



**Hockley Parish Council**  
**Minutes of Hockley Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held at the Old Fire Station**  
**7.30 p.m. on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

ITEM	SUBJECT
17/43	<p><b>Members Attending.</b></p> <p>Chairman: Cllr R Martin</p> <p>Present: Cllrs Anderson, Boxall, Hazlewood, James, Gleadall, Meacham, O’Shea, Maddocks, S Martin, Vingoe.</p> <p>Also present: The Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Cllr Eves (Rochford D.C.) Cllr Hoy (Essex CC) Eight members of the public.</p> <p>Apologies: Cllrs M Carter, T Carter, Randall.</p> <p>Not Present Cllr Chelmsford</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> Apologies for absence were accepted from Cllrs V Randall, M Carter and T Carter. Proposed Cllr R Martin seconded Cllr Maddocks and carried unanimously.</p>
17/44	<p><b>Declaration of Interests.</b></p> <p>Cllr Hazlewood declared an interest in Item 17/52 as a District Councillor.</p>
17/45	<p><b>To Confirm the Minutes of Council meeting held 20th February 2017 and note Resolutions.</b></p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> The minutes of Full Council Meeting held on 20th February 2017 were accepted as a true record. Proposed Cllr R Martin seconded Cllr O’Shea and carried unanimously.</p>
17/46	<p><b>Public participation.</b></p> <p>A resident of Seddon Walk asked the council to consider removal of the bench at Broad Parade as it is a gathering point for the local youths with litter and noise nuisance. The Councillors reminded the residents that there was a requirement for a resting place for elderly residents.</p> <p>A resident of Selbourne Avenue expressed concern about the loss of wildlife amenity and the installation of a high green wall at Rosslyn Close. The damage to the wall has allowed access to the site which is used as an illicit gathering site. The resident requests that the council consults on this and other sites. A suggestion that the Council replants the site with deterrent plants to restore the natural view while keeping the site secure was put forward. The residents were assured the matter would be receiving attention and would be considered at the next Environmental Committee meeting.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked the residents for attending the meeting to raise their concerns.</p>

17/47	<p><b>Ward and County Councillors may address the members.</b>  Cllrs Hazlewood (Rochford DC) and Maddocks (Essex CC) were present as Parish Councillors and Cllrs Hoy (Essex CC) and Eves (Rochford DC) attended.</p> <p>Cllr Eves reminded the Council that he was interested in canvassing the views of individual councillors concerning the future of the public toilets. He also reported that a resident had sustained injuries falling on Highways Land outside the sorting office. The Clerk confirmed that the council had already allocated monies to the work and only required permission from Highways to commence.</p> <p>Cllr Hoy advised the Council that the double yellow lines in Plumberow Avenue were under investigation by the Parking Partnership and the District Council with a view to alleviating problems caused by commuter parking. On the matter of the traffic in Folly Lane, Fountain Lane and Church Road, a survey will be commissioned to understand the scope of the problem.</p> <p>Cllr Maddocks advised the Council that the Local Highways Panel should be undertaking the work at Folly Lane, Fountain Lane and Church Road and the matter will be added to the next year's work programme.</p>
17/48	<p><b>To consider correspondence received.</b></p> <p><b>Letter regarding vandalism and repairs at Rosslyn Close.</b> Following the discussion in 17/46 above, the council noted the concerns expressed in the letter and the Environmental Committee will be considering alternative uses for the land at the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Thank you letter from Parent and Toddler group</b></p> <p><b>Highways concerns at Church Road, Fountain Lane, Folly Lane.</b>  The Council noted the concerns and Cllr Hazlewood reported that he has undertaken a short survey of the traffic use. As Essex County Council is unwilling to take action, the matter will be considered by the Communities Committee.</p>

17/49	<p><b>Clerk's report.</b></p> <p>The 2017/18 Council Tax Bill for Rochford residents was circulated on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. The breakdown has now been produced and the Clerk has issued a certificate confirming publication within the parish.</p> <p>On the weekend of 4<sup>th</sup> March, the newly refurbished wall at Rosslyn Close was damaged and the Council was told that youths had entered the space inside. As an emergency measure, the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Chair of the Environmental Committee authorised repairs to the cost of £1,480. Since then, two more of the panels have been lifted and broken. As the repair was supposed to be proof against this sort of damage, the contractor has made a further repair at their expense. The damage has been reported to the police.</p> <p>Possibly as part of the same problem, damage was sustained to bus shelters and telephone kiosks this week-end. The Ranger cleared as much of the fallen glass as practicable and the responsible authorities informed; Essex County Council and BT are treating the damage as dangerous and the repairs as urgent.</p> <p>Following representations from a landowner concerned about unauthorised access to farmland, the Clerk will lock the kissing gate which allows access to Footpath 13 from Marylands Nature Reserve and place a notice advising that the gate is closed indefinitely and asking for any residents who consider that they have been using the access for over twenty years as of right and are willing to sign a statutory declaration to that effect should contact the Parish Office.</p>
17/50	<p><b>Consultations.</b></p> <p>No consultations this month.</p>
17/51	<p><b>To note training undertaken in the previous month and receive reports.</b></p> <p>The Clerk attended EALC training on Local Council Accreditation on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February.</p> <p>The Assistant Clerk attended the SLCC Practitioners Conference on 23<sup>rd</sup> &amp; 24<sup>th</sup> February and the SLCC AGM on 16<sup>th</sup> March.</p> <p>Report previously circulated.</p>

