



THE PARISH COUNCIL OF HELLINGLY

The Village Hall, North Street, Hellingly, East Sussex, BN27 4DS

Tel/Fax: 01323 484210
e-mail: clerk@hellingly-pc.org.uk
Website: www.hellingly-pc.org.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall at 7.30 p m. on
Wednesday 13th May 2009

PCH1306/2009/040.09 to PCH1306/2009/049.09

Present: Councillors: David White, Mrs A P N Blake, Alan Booth, Rev R Chatwin, Mrs Y Chatwin, Barby Dashwood-Hall, Steve Davis, Bryan Hesselgrave, Mrs G F D Hesselgrave, Brian Payne, Marjorie Veal, Mrs E M M West and Ms. Frances Woolston.

Apologies for absence: Cllr Halma Hughes.

In attendance: Philip Moon, Clerk, Tracy Harper, Assistant to the Clerk and District Councillor John Blake.

[No members of the public were present].

Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

040.09 Cllr White was elected Chairman *nem con* for the current year. He signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Gill Hesselgrave was elected Vice-Chairman *nem con*.

041.09 The **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 8th April** were **approved** and signed.

042.09 Matters arising

036.09: Allotments: removal of asbestos. Having explored the 'low-cost option' it had been decided that this would not provide sufficient re-assurance of proper, legal, disposal. The Clerk had therefore sought a further estimate from a firm based in Heathfield which had quoted £550. The Council agreed to accept this estimate.

037.09: The Council agreed to approach County Highways with a proposal to move the site of the *bus shelter at Lower Dicker* to the edge of the footpath, thus giving a better view of approaching buses.

038.09: The improvement work at the *Lower Horsebridge playground* had been completed together with other tidying-up works. The length of the new fencing measured rather more than the original estimate but the project remained within the overall budget. An official opening was to be organised in due course.

039.09: A Wealden District Council official would be able to attend the *Annual Parish Meeting*. Of the three Hailsham Councillors involved in drafting the Master Plan, Geoff Rowe had accepted an invitation to attend. A Press release had been issued. The Council agreed that refreshments would be provided and that the room should be set up in 'cabaret style'. The cost of the refreshments to be taken from the Chairman's allowance.

043.09 **County Councillor's Report.** Cllr Garvican was not present and no written report had been submitted. Since he was not standing for re-election he was thanked for his assistance to the Council over many years. The Clerk was asked to write to him expressing the Council's gratitude for his work. The Council expressed a hope that the new County Councillor would

attend Council meetings regularly and submit written reports when attendance in person was not possible.

- 044.09 District Councillor's Report.** District Cllr Blake reported that the **District Council's budget** had been greatly affected by the drop in interest rates upon which it relied for some of its income. There was a current programme to make proposals to provide a balanced budget based on the changed financial circumstances. He also reported on the recent Planning Appeal decision on the **Old Mill at Lower Horsebridge** which, while outside the Hellingly Parish, might possibly set some awkward precedents concerning building on flood-prone areas.
- 045.09 Draft Annual report of the Council 2008/09.**
The Council amended and **agreed** the draft Annual Report which would be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting and in due course circulated to all parishioners. Councillors were encouraged to make the maximum possible contact information available to the public and to let the Clerk know of any amendments to the list contained in the report.
- 046.09** The Council appointed the **Council's Committees. Chairmen of the Committees** were elected by Committee members present. (Full details are in the Annex to these Minutes). It was **noted** that meetings of the Cemetery and Allotments Committee would be held and minuted discretely for the separate subjects.
- 047.09** The Council **noted** the draft **Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee** of 20th April. The planning permission for 28 New Road was referred back to the Committee since there was a suggestion that the alterations were not in accordance with the approval.
- 048.09 Clerk's report.** The Clerk reported that he was currently undertaking the **risk assessments** required by the various regulations including those required by the Audit regulations. He had undertaken a **re-valuation of the Council's assets** and had asked for the insurance cover to be adjusted to ensure that the cover was adequate. The results of this work would be put to the Council at the June meeting as part of the agreement of the Annual Return. That consideration would also feature a report from the internal auditor.
- 049.09 Chairman's report.** The Chairman reported that **Cllr Marjorie Veal** had decided to resign from the Council because of pressure of work. The Clerk was asked to write to her thanking her for her contribution. The **SE Plan** had been approved by the Secretary of State requiring 11,000 houses to be built in Wealden District, 7,000 (of which 4,000 had already been received planning consent) in the south of the District. The forthcoming consultation would offer various options for delivering this. The Chairman reported that he had been informed of the intended closure of **New Road Nursery** by the Primary Care Trust. The Council agreed to approach Cllr Sylvia Tidy, Chair of HOSC and that the Clerk should write to the Chair of the Primary Care Trust expressing the opposition of the Council to the closure on the grounds of a diminution of care for those employed and the loss of a local business.

[The Meeting was closed at 9.15pm].

Philip Moon
Clerk

13th May 2009

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF HELLINGLY
Committees, Chairmen and Parish representatives 2009/2010

CHAIRMAN; Mr D G White
VICE CHAIRMAN; Mrs G F D Hesselgrave

The Chairman and Vice Chairman are members of all committees

COMMITTEES

Planning and Environment.

Chairman: Mrs G F D Hesselgrave. Councillors: A P N Blake, A Booth, S M Davis, W B Hesselgrave, Halma Hughes, Brian Payne, Frances Woolston. District Cllr J Blake (co-opted)

Village Hall.

Chairman: Mrs. E M M West. Councillors: A P N Blake, A Booth, Mrs Y Chatwin, Rev R Chatwin, H Hughes. Christine Relf (representing Users) by invitation.

Cemetery and Allotments.

Chairman: Mrs. A P N Blake. Councillors: Rev R Chatwin, W B Hesselgrave, Frances Woolston and new Councillor. Mrs W Gabbitas (Allotment Supervisor) by invitation.

Recreation Grounds

Chairman: Mr. S M Davis. Councillors: W B Hesselgrave, Brian Payne, Mrs E M M West. Mr Paul Vidler, representing Hellingly Sports Club, by invitation.

Finance (inc Cemetery Lodge)

Chairman: Mr D G White. Councillors: A Booth, Rev Chatwin, Barby Dashwood-Hall, Mr H Hughes, Brian Payne, Frances Woolston.

Grounds maintenance.

Chairman: W.B. Hesselgrave. Councillors: P Blake, S M Davis, Brian Payne, Frances Woolston.

Footpaths Group (informal committee).

Mrs Chatwin to lead the footpaths group and take issues to the Parish Council via the Planning Committee as required.

PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES:

Parish Tree Warden. Ann Hillman

Emergency Planning Group. Keith Byatt to be the point of contact.

Hellingly Hospital Liaison Committee. Barby Dashwood-Hall, Mrs. G. F. D. Hesselgrave.

Wealden District Association of Local Councils: Cllr. Booth.

13th May 2009