

These are the unadopted Minutes of the Meeting of 5 November 2007 please refer to the Minutes of the December meeting for any amendments.

Present: Cllr. Simon Ambler (Chairman)
Cllr. David Jackson
Cllr. Robert Ney
Cllr. Indra Sinka
Mrs. Carol Leversha (Clerk)
Mrs. Angela Sayers (RFO)

In attendance: Ward Cllrs Jenny Radley & Richard Appleton,
Tim Davies, County Councillor Peter Hutcheson,
Cllr. Axel (Courtmoor Ward Cllr) and Youth Service
Officers Mark Blackwell & Charlotte Tickner

156/07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Joan Brooks and Philip Ashton.

157/07 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced that there would be a change of order of items on the Agenda to accommodate our visitors but the items would be Minuted in Agenda order.

158/07 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 2 OCTOBER 2007

Minute 144/07 – The Chairman stated that his declaration of interest in Item 142/07, in that he had a personal interest in the Parish Review, had not been recorded. The Clerk apologised that this had not be Minuted. With this amendment the Minutes were then signed as a true record by the Chairman.

159/07 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 HDC which is the other party to negotiations regarding Velmead Community Centre.

160/07 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 meeting.

161/07 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (time limit of 3 minutes per person)

The Chairman adjourned the meeting for public participation.
Cllr. Davies spoke about the Parish Review. He noted that Members of this Council feel that what is happening is rather piecemeal. He said there are a number of different issues some minor, needing technical amendments. HDC have recognised that there may be an impact on existing parishes and a series of consultation papers will be issued. With regard to new parishes – an exercise is to be carried out in the new year and the findings will be send to the Secretary of State. Cllr. Jackson asked whether the tidying up of the boundaries will be referred to this Council as we have been through this exercise before. Cllr. Davies said it was intended that all these issues will be addressed. Cllr. Jackson asked that Cllr. Davies send his information to the Parish. Cllr. Appleton said he had asked for a boundary change at Lea Green so that some of the open space could be used to provide a new play area for children of The Lea. A question was asked about the anomalies with

detached bits of the parish and Cllr. Davies said this would be part of the wider consultation. The Chairman then reconvened the meeting.

162/07 NEW WEBSITE

Members debated the need for a more user friendly website with details of all Councillors. Cllr. Jackson said he would like permission to re-jig the Parish Website. Hook Council got the prize for its website this year and he believed we could challenge this. Cllr. Jackson invited Members to let him know what Members would like to see on the Website – would they please email him with suggestions. He would like to keep things interesting and put lots of items on it. Debate took place on whether to have home phone numbers against Councillors email details and it was felt this was not necessary as the Clerk had the PC number and ansaphone facility and could advise the relevant councillors who would then contact the resident direct.

RESOLVED: Members accepted Cllr. Jackson`s offer of updating the Website and expressed their thanks for his proposal.

ACTION: Cllr. Jackson

163/07 FINANCE

(i) General

Permission was given for the Clerk to purchase the latest edition of the Charles Arnold Baker publication (cost approximately £80).

RESOLVED: Clerk to purchase latest edition of CAB.

(ii) RFO`s Report

1. Interest received from the Bank of Ireland for the month of September was £428.71
2. The following transactions (all cleared) were made between the last meeting and today:

Nat West Current Account

Cheque no / Direct Debit/ BACS	Payee	Item	Gross Amount (£)
Payments			
DD	Virgin Media	Clerk`s Internet Account (October)	14.99
DD	British Tel	Clerk`s BT line	51.15
		Total	£66.14
Lodgements			
BAC	HMC & E	VAT Refund (July, August, September Qtr)	67.99
		Total	£67.99

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

Cheque no/ DD/BAC	Payee	Item	Gross Amount (£)
Cheques - NW			
000177	Continental Landscapes	July – September 2007	159.86
		Total	£159.86
Lodgements - NW			
None outstanding			0

4. Bank balances

Bank of Ireland as at 31 st October 2007 – per statement	£110,282.29
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Nat West Bank as at 31 st October 2007 – per statement	£482.70
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Note

Nat West Bank

One cheque totalling £159.86 (as above) remained uncleared for October 2007. In addition chq no 000172(HAPTC £40) remained uncleared for September 2007. There were no outstanding lodgements for Nat West this month. This means there is £282.84 available.

