

**HAUGHLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE RON CRASCALL PAVILION ON
TUESDAY 16th JUNE 2009 at 7.30 P.M**

Present: Cllrs G Kay (Chairman), W Green, R Renton, C Hart, A Shaw, Mrs S Green,
Mrs J. Thomson, A Salisbury, C.Cllr A Stringer, D.Cllr B Laker &
Mrs M Bottomley (Clerk).
4 Villagers

Note:

There were no matters raised in Public Forum

The Chairman and all councillors congratulated and welcomed the newly appointed County Councillor Andrew Stringer.

APOLOGIES Cllrs J Bowden, N Weaver & J Bevan

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr C Hart - Item 6 Planning (0351/09)
Cllr Mrs Green - Item 4 Village Hall

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 19.05.09

It was proposed by Cllr Green, seconded by Cllr Shaw that the minutes were a true and accurate record and signed accordingly having amended 7th paragraph on Page 767. All in favour

It was also noted that on Item 3 of the planning applications, additional comments should be made in respect of the Council having serious concerns as to how the site would blend into the sensitive landscape and how satisfactory access connections could be made to the existing A14 infrastructure. Clerk and Cllr Hart to draw up appropriate comments.

The meeting recessed for the next item.

WRITTEN REPORTS

C.Cllr Stringer: Full report attached and there followed a brief general discussion with councillors and members of the public. Locality Budget was mentioned and what had previously been agreed with C.Cllr Clover. The County Councillor noted that Pre-school had asked for £2,500 and the Village Hall £500 towards external lighting.

D.Cllr Laker: Verbal report given by D.Cllr Laker. Hard copy to follow in the post due to messaging problems with his email. The re-opening of the Post Office, community school, planning matters (Dial Farm and Lawn Farm) along with the incineration unit at Great Blakenham were also discussed.

The meeting reconvened.

The Chairman referred to the working parties list drawn up for the year – copies of which had been circulated to all councillors. A few additional working parties had been added. It was agreed to rename the Property WP as Assets to review all the council's ownership of land etc. and IT to be named Communication. The majority of working parties had not yet met.

Transport: Following discussions with Suffolk County Council, the parish council had been successful in the proposed new bus route being changed. Buses would now come from Wetherden round The Folly, through Haughley New Street, Duke Street, then down Old Street and onwards. The reverse would apply on return journeys. This would take effect from 1st September. A meeting was scheduled for the 22nd June between Suffolk County Council and the Highways Agency regarding some outstanding issues in respect of the A14 Safety Scheme. Cllr Green identified the poor visibility for vehicles at the top of

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Fishponds Way, 2m high bunding on the bend/bridge and lighting/access to chicanes.

Village Hall: Internal decorations in the hall along with some new lighting was needed and the Management Committee wished to ask the Parish Council to help with financing the projects.

Cllr Mrs Green advised that with the recent refurbishment the Village Hall funds were very low and although there would be considerable fund raising activities undertaken for the rest of the year certain work really needed to be carried out before the Autumn. The Committee was therefore asking for the parish council to underwrite the cost of internal decorations - £1,500 -along with the proposed external lighting needed - £550. Repayable within 18 months

At the same time the Management Committee requested that when councillors were drawing up the annual allocations, if consideration could be given for the Hall in future to receive an annual grant.

Cllr Mrs Green then left the room whilst councillors considered the request.

576 Following some discussion, Cllr Green proposed that the parish council should underwrite the VHMC in the amount of £2,050 (repayable within 18 months), seconded by Cllr Hart. All in favour. (Cheque No.102111 £2,050)

Cllr Mrs Green then returned to the meeting

Lighting: Cllr Salisbury reported that the new light in Station Road was now operational. However any repair to the street lights in Haughley Green reported to the working party and also to Suffolk County Council by members of the public, are dependant on the electricity supplier – EDF. No timescale for the work to be completed has yet been advised.

Cllr Salisbury proposed any payment for lighting should be reduced pro rata based on the various lights out of action. Seconded by Cllr Green. All in favour.

The Lighting working party were scheduled to meet with C.Cllr Stringer and Mr Webster on the 2nd September.

Footpaths: Cllr Mrs Thomson had been unable to go on the last village walk but hoped to attend the next one on Saturday 5th September . Cllr Hart said that the three parishes – Wetherden, Haughley and Stowupland – were hoping to have a walk to connect the three parishes and possibly do this on a Saturday.

Cllr Mrs Thomson intended to speak with Ms Lucy Williams about the cycle path up to the main road and how to go about providing the facility.

The Cricket: Cllr Renton reported on the first meeting which had taken place the previous evening. Nine people had attended including Cllr Kay and himself. There was a fairly wide range of discussion regarding the concept and managing The Cricket for conservation and also to make a useable recreation space. Lots of ideas and it was early days but pointers so far:-

1. Concern to clarify legal status of land and trustees. Those present were keen to be involved.
2. Ways of raising funds for the various projects – action plan needed. Possibly asking for a budget for future improvements.
3. Continue with pond clearance
4. Discussion on how to proceed with cutting grass area rather than grazing
5. Need to publicise plan and get local interest. Organise more working parties on site – encouragement by holding BBQs?

Full minutes to be provided in due course.

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Playing Field: No member was prepared to preside as Chairman. Cllr Hart had agreed to chair the June meeting with the possibility of Cllr Shaw agreeing to chair the September meeting. Minutes to be circulated to councillors by the Clerk.

