

HEYDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 8th July 2014

Chairman: Diana MacFadyen
Members of the Parish Council: Livingstone, Janson Jones, Smith
Clerk: Sarah Scott

Actual Start: 20:31

1. **6:30 – 6:45pm Opportunity for Public Questions** (if required)
There were no members of the public present.
2. **Apologies and Reasons**
Cllr Hales – personal reasons
Cllr Barrett – previous engagement
Cllr van de Ven – personal reasons
Cllr Carroll
3. **To receive any declaration of Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Interests of Councillors**
There were none received.
4. **To Approve the minutes of the meeting on the AGM, May 2014**
These were approved as a true account of proceedings and were signed by the Chairman.
5. **Finance**
Last year's accounts are with the external auditor.
There were four cheques to be signed: Clerks salary, NICs contributions, Clerks expenses (sign for chalk pit) and the annual donation to Heydon Church.
The Clerk had received another quote to mend and replace the fencing around the chalk pit. After discussion it was agreed to offer the contract to Fowler Fencing. The works will commence in the autumn,
6. **Planning**
The Chairman gave an overview of the planning application relating to the Lanterns and subsequent conversations with SCDC. SCDC said it was most extraordinary for a planning officer to approach an applicant whose previous planning applications have been refused and ask them to resubmit as the previous applications 'were dealt with unfairly'. Also the conservation officer can offer advice but cannot guaranteed approval of a planning application. Like the Parish Council, planning and conversation officers have to make an informed decision on the applications presented to them. It was noted that plans do not have to include measurements (although it would be helpful), but drawings must be to scale.
7. **Heydon Lane**
Works have started on Heydon Lane. Broken piping will be mended and pipes running off the banks will join the rivulet at the bottom of the hill. New drain covers will be added and a section of the road will be resurfaced. John Clarke (highways maintenance) is confident that this should sort the majority of the problems out, but because there are so many springs in the area it might not be 100% perfect. There is an ongoing schedule of drain clearance in operation.
8. **Jubilee Orchard**
There was nothing to add as this was covered in finance.
9. **Footpaths**
The Brand Ditch has been cut. There was a concern that some of the Wild Flowers had not been planted (as part of an agreement with Natural England Stewardship Scheme and Mr Akhtar). A query was also raised about the use of pesticide in adjoining fields to the wild flower areas. The Chairman had been liaising with Natural England and will ask about pesticide.

10. **District and County Councillors Report**

The Clerk read out the report from Susan van de Ven (full report is below)

County Councillor Report

1. As you know (according to George Hay) Heydon Lane should be closed this week for drainage and road repair works. I have continued to let George know we want to see things through. Please shout if any problems there.
2. The County Council has done a lot of work on the 31 bus review, but has neglected to give us financial figures to understand how much money we've got to spend, and how viable any replacement service would be without subsidy – which is the basis on which the review and reconfiguration of services is based. It was also very disappointing that Heydon was not invited to the recent meeting where the Cambs Future Transport team's ideas were presented. No changes for September.
3. The County Council is going to have to make even more horrendous cuts and it is likely we will see a reduction in gritting services. Also, very possible that up to three waste and recycling centres could be closed. County has nine and is required to have two. Everything now about absolute statutory services. Cuts to library services are also inevitable. These are just some examples of cuts in the Highways and Community Infrastructure area, where I'm on the committee.
4. I'm spending time looking at Adult Social Care services areas, to better understand how behind the scenes budgets for vulnerable people could be impacted. I've been attending the Cam Sight Rural Support meetings in Melbourn and will be visiting the Sensory Loss team in St Ives in September. Needless to say while we all encounter pot holes every day, the specialized support services are critically important too and grants to voluntary organizations like Cam Sight have enormous positive impact.

11. **Correspondence Clerk**

There was none to report.

12. **To Accept Notices & Matters for the next Agenda**

Please note that no decisions can lawfully be made under this item. LGA 1972 s12 10(2) (b) states that business must be specified; therefore the Council cannot lawfully raise matters for discussion.

John Clark will look into the overhanging branches obscuring the road signs in the village; he will also look at the dead tree in Fowlmere Road and the one on Heydon Lane.

13. **Date and Venue for Next Meeting**

9th September at the home of Cllr Janson Jones.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 19:22.