two somewhat substantial trees had been cut down in Watery Lane – Cllr. Crawley said that permission had been given. Cllr. Mrs. Brooks advised that she had noticed some people showing a great interest in the large trees at the beginning of Netherhouse Moor.

The Chairman asked what was the position with the Landmark Trees survey.

Cllr. Hall has completed his project. Cllr. Mrs. Brooks has completed 86% of her project and will complete it with the help of Richard Hillier.

ACTION: Members

(iv) Report of the Planning Committee

Cllr. Jackson apologised for not having been able to get his report out for the last meeting due to severe tooth ache just prior to going on holiday. He then spoke to his September and October reports and these were accepted by Members.

194/06 MATTERS ARISING

(i) Lea Green

Weekly checks reports no problems. The Clerk has checked the work done by Andy Fisk and his account has been sent for payment. With regard to Members query about clearing away the soil from the matting surfacing – the Clerk has had a really good look at the area and she cannot see that there is any problem. Continental Landscapes have advised that we can expect to pay an additional 10% for their services in the next financial year.

(ii) Community Transport

There is a Parish Transport Reps meeting 18 November 2006 – Cllr. Mrs. Brooks explained why she will not be attending the meeting – there is a huge consultation going on at the moment and until that is complete she felt there was nothing to be gained by attending this meeting.

(iii) Youth Facilities

Nothing further to report.

(iv) Parish Plan

A meeting with Davina Bowe is scheduled for Friday, 17 November at 4pm.

Cllrs. Ambler and Dr. Sinka will attend.

(v) Tall Pines

Map in file showing land owned by HCC. The canal bank by Tall Pines does not belong to HCC. Cllr. Jackson said he had finally established that the land is owned by the tenants of Tall Pines and he wished to keep a watching brief on the problem.]

(vi) Zephon Common and Crow Act

Nothing further to report.

(vii) Dog Bins

Paul Collins has the bag dispenser and bags and has kindly agreed to erect it in due course.

(viii) Noticeboards

Cllr. Mrs Brooks advised she has checked all 5 noticeboards. The only one which requires urgent attention is the one by the Post Office.

The Chairman said he would speak to a company on Grove Farm and get a quote..

The Clerk has requested cutting back of vegetation at GHR end of Brandon Road and also Netherhouse Moor noticeboards

ACTION: Clerk ask Carl Westerby in the absence of Phil Whiting (HDC Officers)

Cllr. Jackson said there was an issue with litter associated with the noticeboards ask HDC what they will do about it. Suggest it might be more cost effective to put additional waste bins on the estate rather than send a crew out to litter pick.

ACTION: Clerk

(x) Allotments

HDC legal section have confirmed that agricultural land can be used for allotments.

Mention was made of a redundant play area at the end of Elizabeth Drive which would be ideal for allotments.

ACTION: Clerk

195/06 LIGHTING

(i) General

HCC have written advising that the Parish Council would need to commit to a new Maintenance Contract with another provider due to it not committing to joining the PFI procurement initiative. The Clerk explained that because our street lights were fairly new she had not put the Council forward for the scheme because the street lights are fairly new. However, it seems the scheme was also for a 25 year period of maintenance which the Council would wish to opt into as endeavouring to find another company to maintain our lighting would be risky. An email has been sent stating the Council wish to remain with the existing maintenance scheme and a response is awaited.

196/06 HIGHWAYS ETC.

(i) General

The Clerk has asked when Crookham Village is likely to have its SIDS allocation but no reply yet received.

ACTION: Clerk to chase up

(ii) A287 Redfields Lane Junction

The Chairman read out to Members the letter from HCC with regard to accidents on the A287 and advising the road is to be covered by an Accident Reduction Scheme. A lengthy debate took place. Mention was made of the use of SIDS and it was thought that these would be of no use as it is the vehicles exiting Redfields Lane which are the issue. Cllr. Radley thought rumble strips would be more effective especially as the area is away from housing. The Chairman said he would contact the officer and explore the issue further.

ACTION: Chairman

(iii) Pilcot Road Footway

The Clerk has written to Dogmersfield School asking what is the position with funding for the footway as a result of the acceptance of the School Travel Plan. The Chairman advised Members that the Clerk had also emailed HCC with regard to the footway. Debate then covered the S106/S278 money which Officers have requested with their recommendation to the Development Control Committee of Grant for the development of the Barns at Cross Farm. Cllr. Mrs. Brooks was not happy that the Parish Council should seem to be endorsing the approval by making a bid for the S106/S278 money.

Clerk to email Planning and say that in the event they are minded to Grant the application at Cross Farm (against the recommendation of this Parish Council) that the S106/S278 contribution be allocated for funding for highway improvements within this Parish. Cfi Cllr. John Bennison

ACTION: Clerk

(iv) Footpaths general

Cllr. Jackson asked that we chase Hampshire Bridges for a date for the repainting of the swingbridge as we have a sum of money in the budget for painting.

