

Hatley Parish Council

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Hatley Parish Council held on Tuesday 18th October 2016

In attendance: Cllr M Eagle (Chairman), Cllr A Pinney (Vice Chairman), Cllr M Astor, Cllr N Jenkins, Cllr H Nickerson, Clerk to the Council K Wilde, District Cllr B Smith (arrived later), County and District Councillor Kindersley (arrived later) and 8 members of the public (4 arriving at 8pm).

1. Apologies: None.
2. Interests or dispensation applications: None.
3. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 27th September 2016 were approved and signed.
4. Matters Arising: The Clerk confirmed that the new play area products supplied by HAGS-SMP Ltd are coated with lead-free paint. The Clerk confirmed that Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) Highways team has responded positively to the concerns raised at the last meeting regarding the new Voluntary Highways Scheme. Noted for further discussion and planning in January.
5. The meeting was opened to members of the public, for a maximum of ten minutes, to enable them to address questions to the Parish Council. **i)** Who is responsible for the removal of dead animals on the roadside? Nobody was certain and thus Peter Mann will contact CCC Highways for advice. **ii)** Do the Annual Return notices and accounts need to be on the notice boards for so long as the boards are overcrowded? The Clerk confirmed that statutory duties must be met and notice dates are specified by the External Auditor. **Clerk will seek additional information** on the required duration for such notices. The Clerk suggested that to solve this issue the East Hatley notice board could be replaced with a larger board, similar to that of Hatley St. George in the next financial year. **iii)** Visibility at the East Hatley Junction is becoming a problem once again. **Chairman noted to take action.** **iv)** Has work begun on the BT Broadband project in Hatley? Cllr Astor confirmed that a pole has been erected and digging has started on the road out towards Gamlingay. The work may be completed by Christmas and it will be fibre to the property. **v)** Can the Parish Council help deal with the problem of farm tractors speeding through East Hatley? Cllrs Nickerson and Astor commented that due to the size of the farm vehicles it may be a perception of speed created by the scale and noise of such vehicles. The **Chairman/Clerk to contact Mr Banks, the farmer** to request that the drivers travel with care and consideration through East Hatley.
6. County and District Councillors were both unavailable to give reports at this time. Item 6 postponed pending their arrival.
7. There were no updates available for either Hatley St. George or St. Denis' church. The Chairman commented that the official opening of the new composting toilet at Hatley St. George church had taken place. Cllr Jenkins reminded all that the next parish newsletter is due soon.
8. **i)** The Local Highways Initiative team requires a final decision to proceed with purchases and installation. The **Council resolved** to purchase the TWM Mini 300 'Slow Down' Speed Sign with spare battery, battery charger and Data Collection Radar upgrade. Additionally, the **Council resolved** to purchase one pole and 3 sockets to enable the relocation of the post. The option for

solar panel kits and three permanent posts were discussed and dismissed. The Chairman and Cllr Pinney offered transport solutions for the relocation of the post. **ii)** Cllr Jenkins had spoken with Greensands Patient Participation Group who agreed that it would be a good idea for Hatley to acquire a community defibrillator. It was noted that Gamlingay Parish Council obtained a defibrillator free of charge but paid about £800 for the secure housing and that funding opportunities do exist but on a very limited and ad-hoc basis. The equipment will require regular maintenance and training can be sought from the East of England Ambulance Service. The Chairman requested that actual set up costs, maintenance costs and funding possibilities are considered at the next meeting. **iii)** The Clerk has contacted South Cambs DC once again for an update on the dog waste bins but no response has yet been received. **iv)** Mrs Roach of East Hatley was invited to give notification of plans to erect a 'no parking' sign on the verge in front of the bungalows. Mrs Roach explained the background to the request to South Cambridgeshire District Council's (SCDC) Housing Officer and detailed the improvements that have been made to-date around the bungalows. The Chairman thanked Mrs Roach for attending the meeting to share her intentions. The Chairman made suggestions as to how all residents can help to reduce the impact on the verges by asking known visitors to avoid parking or driving on the verges and offering use of driveways to others on special occasions. The Chairman hopes that the sign helps to express the view held by many residents but feels that any additional signs would be excessive. **The Chairman will make reference to care of the verges in the next newsletter.**

Item 6 (postponed from earlier) Cllr Kindersley and Cllr Smith arrived during and after item 8 respectively. The Chairman invited them to give their reports at this time.

