

HAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 26 JULY 2010

Present: Parish Cllrs: M Allen (Chairman) P. Lawrence
G.I.Sunley P. Rowley
D.Warbrick B. Stamp

Clerk to Council: Mrs. J. A. Hill

10/29 APOLOGIES

None received.

10/30 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

10/31 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 June 2010 were presented for approval. The clerk requested an amendment to the Finance section concerning the internal audit process which was approved and **it was resolved that the minutes were a true record.**

10/32 FINANCE

a) **The following accounts were approved by the Council:**

1212	HM Revenue & Customs	£243.40	PAYE Apr - June
1213	Stafford Railway BS	£11,000.00	transfer of funds
1214	JWH	£710.00	June mowing
1215	Haughton Village Hall	£18.00	room hire
1216	Stafford Borough Council	£49.00	amenity van
1217	J Hill	£274.97	July sal & exes
1218	R Mathews	£76.65	July sal
1219	P Lawrence	£57.85	BKV & church wall rprs
1220	Stuart Allen	£145.00	Playing field rprs
1221	Stafford Rangers	£50.00	Grant for fun day

b) **Financial Statements for July 2010 were accepted.**

It was noted that the mowing contract would exceed budget due to additional cuts.

c) **The bank reconciliation at 30 June 2010 was approved.**

d) Stafford Railway Building Society – the account had now been set up and £11,000 had been deposited.

e) Notice board – one quote of £1700 had been received. Further quotes would be sought from T. Lendon of Little Onn, P. Yeomans and Timber Products of Newport.

10/33 TO RECEIVE REPORTS

- a) Outside bodies
- Village Hall – nothing to report.
 - Allimore Green Common – nothing to report
 - School governors – attended the Ofsted visit but no further information could be given until the Ofsted report was published. The new fencing order for the rear of the school has been given to a local company.
- b) Highway matters
- The chairman attended the Staffordshire County Council briefing meeting about the A528. The Safety and Speeding Strategy was mainly to lay additional road markings. The chairman mentioned the speeding problems that the village was experiencing and was advised that the parish council should request the installation of a speed monitor for a week to assess the problem.
 - The chairman had received representations from Mr. Grattage of Ingleton, Newport Road regarding the bus stop immediately outside his house. Mr. Grattage will have to move his bedroom arrangements to the ground floor in the near future and fears the noise from the buses stopping and people embarking and disembarking will cause him problems. He has spoken to County Cllr. Winnington about moving the bus stop as he believes its location was only meant to be temporary. The council requested the clerk to contact Cllr. Winnington to find out if he was dealing with this matter.
 - The county council has requested that parish councils help identify locations on the local roads which are prone to flooding and has sent a survey form for completion.

At this point the meeting was suspended so that PCSO Scott Biddulph could be introduced to the council.

Councillors discussed several issues including youths arriving at night by car at the playing field with food and drink and leaving refuse on the grounds. Local residents had been worried by the noise. PCSO Biddulph would see that patrols are increased.

The clerk was asked to inform PCSO Biddulph of items likely to come up before council meetings. The next police community surgery would be on 2 October.

The meeting now continued.

- c) General Maintenance
- Best Kept Village Competition – the local awards ceremony for the best garden and best hanging basket will be held on 13 August.
 - The separation of the council from the organisation of the BKV competition was discussed but it was felt unlikely that other residents would come forward to run this. It would be raised at the local awards ceremony to see if volunteers would come forward. The Community Council organisers would be asked about the competition weight given to community as opposed to parish council led entries. A further discussion would take place at the September meeting.
 - A chestnut tree on the green near the Moat House opposite the telephone kiosk was in very poor condition and the clerk was asked to contact the county council to deal with this.
 - The trees at Royd Close needed pruning along the main road footpath. The clerk was asked to contact Stafford & Rural Homes to deal with this.
 - The new owner of the Shropshire Inn has offered the field behind the property as a venue for a village event.
- e) Playing field
- the clerk was asked to obtain a price for half of the bark quantity used last year.

- Letters had been received from the Environment Agency, Fisher German re Lichfield Diocese land ownership and Severn Trent re the sewage pit beneath the car park. The Environment Agency informed the council that it could not help at all as the matter did not arise from a main river. Severn Trent was investigating the fitting of a sealed cover to the pit and the clerk was asked to write to find out who had given the easement to Severn Trent for use of the car park. Cllr. Stamp undertook to ask the Borough Council about Fieldside Cottage which had once stood on the land in question and thence the ownership of the land.
- f) Training
 - Councillors asked for planning and responding to planning applications training sessions and also for chairmanship training.
- g) Clerk's report
 - including correspondence was noted.

10/34 PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE

The draft questionnaire regarding the equipment for the playing field had been approved and would be delivered to all homes in the parish during the week.

10/35 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The clerk's appraisal would be held in August and a report would be brought to the next meeting. The SPCA constitution was in the process of being updated.

10/36 PLANNING

The council had the following comments regarding planning applications:

10/13997/FUL Booden Hall, Church Eaton Rd – garage, store, carport with hobbies room on first floor. The council had no objections as such but had concerns that the building might one day be intended as a residence.

10/14042/REM Land off Stafford Road, Gnosall (Chicken farm) - landscaping
The council had no comments.

10/14085/FUL Treharne, Newport Road – conversion to two houses, parking space, vehicular access alterations.
The council had no comments.

10/37 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

Rural Affordable Housing Survey

10/38 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The council decided that there would be no meeting in August and that the date of the next meeting is Monday, 27 September 2010 from 7.00pm if Stafford & Rural Homes are able to make a presentation.

The council also resolved to devolve powers to the clerk during the intermission.

Signed

Date