

**Minutes of Horseheath Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 13 January 2014 at 7:45 p.m. in the Village Hall**

Present: **Stuart Miller (Chairman)** **Denise Lindsell (Vice Chairman)**
 Ninian Bickerton **Anita de Klerk**
 Christine Newman

In Attendance **Richard Barrett (District Councillor)** **Roger Hickford (County Councillor)**
 Bernard Yallop (Parish Clerk)

The meeting began at 7:45 pm.

1. Apologies for Absence Tori McKillen and Richard Southwell sent their apologies.

2. District and County Council Report

Richard Barrett apologised for having taken so much time off through illness. He did not have much to report as things were rather quiet at the moment. Age Concern appointed a new Mobile Warden as soon as Janet retired some time ago. He was pleased to report that a back-up Warden had now been appointed as well.

He talked about government funding and the district council's precept, which is difficult to forecast. There will be more cutting of services. We have relied upon our reserves for the last three or four years. They are beginning to dry up now.

Roger Hickford said that he had just completed his report. He talked mainly about the A 1307 and the City Deal. Most of the money, which comes from local businesses, will be spent on public transport with a hub at Four Went Ways. The rest will go towards improving junctions.

3. Minutes of Parish Council Meeting on Monday 11 November 2013

In Item 3, under *Broadband*, for 2013 read 2015. The minutes were then agreed and signed.

4. Matters Arising

4.1 *Affordable Housing* Richard Barrett said that the Chairman of the District Council visited the site in Audley Way to dig the first clod of earth. The parish council was disappointed to learn that neither it nor the press had been invited to such an important event.

4.2 *King's Stone* The Chairman said that he was still expecting to obtain a grant to pay for the work.

4.3 *Winter Road Gritting at Cardinals Green* Roger Hickford confirmed that Highways had not agreed to adopt the change requested by the parish council. He said that the parish council should try again next year. He asked the clerk to keep him informed.

4.4 *Winter Footpath Gritting at Cardinals Green* Just before the Christmas Break Highways sent a letter concerning volunteer gritters. They had to attend a training course to be protected by its public liability insurance. David Luckham was unable to attend this training course. It was to be held at Huntingdon, which is too far away, and he could not spare the time being absent from work. Also his manual gritter needed some maintenance done on it. He was hoping to get that done by handing it over for repairs when he attended his next training course preferably at Whittlesford.

4.5 *Speed Watch* Arrangements are being made with Sawston; Ninian is waiting to hear back.

4.6 *Horseheath Local Highway Improvements* The parish council asked the clerk to obtain a progress report from Richard Southwell.

4.7 *Lay-by to Burial Ground* For the time being this item is being kept in hand until a more cost effective solution is found. Meanwhile funds are being reserved in case the project has to go ahead as originally planned.

5. Planning

5.1 Parish Council

S/2413/13/FL Two storey side and rear, single storey front and rear extension at 6 Alington Terrace, Cardinals Green for Lindsell was approved.

S/2151/13/FL Installation of nine solar PV panels at Hyset, Cardinals Green for Angew was approved.

5.2 District Council

S/1409/13/VC Variation of condition 2 (Approved Plans) and removal of conditions 3 (Residential Occupation tied to use of Office) and 4 (B1 Use of Employment Area) of planning permission S/1721/12 for the change of use of B1 business use buildings to one dwelling (a live/work unit) including alterations and extension to link buildings together at 1 Limberhurst Court for KD ImpEx Ltd was approved.

S/1410/13/VC Variation of condition 2 (Approved Plans) and removal of conditions 3 (Residential Occupation tied to use of Office) and 4 (B1 Use of Employment Area) of planning permission S/2495/12 for the change of use of B1 business use buildings to one dwelling (a live/work unit) including alterations and extension to link buildings together at 2 Limberhurst Court for KD ImpEx Ltd was approved.

S/2413/13/FL Two storey side and rear, single storey front and rear extension at 6 Alington Terrace, Cardinals Green for Lindsell was refused.

