

# HAWKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD

WEDNESDAY MAY 17TH 2011 AT 7.30PM IN EMPSHOT HUT

*DRAFT*

PRESENT: Peter Cregeen (Chairman); Nick Davis; Susan Sinclair; Charlie Butcher; Geoff Brighton. Sue Harwood (Clerk) was in attendance.

ALSO PRESENT: County Councillor Vaughan Clarke and one member of the public.

### **11/01 Apologies for Absence**

District Councillor Judy Onslow was required to attend a meeting at EHDC; John Scutt was also absent due to another commitment; David Caukill and Jilly Caesar were both on holiday.

### **11/02 Election of Chairman**

Susan Sinclair proposed Peter Cregeen, seconded by Geoff Brighton. There being no other nominations, Peter Cregeen was duly elected.

### **11/03 Declarations of Acceptance of Office**

Signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office Forms were submitted to The Clerk to the Parish Council by all members of the newly elected Council.

### **11/04 Election of Vice Chairman**

Nick Davis was nominated by Peter Cregeen, seconded by Charlie Butcher. There being no other nominations, Nick Davis was duly elected.

### **11/05 Appointment of other officers**

Other officers declared or had previously declared their willingness to continue with their current responsibilities, namely: John Scutt as head of the Planning Committee with Jilly Caesar and Geoff Brighton; Geoff Brighton as footpaths officer; Nick Davis Charlie Butcher and David Caukill on the Staffing Committee; Susan Sinclair Geoff Brighton and Charlie Butcher on the Audit Review Committee. It was agreed that there should be an EHAPTC representative and that this would vary dependant upon who was available to attend.

The Hawkley Parish representative on the Ashford Hangers Consultative Committee is Madeleine Allison, who is also confirmed as Tree Warden for the parish along with her husband Barry Allison. Peter Cregeen agreed to continue as Parish Council representative on the Liss Greatham and Hawkley Friendship Fund.

### **11/06 Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting held on March 9th were approved and signed as a true record, excepting an error in 10/47c). It was confirmed that the charity formerly known as the 'Liss and Greatham Sick and Poor Fund' has been renamed the 'Liss Greatham and Hawkley Friendship Fund' and that this is entirely separate from the Coryton Trust.

### **11/07 Declarations of Interest**

The Chairman declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item 10c). He left the room during discussion on this matter.

### **11/08 Report of District Councillor**

No report due to unavoidable absence. The Chairman warmly congratulated Mrs Onslow on her richly-deserved electoral success. He expressed the gratitude of all Councillors for her all hard work in support of both the Parish Council and all residents.

### **11/09 Report of County Councillor**

Vaughan Clarke made his report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

### **11/10 Finance**

- a) Clerk presented a financial summary of the period since the last meeting,
- b) The Chairman read out a letter of thanks from EHCAB following the recent grant. Letters of thanks from the Hawkley Parish Hall Trust for donations made last year were also read out.
- c) The Chairman's Allowance was agreed at £150.00, unchanged from last year.
- d) 'Accounting Statements' document was agreed as a true statement and was signed by both the Chairman and the Clerk.
- e) Councillors considered the nine clauses of the Annual Governance Statement and answered affirmatively to all. The Chairman and the Clerk then signed the document.
- f) The Clerk proposed that the annual insurance premium be accepted as she had managed to negotiate it down to a competitive £5.00 increase over last year to £. This was agreed at £446.12.
- g) The Chairman sought views on what level of donation to the 'Liss Greatham and Hawkley Friendship Fund' Councillors might consider acceptable. A sum of £500.00 was agreed.

### **11/11 Government consultation on draft Planning Policy Statement for traveller sites.**

This document having been previously distributed, all Councillors agreed that the response prepared by David Caukill mirrored their own views and that it should be submitted in full. The Chairman expressed gratitude for the time and effort that had gone into preparing the response.

**12/11 Hampshire Village of the Year Competition**

Susan Sinclair expressed the thought that Hawkley would be a worthy contender for this award in view of the immensely successful and thoroughly enjoyable year that the whole community has experienced, coming together behind the Parish Hall renewal project. On further discussion however, all agreed to decline this opportunity.

**13/11 Royal Wedding Street Party**

The Chairman voiced the gratitude of the whole village towards the organising committee of Louise Johnson, Simone Caukill and Belinda Butcher, all three of whom worked extremely hard to ensure the great success of this village occasion. As well as involving a high proportion of residents it raised a significant sum to be shared between church funds and the HPH project.

**14/11 Reconsideration of TRO on Standfast Lane**

It was agreed that this BOAT is in a badly eroded state, the seasonal TRO has had only a limited effect and it continued to be abused by off-roaders through the closed season. The Chairman proposed that the Clerk should go back to HCC and request once more that a permanent TRO be considered; then gates could be placed at either end. Evidence will be required to support the claim that a seasonal TRO is insufficient and Geoff Brighton agreed to send to the Clerk the photographs that he has taken.

**15/11 Pedal to the Medal**

There was no support for this EHDC initiative.

**16/11 Planning Matters**

News of EHDC's expressed intention finally to implement the outstanding enforcement order and remove the vehicles and other debris from land on Stairs Hill was welcomed by all. Concern was expressed that the individual concerned must be prevented from dumping old vehicles etc once more. Geoff Brighton proposed that a fence and stile be erected to frustrate that and to secure open access to the footpath. Clerk to investigate.

**17/11 Reports of Representatives**

**a) Hawkley Parish Hall**

Nick Davis reported that the Hall Committee is planning on holding an opening party on June 26th. Fund raising activities are still being organised and the recent clay pigeon shoot was a great success.

**b) Footpaths**

Geoff Brighton said that in some areas of the parish, ploughing of fields has narrowed the footpaths in to the point where they are difficult to navigate. Also, the strip of land around field edges that is so important in enabling wildlife to flourish has similarly been allowed to shrink. Clerk to contact landowner.

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Madeline Allison to the meeting. She expressed support for the impressive work of the countryside rangers in Ashford Hangers. As tree warden she is hoping to carry out an extensive tree-mapping exercise and sought the Parish Council's support for this, which was forthcoming. She would like to see more farmers planting trees in larger numbers.

**c) Lengthsman**

Peter Cregeen reported that all is continuing smoothly.

**d) LGHFF Charity**

Nothing further to add to what had already been said.

**18/11 Date of next meeting:**

The date of the next meeting will be finalised shortly.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

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Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date