Bank of Ireland

There were no outstanding cheques or lodgements. This means there is £110,282.29 available.

5. Other

We have now received our Certified Annual Return from the Audit Commission for the Financial Year 31 March 2007.

The notice of conclusion of audit and right to inspect the Annual Return is currently on display on all five noticeboards.

(start date for inspection 02/11/07 , end date for inspection 21/11/07).

E&OE.

Members expressed their appreciation of the excellent work undertaken by the RFO in dealing with the Annual Return Forms.

RESOLVED Members accepted the report of the Financial Officer.

(iii) Leaf blowing

Cllr. Jackson produced a map showing the areas to be covered. He explained that this work was to prevent a build up of leaf mould on these paths.

RESOLVED: Clerk to invite a quotation from our Maintenance Contractor and quotation to be accepted if it equates to previous years and is in line with the budget.

ACTION: Clerk

164/07 PLANNING

(i) General

Cllr. Jackson advised that he had attended an e-government briefing by the project team on on-line consultation for planning applications, which will start to go live next April. Once operative in Hart, all aspects of submitting, reviewing and commenting on planning applications will be possible on the Internet, but paper copies should still be available if Members so wish. The project team gave the strong impression that they had little idea how Parish Councils worked and, despite this event being billed as a chance for the team to learn, they talked for so long about strategic issues at LPA and above that there was very little time for feedback on practicalities at Parish level. A projected overall saving of £20m a year was claimed for LPAs and above. Details of the new system can be seen on the UK Planning Portal website. learning event on planning.

(ii) TREES

Cllr. Crawley was thanked for the sterling work he had done on tree planting in Hitches Lane, some years ago. The colours were outstanding this Autumn.

(iii) REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr. Jackson spoke to his report and highlighted various issues. He advised that there had been 3 public meetings regarding the rural workshops behind Cross Farm. He then responded to questions and reiterated that if Members had issues with the Bourley Road car park proposals they should attend the public meeting. Debate took place on the SANG area at the end of Crondall Road and it was confirmed that the area could be used as mitigation land for up to 700 dwellings although this is not the present intention.

RESOLVED: The recommendations of the Planning Committee were accepted by Members.

ACTION: 5 copies to post on noticeboards.

165/07 MATTERS ARISING

(i) Lea Green

All okay with weekly checks.

(ii) Community Transport

Cllr. Mrs. Brooks cannot attend the Annual Meeting of Parish Transport Representatives on 17 November and has asked if anyone else wishes to go.

ACTION: Clerk to send apologies

(iii) Youth Provision

Cllr. Jackson explained he had had a very fruitful meeting with Mark Blackwell (Youth Officer) with regard to youth provision for the young people in the parish. This was especially relevant now that the cohort on Zebon Copse comes within the 13 to 19 age group. Mark introduced Charlotte Tickner (Youth Officer) who gave a presentation on a possible project and explained how some past projects had enabled young people to enhance their skills and raise their self esteem. The Officers advised of the cost of the photography project and Mark said he would be prepared to fund half of this from his budget and asked whether the Parish Council would fund the other half. There was also an offer of a once a week street work youth worker with the end desire of establishing a local youth club. Cllr. Jackson said there was a parish newsletter going out in December which could mention this but he was concerned about reaching those young people who would not read the newsletter. Mark Blackwell said the youth service had links via the Point and

schools. Mark said re-organisation is still ongoing with the Connexions and Youth Service and it is hoped that the picture of what will happen on the ground will emerge by January and he would hope that these projects could continue. That is why he would like to do this course in February so that it can be ongoing. Further debate took place with elected Members. Budgets were mentioned and Mark said his budget was disappearing and would in future be with another officer.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to support Phase 1 financially.

(iv) Parish Plan

Cllr. Sinka advised there is a meeting on 8 November 2007 to carry this work forward.

(v) Zephon Common & Crow Act

The Clerk advised Members of the conversation she had had with Mr. Hirst in that he believed he had provided the necessary access to the common. Debate then took place on the history of the fencing. Shortly after the landowner had complained to the parish Council, at its September 2000 meeting, about people straying off the footpath onto the northern part of the common a fence was erected along the northern edge of the common to deny further access. It was felt that Mr. Hirst's provision of access is to an area of common that is unsuitable for walkers. Debate took place on how to pursue this matter. It was suggested that we get a solicitor's letter challenging the erection of the fencing and it was stated we could also go to the Open Spaces Society for advice. Cllr. Davis said it should only be a minimal cost to get an injunction to have the fencing removed. Members debated using our VCC Solicitor for advice.