17/52	<p><b>To consider a response to Rochford District Council’s advisory group.</b> See attached letter.</p> <p>The Council noted the requests, but did not change their view that there was insufficient information to make a decision. Further consultation would be needed if the cost of maintaining the facilities would be justified, and better information about Essex County Council’s intentions will be required. The decision made in minute 16/237 still stands and the council will not express an interest in adopting the existing facilities but would remain receptive to alternative schemes which means that the options are in two categories:</p> <p><b>Will be considered</b></p> <p>D. Leave the toilets as the responsibility of RDC (note that closure is a distinct possibility)</p> <p>A. Replace the existing toilets at RDC expense, with the new ones being under the control of HPC</p> <p>B. Refurbish the existing toilets and bring under HPC control.</p> <p>E. Close the toilets, with no consideration for options for public use.</p> <p><b>Will not be considered</b></p> <p>C. Do nothing to the toilets and bring them under HPC control.</p> <p>F. Close the toilets, with consideration for options, i.e. opening the fire station/public hall toilets for public use 7 days a week.</p>
17/53	<p><b>To note the minutes and resolutions from Resources and Procedures Committee meeting. Noted.</b> Next meeting 27<sup>th</sup> March.</p> <p>The Committee recommended to Full Council that they apply for Quality Level under the Local Council Award Scheme.</p> <p><b>Resolved:</b> Hockley Parish Council will apply for Quality Level under the Local Council Award Scheme. Proposed Cllr R Martin seconded Cllr Maddocks carried with two against.</p> <p><b>To note minutes and resolutions of Personnel Subcommittee.</b> No meeting this month. Next meeting April 10<sup>th</sup>.</p>
17/54	<p><b>To note the minutes and resolutions from Environmental Committee.</b> No meeting this month. Next meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> April.</p>
17/55	<p><b>To note the minutes and resolutions from Planning and Local Development Committee meetings on 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> March.</b> The minutes and decisions were noted.</p>
17/56	<p><b>To note the minutes and resolutions from Communities Committee meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> March.</b> The minutes were noted.</p> <p><b>To note the minutes and resolutions from the Festive Lights Subcommittee Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> March.</b> The minutes will be circulated later. Next meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> April.</p>
17/57	<p><b>To note the next meeting of the Rochford Hundred Association of Local Councils.</b> Meeting scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> April 2017. The Council asked delegates to raise the matter of antisocial behaviour and seek views from other councils.</p>

17/58	<p><b>To note reports from Delegates to other organisations.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EALC Larger Local Council Forum 21<sup>st</sup> February. Cllrs R Martin, S Martin &amp; V Randall; Clerk attended. <b>Noted.</b></li> <li>• Parish Parks Forum: Clerk attended. <b>Minutes noted.</b></li> <li>• Hockley &amp; Hawkwell 55+ Bus Launch 25<sup>th</sup> February.  <b>Noted. The report on the launch will be submitted to EALC for the County Update.</b>  Clerk was requested to send a black and white template to 55+ to enable a parish council decal to be added to the bus.</li> <li>• Police and Crime Commissioners briefing. Noted.</li> <li>• Local Highways Panel Presentation at Rayleigh 28<sup>th</sup> February. Cllr R Martin &amp; Assistant Clerk Attended. Details of presentation have been circulated. Noted</li> </ul> <p><b>Forthcoming Delegate Meetings</b>  Hockley Chamber of Trade 6pm on Tuesday 21st March (Delegates Cllrs. R Martin &amp; Shirley James)</p>
17/59	<p><b>Items for next agenda.</b>  Preparation for Annual Assembly and Annual Meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017.  Follow-up on antisocial behaviours.</p>
17/60	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b> Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>There being no other business the Meeting closed 8.50 p.m.</b></p>