The clerk said that two planning applications had not been returned after the Christmas break. The Chairman said they should have been dealt with more speedily. There was general agreement that parish councillors preferred to continue passing round hard copy, they liked to see the actual plans and read the comments of nearest neighbours and other councillors.

6. Finance

6.1 Receipts

Date	Drawee	Amount	Remarks
21/11/13	HJ Paintin Ltd	£60.00	Permission for Memorial Stone to Grave #10
06/12/13	HJ Paintin Ltd	£240.00	Grave Space #11 and Deed
Total		£300.00	

6.2 Payments

The following payments have been made since the last meeting:

Date	Ch No.	Payee	Amount	Remarks
29/11/13	558	B Yallop	£478.93	Clerk's Salary (Oct, Nov, Dec)
02/12/13	559	Crow Painting & Decorating	£150.00	Village Memorial Sign Maintenance
02/12/13	560	Red Side Up Ltd	£60.00	Dog Leaflet
05/12/13	562	Kleen	£30.00	Clean Two Bus Shelters
10/12/13	563	K Potter	£675.00	Grass Cutting and Pond Path
14/12/13	564	CAPALC	£25.00	Social Media Training
22/12/13	561	HM Revenue & Customs	£119.60	PAYE (Oct, Nov, Dec)
Total			£1,538.53	

6.3 Account Balances

On 27/12/13 the balances of the accounts were:-

Petty Cash	£57
Treasurers Account	£18,818
Burial Ground Access Fund Account #1	£1,240
Burial Ground Access Fund Account #2	£19,866
Village Sign Maintenance Fund Account	£4,372
Total	£44,353

6.4 Precept 2014

There will be no Council Tax Benefit Grant next year. The parish council agreed to set the precept at £10,200. The motion was proposed by Denise Lindsell. It was seconded by Stuart Miller and passed unanimously.

6.5 Street Lighting Payment

Cambridgeshire County Council has informed the clerk that it will be changing the way the parish council is billed for street lighting energy usage to match the way energy companies charge. It had not issued an invoice before the meeting.

6.6 Website Fees

Website fees are paid biannually. The charge for the previous two years is £43.18 = £35.98 + £7.20 VAT.

6.7 Grant for Bus Shelter Improvements

The District Council originally wanted all bids to be in by 4 November. Although the deadline was passed the clerk wrote to Charlotte Collins who is in charge of the scheme. She was willing, however, to include our request on a shortlisted of parishes bearing in mind that Horseheath is served by fairly frequent bus services.

On 16 December she wrote again to say that she would contact the clerk as soon as possible to confirm whether it would be possible to offer funding to Horseheath as their available funding has been increased from £40,000 to £115,000. In the New Year the Better Bus Area Fund Board met and

agreed to allocate £1,000 towards the refurbishment of our existing bus shelters. In the case of Horseheath Parish Council it intended to allocate £1,000 towards the cost of refurbishing our two metal bus shelters. The clerk was asked to contact Charlotte after the meeting to state our requirements.

7. Correspondence

There was some correspondence from NALC on the Council Tax Benefit Grant, concerning the possibility of capping council tax.

8. Any Other Business

8.1 *Dog Leaflets* There were several favourable comments from residents after receiving their copy.

8.2 *Social Media Training Course* The Chairman said that he had recently attended a Social Media Training Course run by CAPALC. He said that it was now possible to tweet during a meeting, and that the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Eric Pickles MP was in favour of it. The parish council could not see how a meeting could be run sensibly if decisions of the meeting could be affected by complete outsiders to the meeting whilst the meeting was actually in progress. It may be necessary to change Standing Orders to prevent this situation from happening.

8.2 *Date of Annual Parish Meeting* The APM is normally held on the same night as the Village Hall Meeting, which this year is on 25 April, just after Easter. Also schools return on 23 April. With this information the meeting agreed to set the date of the APM for 25 April 2014.

9. Date of Next Meeting The next meeting will be on Monday, 10 March at 7:45 p.m.

The meeting ended at 8:37 pm.