There had been a letter of objection from the Bowls Club in respect of the proposed increased charges. A Fire Risk assessment by the Fire Officer has been undertaken. There was a fair amount of work needing to be done to keep up to date.

It was pointed out there were now three venues – Community Room at the Post Office, the Village Hall and the Pavilion – and it was questioned why there could not be one Committee that looked after “Haughley venue”

The meeting then recessed for 10 minutes.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Chairman reported that a number of reports from the different organisations had been presented but one of the issues raised was “communication.” The Council was criticised quite strongly by members of the public. Now a working party has been set up to see if the situation could be improved along with the way in which the website was used. In previous years information had been kept to a minimum and there had been issues which were of importance to villagers. Achieving a balance had proved difficult.

A statement on the litigious issue of the Village Green was then read out by Cllr Kay following which because there were certain unresolved issues the Chairman suggested holding an Extra-Ordinary meeting within the next few days to agree the way forward. The Council’s solicitor to be present at the meeting.

Cllr Green thanked the Chairman for reading out his report and noted there had been considerable surprise expressed by those villagers present.

Councillors unanimously agreed to hold the Extra-Ordinary meeting as soon as possible.

PLANNING

The following planning applications were discussed and supported for approval:-

Item 1

Application No. 1564/09
 Proposal Construction of a new vehicular access
 Site Location 27 Station Road
 (proposed by Cllr Shaw, seconded by Cllr Green – all in favour)

Having detailed Item 2 Planning Application, Cllr Hart left the room.

Item 2

Application No. 0351/09
 Proposal Demolition of flat-roofed extension to North Vestry and construction of new pitched roof extension
 Site Location St Mary’s Church, Duke Street
 (proposed by Cllr Green, seconded by Cllr Renton – all in favour)

Cllr Hart then rejoined the meeting.

Item 3

Application No. 1190/09
 Proposal To put in a 10x5m swimming pool with 2m paving (of light beige colour) to the

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west of the Haughley Bushes, using the existing brick built dog kennels as a plant room and changing area.

Site Location Haughley Bushes, New Street
(proposed by Cllr Green, seconded by Cllr Hart – all in favour)

Applications approved by MSDC:

- 0347/09 Hill Farm House, Station Road:** Change of use, erection of extensions & works to incorporate barn into a single dwelling house. Alterations to existing vehicular access
- 0348/09LB Hill Farm House, Station Road:** Works & extensions to facilitate incorporation of outbuilding into a single dwelling house.
- 0894/09 8 Castle Rise:** Second storey extension to side of home.
- 0910/09 39 Old Street:** revision of design of approved listed building consent 0137/04. Demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of habitable accommodation.
- 0911/09LB 39 Old Street:** revision of design of approved planning application 680/04. Demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of habitable accommodation.
- 0641/09LB Walnutree Manor, Haughley Green:** Demolish cartilage building, repair windows, replace internal and external doors, install new internal walls and flooring, reinstate fire places, install bathrooms, remove internal wall, block internal doorway and raise ceiling.

Meeting at Mid Suffolk District Council Offices – Planning Issues

A number of parish councils had been invited to meet at the Council offices to discuss various planning issues which were a cause for concern. Tim Passmore, David Ruffley MP, Councillors from Tostock, Hinderclay, Elmswell etc had attended including Cllr Green representing Haughley. Cllr Green was hopeful that the meeting had proved constructive and MSDC was endeavouring to make improvements to the current planning system. It was stressed however that it was important to quote “policies” where known when responding to planning applications.

FINANCE

577 **June Accounts:** Cllr Green proposed the accounts for June be approved. Seconded by Cllr Mrs Thomson. All in favour.

Chq.No.

| | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 102104/05/12 | Employment/ salaries | £ 588.19 |
| 102106 | J Narey & Sons (plants/compost/boxes) | £ 340.00 |
| 102107 | Clarks of Walsham (materials) | £ 31.08 |
| 102108 | SCC (New lighting unit Bacton Rd) | £ 894.70 |
| 102109 | Ricoh (Copier charge) | £ 16.41 |
| 102110 | Clerk (travel) | £ 105.66 |

573 **Accounts 2008/2009:** Cllr Shaw provided a brief breakdown of the unaudited year end accounts and confirmed the Finance working party were happy to recommend approval. Cllr Green proposed acceptance and completion of the Annual Return/Governance Statement. Seconded by Cllr Mrs Green – all in favour.

575 **Risk Assessment:** Matter ongoing with Cllrs Kay and Shaw to review current list in conjunction with the clerk.

578 **Precept:** Notification of the precept requirement should be sent to MSDC by the end of January. To enable councillors to have more time to consider future finances Cllr Mrs Thomson proposed that the Council undertakes its review in November rather than middle of January. Seconded by Cllr Kay, all in favour.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Chairman had been approached by the pre-school in respect of erecting a new purpose built building

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for the school. She had been assured that 100% funding was available and she hoped that the Playing Field/Pavilion site could be considered. There was to be a meeting with Mrs Varela on Wednesday next week with himself and Cllr Shaw.

Cllr Green gave a vote of appreciation to Cllr Hart for all his hard work in respect of the management involved in the re-furbishment the post office/community room. This was endorsed by the whole council.

Correspondence in grey folder for inspection at meeting:

General leaflets and brochures

DATE OF NEXT MEETING 21st July 2009.

Extra-ordinary meeting – suggested Monday 22nd June – details to be confirmed.

Cllr Green offered his apologies for not being available to attend the Extra-Ordinary meeting

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.05 p.m.

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