

**Minutes of Horseheath Annual Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 14 May 2012 at 7:45 p.m. in the Village Hall**

Present: **Stuart Miller (Chairman)** **Tori McKillen**
 Ninian Bickerton **Dawn Gouldstone**
 Christine Newman **Richard Southwell**

In Attendance **Ulrike Maccariello (Development Manager, Hastoe Group)**
 Ulrike's Assistant
 Bernard Yallop (Parish Clerk) **Five Parishioners**

The meeting began soon after 7:45 pm.

1. Apologies for Absence Denise Lindsell, Richard Barrett and John Batchelor sent apologies.

2. Presentation by Hastoe Housing Association on Affordable Housing in Audley Way

Ulrike Maccariello, Development Manager, Hastoe Group gave an interesting talk on the proposed affordable housing project in Audley Way and answered many questions raised by parishioners. Having drawn a blank on four sites, Hastoe Housing Association has identified a site in Audley Way, which has room for three dwellings. The parish council invited Hastoe to arrange a consultation session probably on Thursday 12 July if the village hall is vacant. Parishioners will be able to put questions to Hastoe and any District Council Officials present. Ulrike said that priority would be given to applicants with Horseheath connections and that dwellings were for rent only. Rent would be 80% of open market rent. Rent could be topped up with housing benefit.

3. Appointment or Re-Appointment of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Richard Southwell proposed that Stuart Miller be re-appointed as Chairman. The motion was seconded by Dawn Gouldstone and passed unanimously. Stuart proposed (in her absence) that Denise Lindsell continue as Vice Chairman. The motion was seconded by Christine Newman and passed unanimously.

4. Parishioners' Question Time.

It was agreed to leave questions on road calming and pinch points until item 9.

A parishioner pointed out that the pavement in Linton Road between Manor Farm and The Gables was in a bad state. The clerk was asked to inform Highways to have it repaired.

The problem of dog fouling was raised even though new dog bins have been installed in two different parts of the village. A parishioner said that in his experience if dog owners do not have their dog on a lead they will often deny, when challenged, that it was their dog who made the mess.

5. Minutes of Parish Council Meeting on 12 March 2012 The minutes were agreed and signed.

6. Matters Arising

6.1 Repairs to Wooden Bus Shelter

Ninian has completed the repairs.

6.2 Damage to Horseheath Notice Board

Ninian has completed the repairs.

6.3 Community Notice Board at Cardinals Green

Patrick Haylock has installed a small community notice board.

6.4 Horseheath Memorial Sign

The clerk has never been convinced that the type of repair that Ivett and Reed are proposing will be permanent enough. Ninian Bickerton has obtained a second opinion from Hibbitt & Sons Masonry Ltd. It seems to be a more convincing proposal.

6.5 Cycle Racks

David Lines has confirmed that he will eventually issue an invoice for the work.

6.6 Dog Bins

The dog bins have been installed.

6.7 Overhanging Hedges in Howard Lane, Cardinals Green

There is now only one piece of hedging that needs to be cut, and that is not immediately urgent.

6.8 Trees and Hedging

The Tree Warden arranged for a Jubilee Oak to be planted on the verge by the Cricket Field. Mr Covey is happy to have hedging that John Greenwood suggested to prevent snow from drifting across

the A1307 planted on the boundary of his land. A spinney of trees will be planted in the triangle at Alington Terrace. A clump of trees will be planted near Sasex.

6.9 Emergency Planning

The parish council is going ahead filling in the emergency details in the supplied booklet.

6.10 Burial Ground Access

The Chairman will ask the incumbent to agree to allow permanent pedestrian access. At present permission is granted under a five year licence. The diocese also has to agree with this proposal.

7. Planning

7.1 Parish Council

S/0476/12 Erection of replacement dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling at Mill House, Linton Road for Mills & Covey was approved.

S/0724/12 Two storey side extension Oak Cottage, Haverhill Road for Chapman was approved.

7.2 District Council

S/0476/12 Erection of replacement dwelling following demolition of existing dwelling at Mill House, Linton Road for Mills & Covey was approved.

