

**HAUGHLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE RON CRASCALL
PAVILION ON TUESDAY 20th JANUARY 2009 at 7.30 P.M**

Present: Cllrs G Kay (Chairman), W Green, R Renton, Mrs J Thomson, C Hart
A Shaw, Mrs S Green, A Salisbury, N Weaver (arrived 7.56 p.m.)
C.Cllr J Clover (arrived 7.40 p.m.)

Note: Prior to the commencement of the meeting there was a public forum with queries on

- § Trees in Crawford Avenue
- § Footpath Fishponds Way to Haughley New Street /unsuitable gating
- § Lorries down Station Road

Apologies: Cllrs J Bevan & J Bowden

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Hart Item 4(a) Post Office

MINUTES OF MEETING 9.12.08

It was proposed by Cllr Shaw, seconded by Cllr Salisbury that the minutes were a true and accurate record and signed accordingly having deleted "The Street" under Notes for Public Forum. All in favour.

MINUTES OF MEETING 16.12.08

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Green, seconded by Cllr Renton that the minutes were a true and accurate record and signed accordingly. All in favour with the exception of an abstention by Cllr Hart.

REQUESTS FOR FUNDING

The Chairman asked Councillors to consider this item along with Item 6 Precept when deciding on funding requests.

- a) **Post Office:** £15k to be spread over two financial years. Cllr Green proposed supporting this request.
- b) **Pre-School:** Running costs of £2k, £2½k for additional equipment.

The meeting recessed at this point for ten minutes to hear representatives from pre-school respond to various queries by councillors and on reconvening the meeting agreed to support their application subject to a full financial report (business plan). Councillors also noted that the pre-school had now increased their charges and were providing full daily tuition

- c) **Blue Skies:** Various schemes had been discussed at the last meeting - provision for a disabled access to the building ; volunteers for the Youth Club; footpath and cycle path along Fishponds / new footpath between Haughley and Tot Hill –look to Suffolk County Council for possible funding although there was no immediate need to spend money on the project Community school information update provided by Cllr Weaver and County Councillor Clover to convene appropriate meeting between school, Parish Council and Linda Nixon (extended Schools Development Officer Stowmarket Cluster) to seek more use of the existing building and how it could be progressed.

FINANCE

560 **January Accounts:** Cllr Green proposed the accounts for January be approved.

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Seconded by Cllr Mrs Thomson. All in favour.

Chq.No.

102057/59/62	Employment Salaries	£ 692.20
102058	Cleaning Services	£ 120.00
102060	SALC (FOI training)	£ 34.50
102061	Pearce & Kemp (Christmas fest.)	£ 561.78
102063	Clerk Travel & office exp	£ 168.36
102064	Stonham Parva PC (SLCC subs)	£ 22.17

PRECEPT

561 The Finance Working Party presented and circulated their report with Cllr Shaw providing a brief resume of estimated expenditure to the year end and the expenditure forecast for 2009/2010 along with the requirement to ensure adequate financial reserves of between 55 – 100% of the annual precept. The meeting agreed that in the current financial climate an increase in the precept was not an option and following a brief discussion it was proposed by Cllr Green that the precept should be the same as the previous year - £42k. Seconded by Cllr Renton – all in favour.

562 **Post Office:** Cllr Green proposed supporting the post office - £5k in 2008/09, £5k in 2009/10. Seconded by Cllr Shaw - all in favour.

563 **Pre-School:** Cllr Green proposed supporting the play group with £2k for their running costs. Seconded by Cllr Shaw. All in favour

Other funds: Councillors agreed that any other funding to local organisations / charities should be considered at the March Parish Council Meeting.

Councillors gave a vote of thanks to the Clerk and Finance WP for providing a clear and precise report.