RESOLVED: Seek one hour's advice of retained solicitor.

ACTION: Clerk

(vi) Noticeboards

The Chairman advised of the quotation for the new board but said it would be too large to fit the site of the current one. He suggested that it be moved to the left of the telephone box where the waste bin is at present.

RESOLVED: The quotation for a new board was accepted.

ACTION: Clerk to invite a quotation from our maintenance contractor for removal of the old noticeboard and posts and installation of the new board in its new site.

(vii) Accredited Community Safety Officers

Cllr. Ney raised this with the HDAPC meeting and Crondall Parish Council had shown interest and will be debating it at a meeting. Cllr. Jackson advised that the cost is £33k per man per year.

ACTION: Clerk

(viii) Parish Newsletter (2 editions)

Copy to Cllr. Ambler as soon as possible.

ACTION: All

166/07 LIGHTING

(i) General

One of Hart Council's lights in Danvers Drive is still not working.

(Post Meeting Note: Cllr. Radley has actioned this and HDC are replacing the whole column.)

ACTION: Clerk to contact Southern Electric for a quote for maintenance costs for 26 columns.

167/07 HIGHWAYS

(i) General

SID DATA – Cllr. Jackson said there were some serious excessive speeds in the village at all hours of the day. Cllr. Crawley asked for a copy of the information for his Road Safety meeting this Friday.

ACTION: Cllr. Jackson will copy CD Rom and pass to Cllr. Crawley

(ii) A287

Cllr. Ney said that the original site for the new sign had had to be re sited due to the interference from the overhead power lines and this sign might now be up by the end of the year.

The Chairman welcomed our County Councillor, Peter Hutcheson, and invited Cllr. Ney (our lead Member) to lead the debate. Cllr. Ney asked why the A287 issue had not been mentioned in the QEB Inquiry. Cllr. Hutcheson said that this went back many years – officers are convinced that there is no need for further improvements here. He then went into detail with the possible schemes. Again he reiterated that officers are convinced that the increased traffic on that junction will be minimal. He believed that at this stage we need to ensure that HCC S278 or S106 funding from the developer be not ringfenced as was done with the Elvetham Heath development. Cllr. Ney said why were they considering closing the junction to certain traffic. Mention was made of the 8 reported accidents in the last 3 years. Cllr. Ney said there will be approximately 2,000 cars from QEB and it is ludicrous to believe that they will use Beacon Hill to access the A287 rather than the Redfields Lane junction. Cllr. Jackson said it appears that very little thought had been given to traffic turning right out of the junction. Cllr. Hutcheson said he did not use any of the junctions to the A287 because they were so busy and he preferred not to. Cllr. Ney challenged Cllr. Hutcheson saying he knew there was a problem and we are looking to him as our elected representative to do something on behalf of his residents. Cllr. Radley asked how do we take this forward? All local bodies seem to have the same concerns about this junction – can we have a meeting of all parties to deal with this? She said there were further local issues which needed to be addressed on the back of the QEB development. Cllr. Ney said something needs to be done and HCC have not even mentioned it in its submission to the Inquiry. Cllr. Crawley said “in the locality” was open to interpretation. Cllr. Appleton said he understood that HCC Policy was not to improve the transport network – the policy is to encourage people to use public transport. Cllr. Axel (Courtmoor Cllr) asked Cllr. Hutcheson what he would be doing for his electors on this issue. The Chairman said that from this meeting we would be looking to Cllr. Hutcheson to facilitate the offer of a meeting from HCC Officer Frank Baxter with all interested parties. Cllr. Hutcheson said we would also need the legal people involved to ensure that funding can be used for the junction. Cllr. Jackson said there was a considerable amount of money already set aside and it would be helpful if the total sum was known. Cllr. Radley said there is some urgency for this to be done soon, as the legal agreements will be signed up soon after the finish of the Inquiry.

ACTION: Cllr. Hutcheson to facilitate a meeting with the relevant parties.