Cllr. Jackson said he proposed that we go back to our smaller scheme for the leaf blowing and that we seek to do this in January. Map to come from Cllr. Jackson and quote from Andy Fisk.

Cllr. Mrs. Brooks wished a thank you to be sent to Mr. Hirst for his swift action in covering the sleeper bridge with chicken wire, following her recent fall.

Mention was again made of the importance of leaving some headland around fields for butterflies and wild flowers. Clerk to ask John Hirst to leave a metre strip of headland after mowing for conservation purposes.

ACTIONS: Clerk

197/06 RECORD OF CORRESPONDENCE CIRCULATED

Circ: 21.10.06

HDC Mins & Agendas Planning 11.10.06/Planning sub-cttee 16.10.06/Scrutiny 17.10.06/Council & Extra-ordinary Council 26.10.06/Enforcement 30.10.06/ Licensing 31.10.06

Circ: 21.10.06

Information emails etc/ OSS Vol 28

Circ: 23.10.06

Information emails etc

Circ: 23.10.06

Leisure Strategy Survey

Circ: 31.10.06

Copy ltrs/Voice/Community Transport issue 25/CPRE Newsletter autumn 06/Community Action News Nov/Local Council Review/Town & Parish Standard/Hampshire Playing Fields Annual Report & AGM notice/Clerks & Councils Direct/

Circ: 3.11.06

HDC Planning Enforcement Cttee 30.10.06/Cabinet 2.11.06/Planning 8.11.06/Policy Panel 9.11.06/Licensing 13.11.06 & 14.11.06/Planning 15.11.06

198/06 INFORMATION SHARING & AGENDA ITEMS

Cllr. Hall requested that the White Paper be on the next Agenda.

The Chairman advised Members that HDC again have a Dog Warden Service..

199/06 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Meeting will be on Monday, 4 December at 7.45 pm in the **WI Hall, The Street, Crookham Village.**

Meetings for 2007 are as follows:

WI HALL VELMEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE

MONDAY

8 January (8pm Budget Meeting)

5 February

2 April (Annual Parish Meeting)

4 June

3 September 2 October

5 November 4 December

TUESDAY

9 January

6 March

15 May (Annual General Meeting)

3 July

The Chairman moved exclusion of Public and Press under Schedule 12A Section 1001 of LGA 1972 due to the possible financial and contractual information which might be disclosed during debate on this item.

200/06 VELMEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE & ADJACENT AMENITIES

Debate which took place after the public participation item.

Cllr. Hall was not present for this part of the item. Cllr. Jackson said that with regard to the pole in the photos issued by Mrs. Hall – this pole had been used some time ago to damage a dog bin which Hart had repaired fairly quickly but had then ignored totally the issue of reinstating the pole. A dog bin which was set on fire, again some time ago, was still unrepaired. There is a distinct lack of any response from HDC.

Some debate then took place on the boundary fence – Cllr. Jackson said the fence issue is a civil one which he did not believe the Parish Council should not be involved in – however the lack of maintenance (which includes the fence) and failure to respond are issues which are rightly the remit of the Parish Council. Cllr. Mrs. Brooks said that Hillyburrow has two footpaths running across it but no signage about the possibility of being bitten by the horses. Cllr. Jackson proposed that we write complaining about the lack of maintenance. The Chairman proposed that we write to the Chief Executive due to the long term sickness of the relevant officer. Carl Westerby seemed to be picking up the link from Open Spaces.

Cllr. Ashton asked that we ask for the fence to be strengthened rather than just patched. The Chairman advised that the hedgerow was also supposed to be reinforced with new planting. Cllr. Jackson also asked that we complain yet again about the failure of HDC to get the two street lights working again. Cfi to Paul Einchomb and David Simpson Cabinet Members for the relevant areas. Under Health & Safety HDC have a duty of care to the public and we believe that they are failing in that duty and have done so for at least two years.

ACTION: Clerk

The Chairman advised Members that we had been waiting for some form of resolution from HDC on which we could move forward and this will come up at a Cabinet Meeting. The Chairman then advised Members of the options and of the possible preferred option together with timescales for implementation of use of the S106 money for improvements to the facilities. Cllr. Jackson said we still awaited a reply to our question “where are the savings to the residents of Hart if this is to go ahead” – also when we last negotiated through officers the Cabinet then threw it away and we had to start all over again. Cllr. Hall asked about the partnership scheme which was mentioned by Cllr. Einchcomb.

ACTION Clerk to email Paul Einchcomb “Without prejudice Members are prepared to enter into talks about the future of the VCC with the relevant appropriately authorised Cabinet Member of HDC.” The Chairman asked whether Members wanted to sit down with the relevant Cabinet Member and officer prior to the Cabinet meeting. The Clerk expressed concern at the implications of the possibility of losing parts of the parish in the forthcoming boundary review. This might leave a small parish council with untenable financial commitments.

The meeting closed at 11.30 pm