Cllr Smith discussed the completion of SCDC's Electoral Boundary Review, confirming that Hatley is now in the new Mordens Ward and that Gamlingay will be a ward on its own. The review is final but there is an online survey that can be completed by residents. Cllr Smith also spoke about the City Deal and how it is failing to address any transport issues other than for those commuting into Cambridge. There are contentious plans to build infrastructure through Green Belt land outside Bourne Airfield plus talks of a new Park and Ride station being located outside Coton on a hilltop, which would be visible to the wider area by night. There are no plans to move businesses out of the city; the deal is mostly concerned with getting people into the city by public transport. It does not consider the movement of workers from the new housing developments around Cambourne towards St. Neots and Bedford or the possible demand that could be placed on St. Neots train station for commuters to London or Peterborough.

Cllr Kindersley spoke of recent discussions at County Council concerning the elections that are due in May 2017 and the planned devolution for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough that will require a directly elected Mayor. Cllr Kindersley confirmed that he has no further news to share regarding St. Denis' Church and Cllr Smith offered to make enquiries later this week at SCDC.

9. The Clerk notified the Council of the Planning Inspectorate's decision to dismiss the Appeal by Mr Hook for the non-determination of the planning application for a dwelling at Barn Farm (Appeal ref: APP/W0530/W/16/3150794, Planning application ref: S/0308/14/FL). Cllr Kindersley explained that the Inspector had not found sufficient evidence for the financial viability of farm business which was required to justify a permanent dwelling on the site.

Cllr Kindersley, Cllr Smith and four members of the public excused themselves from the remainder of the meeting.

10. John O'Sullivan, Chairman of the Hatley Village Association, reported the success of recent events, being the Shuttleworth talk and the Race Night. The new monthly Coffee Morning was also acknowledged. Dates were given for the Christmas Tea Party (4th Dec) and Quiz Night (4th Feb). The next investment for the Village Hall is the renovation of the toilets to provide disabled access and facilities. The project is expected to cost in the region of £24,000 and the HVA continues to look for funding opportunities. The 'Big Lottery Fund' logo sign has arrived and is due to be placed inside the hall, but the positioning has not been finalised. The date of the next HVA meeting is Tuesday 15th November at 7 pm in the Village Hall. The HPC Chairman presented Mick Marshall with a 'thank you' card and gift on behalf of the Parish Council for 13 years of voluntary work as caretaker of the Village Hall.
11. Village Hall: There was no news to report. The Clerk confirmed that reimbursement is due to Mr Weightman for cleaning materials purchased.
12. Play area: The Chairman confirmed that the new junior swings are due to be installed by Mark Wilsher and other local helpers on Sunday 30th October at 10 am. Cllr Astor confirmed that Ben Harris will assist with the supply of the concrete mix and that the JCB and generator will also be available if Cllr Nickerson is on site. Cllr Jenkins will contact Chris Blake to see if he would like to help. The Chairman will ask seek other volunteers via the notice boards. The Clerk will organise a Working Party meeting for January to plan the next phase.
13. Website: Cllr Jenkins gave a summary of the village survey results including suggestions by residents as to how the website might be improved in terms of email alerts and information availability. Mervyn Lack and Claire Klaus have offered their help. There has been a suggestion to establish a Facebook group for Hatley but Cllr Jenkins suggests this is organised outside of the Website Group and Parish Council. Many survey responses gave compliments to Peter Mann for his work to date on the Hatley website. Peter Mann reconfirmed expected costs for a new website to be approximately £1000 set-up fee and £150 per annum web hosting fee. **The Clerk will contact CAPALC** regarding funding.
14. Correspondence received: **i)** CCC's Definitive Map and Statement of Public Rights of Way. The Maps and detailed routes for Hatley, as published in September 2016, are available on the Hatley website. **ii)** Cambridgeshire Alliance for Independent Living. The Clerk gave details of how residents can join the group. **iii)** SCDC's Youth Networking Event, to be held at Milton Park Visitors' Centre on Tuesday 8th November, 5-7pm. **iv)** Cambs CC Community Gritting Scheme. Clerk shared details and should be contacted by any interested parties.
15. BT's consultation on the removal of payphones in Hatley: The Clerk confirmed that SCDC supports the Parish Council's objection to the removal of the phones but the final decision will be taken by the Secretary of State in due course.
16. SCDC Planning Team updates: **i)** Changes to Local List - Validation Requirements. The Clerk confirmed that an update to the consultation was shared by email. No comment from the Council. **ii)** Review of consultation process with Parish Councils on planning applications. The Clerk confirmed that feedback from Parish Councils has been well received. Councils must state what considerations could be made to allow an application to receive their support. **iii)** Proposed electronic system for planning notifications. There is a questionnaire for feedback which the Clerk will submit, expressing concerns over the lack of large scale paper plans to share at public meetings. This was supported by the Councillors. **iii)** Issues of the late availability of applications, plans and

