

HAWKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 3RD 2018
AT 7.30PM IN HAWKLEY PARISH HALL

Draft

PRESENT: David Caukill (Chairman); Jo Humphrey; Geoff Brighton; Susan Sinclair; Jilly Caesar; Simon Dixon; Charlie Butcher; Robin Crittenden. Sue Harwood (Clerk) was in attendance.

Also present was District Councillor Keith Budden

1 member of the public was present.

18/37 Apologies for Absence

None.

18/38 Minutes of meeting

The minutes of the meeting on July 4th 2018 were approved and signed as a true record.

18/39 Chairman's remarks

The Chairman reported that he has been working with HCC and with landowner Duncan Reed and a plan has been agreed to resolve the long-standing problem of flooding on the field edge on footpath 27. Work to be completed at the earliest opportunity, before the winter rains.

The installation of high speed broadband infrastructure is progressing and it should be available on the local exchange by the spring. Work is also ongoing in Empshott.

Many thanks to local resident Richard Elderton who has arranged the repair of the recently-damaged fingerpost on Lower Green and has prepared and painted it to a very high standard. Thanks to Simon Dixon for facilitating this.

There have been several instances of fly tipping recently. Clerk to place relevant contact numbers on website and in parish mag, for residents' use in reporting these when they occur.

The lengthsman has reported that the ditches along Vicarage Lane cannot realistically be reinstated without a small digger. A resident's laurel bush needs first to be cut right back. Robin Crittenden kindly to speak to the resident concerned.

The Chairman reported that he had received a letter of complaint about an incident near the Hawkley Inn involving two horses and a driver, asking the parish council to "*consider ways to raise awareness of all parties to work together to ensure road safety along our country lanes*". He asked Geoff Brighton to make enquires at the pub and Mr Brighton immediately identified himself as the driver concerned. The two accounts of the event differ considerably and so the Chairman made independent enquiries unsuccessfully seeking to identify any third party witnesses of the event. The current traffic project, focusses directly on road safety and traffic behaviour, including the safety of horses and riders and it was agreed by all present that no special additional actions are required in response to this complaint.

Several complaints about dog-fouling have been received, clerk to insert a notice in the parish mag. The chairman will replace the small notices in the boards. It was reported that the bin outside the church may not be being emptied sufficiently often. Clerk to contact EHDC to investigate.

18/40 Declarations of Interest

The Chairman declared an interest in agenda item 9) minute 18/44 below, the nature of that interest being that he is a close friend of the applicant and he resolved to take no part in the discussion.

18/41 Report of District Councillor

Councillor Budden reported that the proposed boundary changes have now received royal assent.

The dates for public examination of the SDNP Local Plan have been announced. He hopes to speak against the policy on authorised travellers' sites and invited parish councillors to join him.

EHDC has awarded the new contract on waste collection to Norse, taking it away from Biffa, to start next March. An improved service for residents with mobility issues and for hard to access areas is hoped for. Parish councillors are encouraged to contact the clerk with relevant addresses to flag up. Clerk to place a note in the parish mag.

18/42 Report of County Councillor

No report due to absence.

18/43 Finance

The clerk presented a financial summary for the period to September 2018 and cheque numbers 300263-300265 were authorised and signed.

18/44 Planning

SDNP/18/04704/HOUS Hawkley House Vicarage Lane Hawkley *Single storey extension to rear*

No objection.

Mobile phone mast - the chairman and the chairman of the planning committee met recently with the agent for the mobile phone mast application and visited several alternative sites together. There are grounds for optimism that a site acceptable to all parties will be identified, thanks to the cooperation of local landowners.

The chairman of the parish council also reported that he has been approached directly and asked to write in support of a planning application in a neighbouring parish. Having exhaustively investigated the matters in contention and having sought the agreement of all councillors, he resolved to do so.

18/45 Play area

Simon Dixon reported on the work he has put in to trim the grass and keep the weeds under control. He hopes to get parents to help with this work next year. He has also raked the wood chippings under the swings. These may need to be supplanted in the spring.

18/46 Tree on Upper Green

The replacement tree is now ready to be planted on Upper Green in the coming weeks. The bench has been refurbished and is now also ready for installation. Meanwhile two representations have been received from residents who feel that the open space with no tree at all is preferable. There was extensive discussion which concluded that the decision to plant a replacement Beech tree followed exhaustive consultation and was the result of a democratic process and should be implemented. However, Councillors expressed some concern at the potential height of a mature beech tree for future generations, potentially dominating the green and casting a significant shadow over some properties. Councillors were reminded that the original decision expressly assumed that the tree's overall height would be contained to an acceptable height. It was agreed to defer transplantation of the tree until a practical management plan has been developed, including a defined maximum height. Expert advice is required to help develop and document a practical plan to prune and maintain the tree, whilst maintaining the natural shape and attractiveness of a beech tree. Chairman to defer transplantation, Robin Crittenden to seek professional advice, Clerk to contact EHDC arboricultural officer.

18/47 Verge Cut

All present agreed that the cut carried out on the main arterial routes of the parish last year was extremely worthwhile and it was agreed to fund this once more, to be done in the near future. Chairman to arrange.

18/48 GDPR

Charlie Butcher updated all present on the status of his investigation into the council's duties with regard to this legislation specifically as regards document management and retention. He proposed a sensible way forward including secure, remote document storage and dedicated HPC email addresses based on a separate email server. Charlie to work with Clerk to initiate the process.

18/49 EHAPTC

The chairman encouraged councillors to offer to attend these meetings when they are able and to express their intention to do so in order for the parish council to be represented by at least one parish councillor at most meetings without unnecessary over-representation.

18/50 Traffic calming

Renewal of white lines on many roads and most junctions has greatly improved traffic safety. It is expected that the lines on Hawkley Road will also largely be renewed shortly. Several traffic calming possibilities are under but opinion is divided both as to their aesthetic acceptability as well as to their effectiveness. Cast iron village name signs at various points around the Hawkley settlements are generally considered acceptable, affordable and likely to have a measurable traffic calming effect; some fine tuning as to positioning is required. Other possible actions, are being considered in conjunction with designers from HCC and from the SDNP. The idea of a pavement along a section of Pockocks Lane was investigated in great detail but has now been rejected as not viable, the very high cost being the major factor. An independent traffic expert may be consulted specifically about Pockocks Lane, depending upon the cost. Jo Humphrey and the chairman were both thanked by all present for the great many hours of hard work they have both invested in this project.

18/51 Footpaths

Nothing to report

18/52 Parish Hall

Bookings continue to thrive in the hall, newly redecorated at a cost of £5000.00. Autumn films have resumed.

18/53 Date of next meeting

January 23rd 2018 at 7.30pm in Hawkley Parish Hall

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

Chairman

Date