

Hapton Parish Council

Monday, 13th August 2012

Present: Councillor Birbeck (in the Chair), Lakeland and Puckett-Gouldin.

Others: Borough Councillor Greenwood, S. Watson (Clerk) and 2 residents.

Parish Council Agenda

Councillor Tim Birbeck opened the meeting and welcomed everyone,

12/13/044 Apology for absence

Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillors Barker, Barritt and Kayley.

12/13/045 Declarations of Interest / Code of Conduct

Due to the Localism Act the Parish Council needs to adopt a new Code of Conduct and complaints procedure.

RESOLVED: That the new Code of Conduct, including declaration of interest forms, and the new complaints procedure is adopted.

12/13/046 Minutes of the last meeting held on the 9th July 2012.

The minutes of the last meeting were submitted for approval as a correct record.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Hapton Parish Council meeting on the 9th July 2012 are approved as a correct record.

It was noted that the reference to D&J Motors should have read D&J Tractors and that following the Allotment quotes approved at the last meeting the work had now started on the new allotments.

With Reference to 12/13/034, the Chair had contacted the allotment tenant but no action had been taken and further action would now follow.

12/13/047 RESOLVED: That the meeting would close to welcome comments from members of the public.

A resident asked when the top road would be cleared, the hedges had been cut recently but there were still some areas outstanding. Also the 30mph signs at both ends were covered by the hedges. It was also noted that the top road was bad during the rain and the County had been shoveling debris from the road. The County Council will be asked when the remaining work will be carried out.

It was also noted that stones had be removed again from Blythe's wall on Manchester Road and the company will be contacted as the wall is now becoming dangerous. Blythe's are also to be asked about fishing licenses at the lodge.

12/13/048 The meeting was formally re-opened for business

12/13/049 Update on Website

An update was given on the website, the domain has now been sorted and an intial website design has been created, also a new email address of haptonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk has been created. The website is www.haptonparishcouncil.co.uk

12/13/050 Update on Recreation Ground

The funding application has gone through the critical stages and is now being looked at by the Board. The issue around VAT is still being investigated and the Lancashire Association of Local Councils (LALC) has been approached for advice. The amount of VAT is still to be determined.

12/13/051 Councillors Reports – including reports from representatives of outside bodies

A representative of LALC has contacted to say that Hapton Parish Council has not attended the last four meetings, although Councillor Kayley has always sent his apologies. Councillor Pluckett-Gouldin agreed to attend future meetings.

The August Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting did not raise any issues for Hapton, Padiham has a problem with early morning drinkers.

Hapton Heritage has done 2 days work at the Castle, clearing trees, with 1 day work still outstanding. Photographs have been taken and once done, Andrew will get started. A school feature is still being planned. Councillor Lakeland will circulate dates when known. There was no update on the heraldic shield design and the next meeting is the AGM on the 21st.

12/13/052 Finances

The following bank balances were noted.

- Fundraising Account £1,914.65
- Expenses £2,583.64
- Env. Account £5,359.55

August invoices included:

- Clerk's Salary £ 159.61
- Profence – allotment fencing £1,900.00
- Tree fella – allotments £ 350.00
- Zurich municipal insurance £ 212.26
- Stationery – stamps £ 6.00

RESOLVED: That the above bills are paid.

12/13/053 Planning Applications

Two planning applications have been received, Application APP/2012/0284 – Proposed conservatory to rear, 154 Lancaster Drive and Application APP/2012/0299 - Proposed 1st floor extension to side, 2 storey rear extension, pitched roof to existing rear extension and new front porch (re-submission of planning application APP/2012/0143) 82 Burnley Road. The Parish Council had no objections to either application.

12/13/054 Correspondence

Correspondence has been received from BDO, LALC and an email has been received from Liz Buckley requesting the Parish Council provide refreshments, cheese and biscuits for a Christian Aid charity event, Splash. It was noted that the Parish Council's funding had been reduced and that the Council had been unable to support village organisations last year. It was also suggested that the Community Room could be used as a café during the weekends over the summer.

RESOLVED: That Splash may have the use of the Community Room free of charge, but funds were insufficient to provide a donation. It was also agreed that the building could be used for the bonfire.

It was noted that there was a Mayoress at Home event on Thursday 14th August.

12/13/055 Visual Audits

The boundary wall around Blythe's land by the bus stop has holes in it again, Blythe's will be contacted. A cement wagon is parking overnight on Hampden Street which may contravene the operator's license. The County Council will be informed of the possible breach. The Clerk will check when the top road is being cleared and it was noted that the former Liberal Club that has been converted into a house has made the upstairs into a flat. The planning application was for a single domestic building and the Council is unaware of an application for a bungalow and upstairs flat. The occupants are also trying to make a garden but there are currently 3 caravans in the back yard. Plans will be circulated to Councillors.

12/13/056 Date of next meeting

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be held at 7:00pm on Monday 10th September 2012 at the Community Center.