



HENSTEAD WITH HULVER STREET
PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Henstead with Hulver Street
held at Hulver Village Hall, Hulver
on Tuesday 16th May 2017
Commencing at 7.00pm

1/APM/17 Welcome

In the absence of Chairman Cllr Snudden the Vice chairman Cllr Armstrong welcomed everyone to the meeting

2/APM/17 Present

62 Residents attended the meeting. Their names are recorded on the attendance register attached.

3/APM/17 Apologies for absence

Cllr Snudden, Cllr Hadingham Mrs L Spillings and Mrs M Baxter

4/APM/17 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 17th May 2016

The minutes of the annual parish meeting held on 17th May 2016 having been previously circulated were taken as read by the Chairman. On a proposition by Mrs P Block, seconded by Ms C Bullock the minutes were approved by the meeting as a true record and signed by the Chairman Cllr Armstrong

5/APM/17 Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes

6/APM/17 Parish Accounts

Copies of the parish accounts for 2016/2017 were distributed. The clerk in his capacity as the Responsible Financial Officer of the Parish Council gave a short explanation of the accounts and reported that the expenses for the year were in line with the budget prediction. The reserves of the Council are now at a level that allows the Council to meet its committed expenditure and any unexpected costs such as an unexpected election caused by a vacancy on the Council. There were no questions from those attending.

7/APM/17 Branden Trust Report

The Clerk read a report from Mrs L Spillings of the Branden Trust. The Trust has two parcels of land approx 15 acres which are rented out and the income is distributed between the retired families of Henstead and Hulver and the Churches of Henstead and Rushmere. £1050 was distributed during 2016/17 and there is a balance of £127.91.

8/APM/17 Hulver Village Hall Report.

The Chairman of the Village Hall Committee John Armstrong said that the Village Hall has a new committee with 11 members from Henstead and Hulver. The new committee has set itself some targets of things that need to be done. Revise the trust deed, a number of maintenance and improvements to the hall, a review of charges and booking forms, registering as a charity. Current activities at the hall are providing sufficient income to meet the costs of running the hall. Once these tasks have been completed the committee will look at ways of increasing activities at the hall. The Chairman said that the village hall is the only community asset that the parish has and it is important to ensure its future by making it central to activities in the community. The Chairman thanked all the members of the committee the new ones coming on board and those who have been working hard to keep it going.

9/APM/17 Chairman's Report

Cllr Snudden's report was given by the Clerk. The council had a fairly busy year centering around the neighbourhood plan, planning applications and a variety of other business. The neighbourhood plan is progressing well and thanks go to Cllr Horwood and the project team for all their hard work on the plan so far. Among the several planning issues were two applications that the Parish Council had objected to and had been refused by Waveney District Council. Appeals were made to the Planning Inspectorate by the applicants. The Parish Council objected to both appeals and stated clearly the objections to the applications and their opinion that the appeals should be dismissed. The information cited by the Parish Council contributed to the Inspectors dealing with appeals dismissing both.

The Council has been successful in getting the 30MPH speed limit extended from the cross roads at the Church to the Hulver side of the Church which hopefully will see a reduction of speed in that area. We are grateful for the help of our county councillor Michael Ladd.

Following cuts to budgets the police no longer attend meetings or provide email information on crime. The police uk website provides details of crimes committed in the parish but is usually 2 months behind. There have been several recorded crimes during the year including violence, anti social behaviour and theft. The site only gives brief details.

Currently the Council is aware of the traffic issues that we are experiencing and has had one meeting with the highways department to look at ways we can improve things. There will be a report on that meeting later in the meeting.

Further meetings will be organised with the police and other organisations.

The Parish Council has a website where details of the meetings are published along with other information. The council is considering the idea of a regular email newsletter to keep you up to date with things going on in the parish. Your views on this would be very helpful.

I would like to thank all the members of the Council for all their efforts on behalf of the residents of the parish.

10/APM/17 Traffic issues in the villages

The clerk gave a report on the meeting between Councillors and 2 members of the Highways department.

Signed:- Chairman _____ Clerk _____ Date _____

A number of topics were discussed about traffic through the villages. The Highways team said that the department is going through a restructure and that in the future there will be a customer facing team and a number of specialist teams with different responsibilities. The specialist teams will have an operational plan and will include a reactive team that will deal with things like potholes, road signs, and road surfaces. The proactive teams will deal with planned works and improvements. Members asked about options for dealing with issues in the villages including speeding, HGV's and lorry traffic Agricultural vehicles and digester traffic.

Some of the possible solutions included weight limits and speed limits on the B1127 these would require a Traffic Regulation Order which is expensive and takes time. Other options include updating the SCC Lorry Management Plan which is voluntary. Members asked about traffic calming as the road is a B classification, options may include rumble strips, road narrowing and chicanes and will be investigated.

Members suggested that an audit of current conditions would be useful in getting things done.

The council is hoping to arrange further meetings with the police and the vehicle standards agency and WDC planning to discuss further options.

A resident suggested that a second speed sign should be purchased which was supported by the meeting. A further suggestion was the formation of a community speed watch team the clerk said that this would be added to the next council agenda.

11/APM/17 The Neighbourhood Plan

The clerk reported on the progress of the neighbourhood plan. The most important phase that of consulting with the residents had started and the first questionnaires had been delivered. The project team hopes that everyone will return the completed questionnaire so that the team can work on the next. The first questionnaire will tell us what residents consider important and the level of support for those things. The second questionnaire will seek to get more views and provide the material for the plan itself. Once the draft plan is produced it will go for examination by an independent examiner to ensure there is no conflict with national or district policies. The draft plan will go to WDC and finally a referendum will be organised for residents to vote on the plan. Cllr Horwood the Chairman of the project team said that further events would be held to keep residents informed about progress and to answer any questions that people may have. Cllr Horwood said that members of the project team would be happy to meet with residents after the meeting.

12/APM/17 Questions and comments from the Public

There were no further comments or questions from the residents.

Cllr Armstrong thanked the residents for their attendance and contribution and declared the meeting closed. Residents were invited to partake of refreshments after the close of the meeting

Meeting Closed at 8.45pm.