decisions online. SCDC is addressing this problem and has provided a contact point for any such issues or complaints. **iv)** Planning training sessions are available; the Clerk shared details of dates and topics.

17. The electoral review of Cambridgeshire by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) has been finalised. The Clerk confirmed that the full report, boundary map and feedback survey can be found on their website (www.lgbce.org.uk). Hatley remains in the Gamlingay Division but the boundary has changed to include Abington Pigotts, Arrington, Barrington, Croydon, Gamlingay, Guilden Morden, Litlington, Orwell, Shingay-cum-Wendy, Steeple Morden, Tadlow and Wimpole parishes. The County Council will see a reduction in the number of Councillors from 69 to 61 as of the election in May 2017. The electoral review of South Cambridgeshire District Council was published the day of this meeting and was discussed by Cllr Smith under item 6. Hatley finds itself in the new Mordens Ward of smaller parishes, which includes Abington Pigotts, Arrington, Croydon, Guilden Morden, Shingay-cum-Wendy, Steeple Morden and Tadlow. The District Council maintains 45 Councillors as a result of restructuring the ward boundaries.
18. The proposal for devolution by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has resulted in the acceptance of the deal to include a directly elected mayor. The Chairman gave a brief update on her briefing meeting with SCDC. Responses from Parish Councils were very low.
19. Finance update **i)** The **Council resolved** to approve the following payments:
 - a. *M Marshall* – £7.60 Village Hall Door Key
 - b. *Society of Local Council Clerks* - £65.00 Annual Membership Fee
 - c. *K Wilde* – Salary payments October, November and December
 - d. *K Wilde* – Overtime May to October
 - e. *K Wilde* – Expenses May to October
 - f. *e-On* – Direct Debit £4.14 on 28th July 2016, £7.04 on 15th August 2016, £11.94 on 13th September 2016, £14.53 on 14th October 2016

The Council agreed to hold back the payment due to Chubb Fire and Security Ltd until a reply is received concerning service fees. **ii)** The income and expenses account and Barclays bank account statement for July-Sept 2016 were reconciled, with the difference being the late clearance of a cheque payment. **iii)** The Clerk gave notice of the completion and acceptance of the 2015-16 Annual Return by the External Auditor, PKF Littlejohn LLP.

20. Time and date of the next meeting: **7.30 pm on Tuesday 17th January, 2017.**
21. The meeting closed at 10.10 pm.