PLANNING

The following planning application was discussed and supported for approval:-

Item 1

Application No. 4193/08
 Proposal: 2 storey front extension and alterations to dwelling
 Site Location: 21 Langford Close, Stowmarket

Applications granted by MSDC:

3653/08 Dulce Donum, 67 Old Street. Alterations to existing bay window to provide two opening casements

3109/08 15 St Marys Avenue. Erection of a single storey front and side extension and a single storey rear extension

Application withdrawn - **3721/08 1 Windgap Lane**

WRITTEN REPORTS

C. Cllr Clover - Complaints received in respect of traffic movement from Old Newton and a request to improve Station Road, along with objections to Bacton not being mentioned on any sign posts on the A14; CAB will be receiving additional funding from the Government to accommodate the increase in the number of debt enquiries from people; further meeting will be

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arranged with SALC/EDF and SCC to resolve the G39 problem of street lighting repairs throughout not just Haughley but county wide.

Allotments: There was a problem currently with dog owners not clearing up after walking their pets and Cllr Renton felt that a couple of “no fouling” signs appropriately located might be a reminder to owners.

564 Cllr Renton proposed purchasing the signs from MSDC. Seconded by Cllr Shaw. All in favour.

Chq.no.102065	MSDC (signage)	£ 24.00
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Employment Panel: Report tabled with councillors noting the recommendation that Items 1 & 2 should be postponed until Item 3 – Appraisal was undertaken by the Chairman with the Clerk.

Cleaning Services were contracted to clean the Pavilion and whilst initially the standard had been extremely good, in recent months the Playing Field Committee felt that the work had been unsatisfactory. The company had been notified over the standard of cleaning but there had not been any subsequent noticeable improvement. It was recommended that the company’s contract be terminated and it was proposed by Cllr Hart, seconded by Cllr Green that the work should be undertaken by the Handyman. 8 Councillors in favour – 1 abstention

Cllr Renton offered to draw up a suitable job description which would be separate to the Handyman’s existing work.

Transport: Signage on the A14, damage to the sign on The Folly were reported on by Cllr Green. The Haughley Park Industrial estate sign will be replaced with Elmswell (HGV route) and there will be a new sign at the Tot Hill to Haughley Park.

Village Hall: Refurbishment improvements are going ahead successfully – complete units by the cooker. Work table and wall mounted baby changer fitted and hopefully the hall will be decorated by the end of March. Problem with the drains but this is possibly due to the age of the building. Parking outside remains a problem but users have been asked to park sensibly. Installation of an outside light is being investigated by the Lighting Working Party.

Lighting: Not a great deal of progress at present which is why the County Councillor is being asked to arrange a meeting with SCC to see what is going on. Contracted times are not being kept and the issue with G39 lights being authorized for repair is not being resolved since it is questionable whether the Parish Council should pay for this.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

The FOI Act came into force at the beginning of 2005 but approval for the existing publication scheme expired on 31st December 2008. All public sector organisations were being asked to adopt the new model publication scheme and make this available to the public w.e.f. 1st January 2009. There was no requirement to return any paperwork or to create any new information. Cllr Weaver proposed adopting the new model, seconded by Cllr Hart. All in favour.

CORRESPONDENCE

SCC – annual surface clearance of public rights of way. Cllr Mrs Thomson agreed to walk the relevant paths and report back at the February meeting.

MSDC - Stowmarket Action Plan – consultation ends 30th January 2009. Draft response to be drawn up by Cllrs Hart & Green for Clerk to send.

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NHS Application to dispense – Gipping Valley Practice, Barham. Tabled
SCC – Waste Core Strategy – consultation ends 30th January 2009. No comment
SCC – Community engagement – workshops & Haughley involvement. Tabled
Meeting dates for the parish council – circulated
David Ruffley – Wind Turbines at Wyverstone – (circulated via email)
NHS Rural dispensing regs – classification of Elmswell. Tabled

Correspondence in grey folder for inspection at meeting:

SALC – codes of conduct consultation
SALC – training information
SCC – Charter for older people
Town Crier (Stowmarket)
Clerks & Councils Direct – January 2009.
Suffolk View - Winter edition
Leaflets & brochures

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.40 p.m.

Signature.....