8. Finance

8.1 Receipts

Date	Drawee	Amount	Remarks
09/03/12	Interest	£0.04	Burial Fund Account #1
01/04/12	JJ Memorial Fund	£16.34	Dividend
01/04/12	VS Maintenance Fund	£48.58	Dividend
11/04/12	Precept	£3,850.00	First Instalment
04/04/12	Allotment Plot #1	£35.00	Rent 2012
10/05/12	Allotments Plot #2 & #3	£70.00	Rent 2012
Total		£4,019.96	

8.2 Payments The following payments have been made since the last meeting:

Date	Ch No.	Payee	Amount	Remarks
02/04/12	DD	SCDC	£60.00	Rent for Allotment site
Total			£60.00	

The parish council approved payment for the following items:

Repairs to bus shelter £496.40 (Labour £260.00; Materials £236.40).

Repairs to Parish Council notice board £154.20 (Labour £25.00; Materials: drip board £124.20, silicone £3.00, spare key £2.00). The drip board included £20.70 VAT, which will be reclaimed.

Make and install a Community Notice Board in Cardinals Green £72.00. Price includes £12.00 VAT.

Printing Business Cards for Launch of Parish Council Website £61.43.

Internal Auditor's Fee £30.00.

8.3 Account Balances On 31 March 2012 the balances were:-

Petty Cash (31/03/12)	£14
Treasurers Account (31/03/12)	£11,407
Burial Fund Account #1 (31/03/12)	£1,049
Burial Fund Account #2 (31/03/12)	£18,382
Village Sign Maintenance (17/02/12)	£4,478
Total	£35,330

8.4 Annual Subscriptions, Fees and Grants for 2012 to 2013

The parish council agreed to pay the following seven regular annual subscriptions, fees and grants:-

No.	Date	Paid to	Service	Amount
1	01/05/12	Friends of The Roman Road	Subscription	£20.00
2	01/05/12	Age Concern Cambridgeshire	Warden Scheme	£300.00
3	01/05/12	CAPALC	Affiliation Fee	£159.79
4	01/07/12	Clerks and Councils Direct	Subscription	£11.00
5	01/07/12	Local Council Review	Subscription	£15.50
6	01/08/12	1 st Horseheath Brownies	Litter Pick	£35.00
7	01/01/13	Cambridgeshire ACRE	Subscription	£30.00

At the suggestion of Richard Southwell and seconded by Stuart Miller, the parish council agreed to offer a grant of £50.00 to Friends of the Roman Road and Fleam Dyke.

The clerk had some news on funding Castle Camps Youth Club in this financial year. In her report to Castle Camps AGM 2012, Sue Coxall said that thanks to the generous grants and donations from neighbouring parish councils last year, this year CCYC will be able to pay the rent for the hire of Castle Camps Village Hall from the income obtained from subscriptions and the sale of soft drinks. If neighbouring parish councils offered to pay something towards insurance that would be appreciated. The cost of insurance is in the region of £300.

The parish council said that it would wait for more positive information before it decided on the size of a grant for this year.

8.5 *Annual Return 2012*

The clerk circulated copies of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return 2012 to the parish council before the meeting. The internal auditor had already checked that the figures in Section 1 were correct. The parish council approved the Annual Return 2012 Section 1, Accounting Statement and Section 2 Annual Governance Statement.

9. Horseheath Traffic Calming Proposals

Richard Southwell presented the following report on traffic calming proposals in Horseheath:-

On the 24th of April 2012, Mr David Lines from the Cambridgeshire District Council Highways department attended the village to discuss traffic calming methods and schemes for the main village and Cardinals Green roads. This was attended by Bernard, Ninian and myself.

There has long been concern from village residents of the perceived excessive speed of vehicles passing through and onwards to other villages and the Cambridge cut through.

David Lines was asked to carry out a survey of the road layout and give his considered opinion on possible solutions that would directly impact on vehicle speeds.

Haverhill Road

He identified that the layout of the main Haverhill Road from the A1307 entrance by the Red Lion through to the other end at the old Montfort Arms was originally designed as a fast moving 'open' road for the old A604. Vision is considered very good from the top of each end of this road, giving road users the impression that speed is acceptable.