(iii) Pilcot Road Footway

The Chairman said that for 2/3 years now we had been endeavouring to get a footway down the hill – primarily for children to get to and from school. Up

until a month or so ago we seemed to have support for this from HCC Officers but recently that support had changed. This Council had consulted with residents, the school and Dogmersfield Parish Council and all supported this project. He had attend the One Voice schools seminar, in Winchester, some weeks ago and children had supported ways to walk/cycle to school as an overwhelming priority. Cllr. Hutcheson said he had walked the route several times and he did not believe that this would suit. He was not sure that £200k expenditure on a footway was a good use of money for small numbers of pedestrians. Cllr. Jackson said numbers were low because it is not a safe route to walk. There are more than just school children who would use a footway – there is local pedestrian traffic to and from the public house. He also felt it was difficult to equate the costs - a footway in Odiham – more or less the same distance as this – was £67,000 and this one is in excess? He would like an explanation. Cllr. Crawley said we had a number of quotes over a period of time and each time the costs go up with along with opposition from HCC. On the land issue one of the owners had said they would amenable to release land for the footway. The Chairman said once again we need to meet with the relevant people as we have had such variable costs suggested. Cllr. Ney asked would it be different people to those we would talk too about the A287? Cllr. Hutcheson said he believed they would be different officers. Cllr. Jackson said it would be useful to have these meetings take place in the rush hour at the Redfields junction and Pilcot Road. Also no mention was made of the terrible traffic congestion around the school. Mark Blackwell said could it be considered that the footway also be a cycleway as there were children who could/would walk or cycle from Dogmersfield to Calthorpe School. Mark Blackwell asked to speak with reference to the A287 junction and with regard to young drivers. In Hart there had been 3 serious road accidents recently involving drivers aged under 23 with two fatalities. All 3 accidents were on roads which were not particularly dangerous. He was concerned about the possible reduction of traffic at Redfields junction – young drivers do not perceive the danger that adults perceive - and he was concerned for their safety. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Hutcheson for his attendance.

ACTION: Cllr. Hutcheson to facilitate a meeting with the relevant parties.

(iv) Footpaths general

Awaiting information from Cllr. Hall with regard to the fencing around the Copse on Hillyburrow.

168/07 INFORMATION SHARING & AGENDA ITEMS

Invitation from Waverley Abbey House to a mince pies and wine lunch time event.

Charities Launch Event.

Affordable Housing Networking evening

Relocation of the bottle banks at Netherhouse Moor – Members had not put forward views on this.

AGENDA ITEM – BOTTLE BANKS

Cllr. Jackson said there had been 3 serious break-ins on the Copse in the last month.

Cllr. Radley had sent him a graph of where residents had complained in relation to aircraft noise and he believed that this should be a subject for the newsletter. Cllr. Radley said that where we had little focus groups TAG are

keen to get involved with them and arrange visits. TAG are producing their master plan to 2030 fairly soon and we need to influence it.

AGENDA ITEM – AIRCRAFT NOISE

Cllr. Appleton advised that the allotment provision is being followed up despite newspaper reports to the contrary and speed limits along Hitches Lane are being looked at.

169/07 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Tuesday, 4 December 2007 in the Velmead Community Centre, Danvers Drive, Zebon Copse.

Meetings for 2008 are as follows:

WI HALL

MONDAY

7 January 2008

3 March 2008

12 May (Annual General Meeting)

7 July 2008

6 October 2008

1 December 2008

VELMEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE

TUESDAY

5 February 2008

8 April (Annual Parish Meeting)

3 June 2008

2 September 2008

4 November 2008

170/07 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

The Chairman advised that he would be moving exclusion of the Press and Public under Schedule 12A Section 1001 of LGA 1972 as there was contractual or financial information which might be disclosed during debate on this item.

171/07 VELMEAD COMMUNITY CENTRE & ADJACENT AMENITIES

The Chairman sought permission of Members to engage the services of Hedley`s solicitors at a fixed price cost based on the paperwork so far produced.

RESOLVED: to appoint Hedley` solicitor on the basis of the prices agreed.

Cllr. Sinka updated Members on her meeting with one of the hall users. This is a long term user and would expect to give 4 month notice of any changes to bookings.

The meeting closed at 11.10 pm