



Hockley Parish Council

Minutes of the Hockley Parish Council Meeting Held at the Old Fire Station, at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 18th July 2016

ITEM	SUBJECT
16/142	Welcome.
16/143	<p>Members Attending</p> <p>Chairman: Cllr R Martin Present: Cllrs Anderson, Boxall, M Carter, T Carter, Gleadall, Hazlewood, James, Maddocks, S Martin, Meacham, O'Shea, Randall, Vingoe, Also present: The Clerk, one member of the public. Not present: Cllr Chelmsford</p>
16/144	<p>Declaration of Interests. Cllr Maddocks declared an interest as a County Councillor in Minute 16/154.</p>
16/145	<p>To Confirm the Minutes of Council meeting held 4th July 2016 and note Resolutions.</p> <p>Resolved. The minutes of the meeting of 4th July 2016 were accepted as a true record. Proposed Cllr R Martin. Seconded Cllr Randall and carried unanimously.</p> <p>Cllr Hazlewood noted that he had received correspondence from a resident of Alderman's Hill concerning vegetation in an adjacent alleyway, but this was not recorded beyond the general discussion.</p> <p>It was noted that the decision made in minute 16/140 has been subject to a submission signed by six councillors requesting that the matter is revisited. See Minute 16/154.</p>
16/146	<p>To Confirm the Minutes of Council meeting held 20th June 2016 and note Resolutions.</p> <p>Resolved. The minutes of the meeting of 20th June 2016 were accepted as a true record. Proposed Cllr R Martin. Seconded Cllr Maddocks and carried unanimously.</p> <p>It was noted that the decision made in minute 16/127 has been subject to a submission signed by six councillors requesting that the matter is revisited. See Minute 16/154.</p>
16/147	<p>Public participation; meeting closed for public comment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One member of the public was present and requested information about the Local Plan. • A further question was raised about the ECC feasibility study on the future of the library. Cllr Maddocks confirmed that the matter was internal only at present. <p style="text-align: center;">Meeting re-opened</p>
16/148	<p>Ward and County Councillors may address the members. County Cllr. Maddocks and District Cllrs. Hazlewood & M Carter and were present but did not wish to speak.</p>

16/149	<p>To consider correspondence received</p> <p>Complaints about Essex County Council’s vegetation clearance work. Complaints have been received about the difficulty in passing some of the narrower footways where vegetation has overgrown the paving. The matter has been raised at County Council with promises of action at officer and member level but as yet, the vegetation has not been cut-back. See minute 16/154.</p> <p>Complaint about the proposed replacement seat at Broad Parade. Representation has been received from a resident of Broad Parade concerning the youth nuisance caused by the bench becoming a congregation point for late-night revellers. The Clerk was asked to write to the complainant explaining that the bench will be replaced as part of the refurbishment of Broad Parade as it is the Council’s view that it provides a valuable resting place for residents which outweighs its occasional misuse by youths.</p> <p>Complaint about vegetation in Public Footpath 16 at the rear of Greensward Academy. A complaint has been received about footpath maintenance which has been passed on to Essex County Council Highways department. Cllr Hazlewood reported that he had attended the site and cleared some of the more prominent suckers.</p> <p>Parking Concerns Cllr James verbally reported that Traders in the Village are concerned that the introduction of parking charges at the Co –Op has adversely affected trade; the matter will be considered at the next meeting of the Chamber of Trade and Commerce.</p> <p>Cllrs Randall and S Martin had also received two separate complaints from residents concerned at the dangerous parking on the road at Plumberow Avenue adjacent to the station car park which was reported to the Clerk.</p>
16/150	<p>Clerk’s report.</p> <p>The clerk reported that following a minor accident, the van has been returned and the repairs completed at no cost to the council.</p> <p>Update on work at Marylands Nature Reserve. Following the flooding in early July, it became clear that the proposed path would have to be redesigned to prevent it becoming a drainage channel into Plumberow Avenue. Alternative materials had to be sourced and the work recommences w/c 18th July.</p> <p>Update on work at Broad Parade. The landscaping and repair of the paths and hardstanding is complete with the autumn planting and grass re-seeding still outstanding. Following the request to permanently remove the bench, the installation was postponed, pending the council’s decision. Installation can now go-ahead.</p> <p>Update on the application for Essex Village of the Year Award The results of the competition were announced at the Rural Community Council of Essex Annual General Meeting and unfortunately, Hockley was not a winner. The Clerk is awaiting a feedback report from the judges.</p>
16/151	<p>Consultations.</p> <p>RDC Community Engagement Event - Local Neighbourhood Plan To note the date of Tuesday</p>