Options available to reduce speed :

1. Speed humps. These are commonly used in other villages, however there has been an objection from one villager saying this would restrict his ability to use a classic car owned by him.
2. Road narrowing at either end of the village at the point of speed change from National speed limit into the 30mph zone. This would be achieved by narrowing of the pavements either side, possibly with gates, supported by additional road painting and signage.
This narrowing would reduce the entrance to the village effectively to one lane, forcing vehicles to reduce their speed from the national speed limit (60mph) on exit from the A1307 into the 30mph zone. Priority directional traffic would occur. This could be supported by extra signage and road painting such as 'SLOW' and '30 MPH'.

West Wickham Road (Church end)

Mr Lines did not consider any improvements were required at this end of the village as this part of the road has a natural speed restriction in terms of a narrower carriageway and sharp bends in the road from College Farm onwards. Improved signage could be considered.

Cardinals Green

The same principal could be employed at the entrance to Cardinals Green from the A1307. David Lines requested further information on the perceived speed issues in Cardinals Green. It may be helpful for input from Parish Council members resident in this part of the village.

Other Road Dangers Identified

Mr Lines identified the junction of **Haverhill Road and West Wickham Road** as a persistent road hazard and accident spot. Whilst surveying the site numerous cars were observed to negotiate the corner at speed cutting the corner and crossing the painted white lines without pausing at the give way signs. Many villagers have witnessed near misses with speeding cars and buses at this location particularly at rush hour.

Options

Mr Lines suggested that this road junction could be permanently closed, leaving the right turn at the other end of the village green. This being a much sharper turn would force drivers to stop and

negotiate the turn, thus reducing traffic speeds and potential accidents at this location. It is felt that this option would not inconvenience villagers, only those attempting to use the village as a cut through.

Finance/Costs

Financing such schemes falls within the remit of the Parish Council. He was unaware of any grants that could be obtained, but suggested further research be done in respect of this.

1. Road narrowing at either end of the village. He estimated that the cost for two of these sites at the locations indicated would be in the region of **£8,000**. This could be cheaper as it is given out to tender. A further proportion would be incurred if Cardinals Green entrance was required.
2. Haverhill Road J/W West Wickham Road closure. Estimate of **£6,000**
3. Speed humps were not quoted.

Planning issues

Subject to survey, no additional planning consent is required and can be elected by the parish council. Mr Lines team would implement the work to be undertaken and put out to tender. Time scales would depend on his current workload.

Consultation

Consideration could be given if the Parish Council see's fit to seek a consultation with villagers for views on proposed changes.

Buses

A number of near misses have been observed with the buses coming through the village and what is considered speeds not consistent with the conditions of the road. Consideration should be given to sending a letter from the Parish Council expressing these concerns and requesting greater care by its drivers.

In the discussion that followed it was agreed that Richard Southwell would compose a letter of complaint to send to the bus company regarding the excessive speed that buses were being driven at through the middle of the village.

Ninian Bickerton suggested planting a hedge to cut down visibility at the slip road leading into Linton Road.

Some councillors recalled that sometimes objects such as boats can be too large to pass under the bridge on the A1307 by Manor Farm and they have to be diverted through the village. If the road is pinched it may mean that this section of the A1307 was impassable to very large loads.

John Greenwood pointed out that it was once proposed to close the slip road to make the green bigger, but there were objections.

Additional money would have to be obtained by increasing the precept. The clerk was asked to find out by how much the council tax would have to be increased to pay for this debt.

It was agreed to hold a consultation session in the Village Hall on the same day that Hastoe were holding theirs.

10. Horseheath Website

The site was launched at the Annual Parish Meeting on 11 May and went live on that day. Tori McKillen will be training contributors including the clerk in how to use the facilities for adding and updating site information. The site name is www.horseheath.info The Chairman thanked Tori McKillen for all the work she had put into getting the project started.

11. Correspondence Nothing to report.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 9 July.

The meeting ended at 9:35 pm.

After the meeting the Annual Return 2012 Sections 1 and 2 were signed by the Chairman and Clerk.