	<p>16th August for the proposed meeting and present items for discussion from members. Cllrs. Gleadall and Meacham will be attending. Cllr Vingoe gave her apologies. Other councillors are welcome to attend. The matters for consideration raised by the Communities Committee were outlined with particular attention being given to the infrastructure of the community. Specific concerns were raised about the future of the library, car park and toilets which will be considered in more detail later.</p> <p>Gambling Policy Consultation. No comments.</p>
16/152	<p>To note training undertaken in the previous month and receive reports.</p> <p>It was noted that Cllrs T Carter and Hazlewood attended Rochford District Council’s Chairman’s course on 7th July.</p> <p>Requests for training have been received and approved from the Administration Assistant who has applied to attend the EALC Lone Working Training Course on 7th September which was noted by council.</p> <p>Following a discussion about the Council’s need to establish a strategic plan, it was agreed that the Clerk would present a short training course introducing the ideas behind Forward Planning and Performance Management. The training will be held on Monday 8th August starting at 8.00 p.m. All members are asked to note the date and attend.</p>
16/153	<p>To note changes to the publication protocol for draft minutes</p> <p>For clarity, draft minutes will now be circulated with a ‘DRAFT’ watermark. Once the minutes are agreed, the watermark will be removed and the document republished on the website. Concern was expressed about the use of the word ‘DRAFT’, but the consensus was to retain the word as it had become accepted practice among councils.</p>
16/154	<p>To consider the authorisation of vegetation clearance works to footpaths and footways within the parish boundaries where such clearance is necessary to provide a safe pedestrian passage and can be done lawfully.</p> <p>The clerk has received written notice from six councillors stating that motion 16/140, although discussed by the council, was not fully explored prior to the vote. The decision was based on the assumption that other agencies would be required to do the work, and that they would share the same priorities as the residents. There is no intention for the Parish Council to undertake significant work, but the opportunity for small interventions should not be lost. Following a review of the arguments for and against the proposal, the major concern was the lack of insurance cover and Cllr Hazlewood reiterated the guidance that highways should not be maintained by any other organisation. On balance, it was considered that the Parish Council should retain the right to consider intervention.</p> <p>Resolved. The Council will authorise vegetation clearance works to footpaths and footways within the parish boundaries where such clearance is necessary to provide a safe pedestrian passage and can be done lawfully. The Chairman requested a recorded vote.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr R Martin seconded Cllr Vingoe. Against: Cllrs Gleadall, Hazlewood. Abstained: Cllr T Carter. For: Cllrs Anderson, Boxall, M Carter, James, Maddocks, S Martin, Meacham, O’Shea, Randall.</p>

16/155	<p>To consider a nomination received for the Buckingham Palace Garden Party Award.</p> <p>One nomination has been received. Cllr Hazlewood has been nominated by Cllr M Carter. On receipt of the completed form, the nomination will be sent to Essex Association of Local Councils.</p>
16/156	<p>To approve any changes made to Committee membership.</p> <p>The following changes were noted and approved. Cllr Maddocks will join Resources & Procedures, Environmental and Planning. Cllr Hazlewood will join Environmental.</p>
16/157	<p>To consider accepting sponsorship for additional planters throughout the parish.</p> <p>An offer of £50 sponsorship has been made from Castle Opticians local business to enhance the planting scheme in Spa Road. The Clerk identified a suitable planter for installation beneath the noticeboard for a cost of approximately £150.</p> <p>Resolved. The council agrees to accept sponsorship for planters in the village. Specifically in this instance, the offer of a £50 donation will be accepted in part payment of the installation of a planter installed beneath the Spa Road noticeboard.</p> <p>Proposed Cllr James seconded Cllr S Martin and carried with two against and one abstaining.</p>
16/158	<p>To note the minutes and resolutions from Resources and Procedures Committee meeting on 27th June 2016.</p> <p>The minutes were noted.</p> <p>To note minutes and resolutions of Personnel Subcommittee on 11th July 2016.</p> <p>The minutes were noted.</p> <p>Councillors were reminded that they had been given access to the office calendar to confirm who is in attendance at any time.</p> <p>Action Office: A message will be put on the answer phone and an “office closed” notice in the window to advise of any late changes.</p>
16/159	<p>To note the minutes and resolutions from Environmental Committee meeting of 6th June 2016.</p> <p>The minutes were noted.</p> <p>Cllr Vingoe expressed disappointment that the presentation from Rochford District Council did not take place and requested that the meeting be reconvened for the August Meeting. The Clerk would arrange a site meeting to assess the state of the maintenance work on 27th July, prior to the next Full Council.</p>
16/160	<p>To note the minutes and resolutions from Planning and Local Development Committee meetings of 27th June and 11th July 2016.</p> <p>The minutes were noted.</p>
16/161	<p>To note the minutes and resolutions from Communities Committee 4th July 2016.</p> <p>The minutes were noted.</p> <p>Cllr S Martin thanked the Working Groups responsible for the Art Trail and the Open Gardens events which were successful and well supported by the community. Cllr. James reported the Open Gardens have made over £700 for charity.</p> <p>The Committee have agreed to enter the Vaughtons Council of the Year Award.</p> <p>Cllrs S Martin, T Gleadall and V Randall have prepared an application which will be forwarded to the Clerk for submission by the 12th August.</p>

	<p>To note the minutes and resolutions from the Festive Lights Subcommittee. Next meeting 20th July 2016.</p> <p>Cllr R Martin expressed concern that there may not be sufficient resources available on the day to prepare all that will be required to safely manage the Street Event. The next meeting will decide what changes are needed and whether the project can go ahead this year. The lights installation will remain as planned.</p> <p>To note the report from the Hall Management Working Group meeting on 13th June 2016. The report was noted.</p>
16/162	<p>To note reports from delegates to other organisations.</p> <p>Hockley & Hawkwell 55+ Social Centre Annual General Meeting. Rochford Hundred Association of Local Councils.</p> <p>The reports were noted.</p>
16/163	<p>Items for next agenda.</p> <p>District Cllr M Steptoe, Deputy Leader of the Council to attend</p>
16/164	<p>Date of next meeting – 15th August 2016</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.</p>