

The Parish Council of Hockley Heath

Minutes of Meeting held 8.00pm on Monday 13th December 2010 at The Pavilion, Hockley Heath, West Midlands.

Present: **Parish Councillors;** Rayson (Chair), Afford, Barbour, Campbell and Vernon.
Apologies; Caroline Spelman MP
Clerk; H Goodreid
Public Attendees; 7 members of the public including Mr Bert Robinson, Mr David Fair, Mr David Cox, and Mrs Janice Adams

Min No.	Item	Action
269 269.1	Apologies & Acceptance of Apologies Apologies were accepted from Caroline Spelman MP.	
270 270.1	Declarations of Interest Cllr Vernon declared an interest at 277 as she had employed John Nokes to undertake works at her own property.	
271 271.1	Chairman closed council meeting for Public Session at 8.00pm David Cox spoke on behalf of the HH Residents Association and thanked the Parish Council for the letter written in objection to the Planning Application for the Nags Head. Mr Cox wanted to know what additional action the Parish Council proposed to make, as he was keen to organise a petition against the development. He had requested that the planning meeting be delayed to January and it would now be considered on 19 th January 2011.	Clerk to write to Planning Committee
271.2	Chair noted the comments and stated that the developers were chasing a copy of the Parish Council objection letter. The Chairs understanding from Solihull Councillors was that the developers had a strong case for development but agreed that it should not be railroaded though. The Parish Council could take legal action if required.	
271.3	Bert Robinson questioned the Council's response re the Solihull Emerging Core Strategy.	
271.4	Chair confirmed that HHPC had written a detailed response to the strategy and had himself attended a meeting at Cheswick Green to discuss the strategy with SMBC. It would appear from the plans that the majority of building would be around Dickens Heath rather than Hockley Heath. The current development process encourages developers to submit planning applications for any available sites, planning for future demand. We are currently in a transition from UDP to LDP and therefore need to push the fact that HH is developing a Village Plan and this should be considered in the future LDP. The need for the Village Plan to have a public meeting asap was supported. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to all Solihull Councillors on the Planning Committee and other interested parties, requesting that the Parish Councils objection be considered and offering an alternative site for the residential development, of the Aylesbury House.	
271.5	David Fair spoke and asked the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Precept – did councillors know what the projected end of year spend would be for 2010/2011? • Item 283 for that evenings meeting – question why the Parish Council were meeting with members of public / press excluded from proceedings? 	
271.6	It was explained that all parish councillors had met informally (see minute 242.1) in November to go through the Precept and that the outcome of that meeting was to be presented in draft form to councillors later this evening for consideration over the Christmas break. Decisions on the Precept would then be taken at the January meeting. The point was made that SMBC are in the process of reducing costs and responsibilities which in turn puts pressure on Parish Councils to cover certain	

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	additional areas of work. It was explained that item 283 was a Human Resource issue pertaining to the previous HHPC and therefore not for public discussion.	
272 272.1	Chairman reopened Council meeting for Minutes of meeting held 18th November 2010 at 8.50pm. These were read and agreed Proposed: Cllr Vernon, Seconded: Cllr Afford	
273 273.1	Matters Arising not addressed later in the agenda The matter of pedestrian refuges being provided as part of the Jaguar Development was passed to Janice Adams of HHRA. Proposed: Cllr Afford, Seconded: Cllr Vernon	
274 274.1	Planning Discussion was held around the Nags Head development and the following points were considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possibility of taking legal action /professional advice • Email addresses of Solihull Planning Committee Councillors could be posted on web site for community to contact • Villagers need to start campaign of action • Need to urge SMBC to delay the 22nd December planning meeting to considering the application • The longer the delay before the application is considered, the more the new parliamentary bill can come into force, giving communities increased say on development in their areas. • Clerk to seek support from Caroline Spelman in matter Proposed: Cllr Afford, Seconded: Cllr Barbour.	Clerk to action
275 275.1	Core Strategy Councillors read the draft letter to SMBC re the Core Strategy. The letter was agreed and Clerk requested to send as soon as possible. Proposed: Cllr Barbour, Seconded: Cllr Afford.	Clerk to send Strategy response to SMBC
276 276.1	Replacement of boiler at the Pavilion Three quotes had been received from : John Nokes - £1,875.00 (no VAT) Bayleys Plumbing and Heating Services - £3,665.00 (no VAT) Henley Plumbing and Heating - £2,675 (including VAT @ 17.5%)	
276.2	Cllr Barbour was concerned that he did not have the technical knowledge to know if these were fair prices and wondered if council should consider employing a technical expert to give advice. Clerk advised the council that she has managed to get recommended contractors list from SMBC for most works undertaken by the parish (ie for trees and ground work) but not in this instance. It was felt that on this occasion Clerk should contract work on the basis of the cheapest quote as there were two comparable quotes and one far more expensive. Clerk was instructed to commission John Nokes as soon as possible. Proposed: Cllr Vernon, Seconded: Cllr Campbell.	Clerk to employ John Nokes to install boiler at Pavilion
276.3	It was agreed that in future, when works are to be commissioned, the Council will debate the requirements and if no procurement information is available from SMBC, then quotes received come back to the next parish council meeting or next Management committee meeting – depending on the work. Proposed: Cllr Campbell, Seconded: Cllr Vernon	Clerk to secure procurement information
277 277.1	Tree Works Clerk was still waiting alternative quotes for the tree work, to date only one had	Clerk to chase

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277.2	<p>been received. Clerk had now received a list of approved tree surgeons from SMBC and would chase additional quotes from companies on this list.</p> <p>A letter had been received from owners of property on Meadow Close who had concern about two trees neighbouring their property on the recreation ground. It was noted that one of the trees would be considered in the next phase of tree work, but the other tree was not recommended for work. Clerk was to write assuring resident that some work would be done but survey showed that the trees condition was not of immediate concern.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Vernon, Seconded: Cllr Barbour.</p>	<p>additional quotes</p> <p>Clerk to write letter to local resident</p>												
278 278.1	<p>Correspondence and Emails</p> <p>Letter from Mrs N Phipps of 57 Meadow Close re neighbouring trees had been considered in item 277.</p>													
279 279.1	<p>Finance</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Fairways – cleaning of dog bins</td> <td>Cheque 100076</td> <td>£117.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Family Care Trust – recreation ground maintenance</td> <td>Cheque 100077</td> <td>£520.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AMCS – war memorial cleaning</td> <td>Cheque 100078</td> <td>£680.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk – Salary & Telephone calls</td> <td>Cheque 100079</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Proposed: Cllr Afford, Seconded: Cllr Campbell.</p>	Fairways – cleaning of dog bins	Cheque 100076	£117.50	Family Care Trust – recreation ground maintenance	Cheque 100077	£520.00	AMCS – war memorial cleaning	Cheque 100078	£680.00	Clerk – Salary & Telephone calls	Cheque 100079		
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280 280.1	<p>Precept</p> <p>Further to the meeting held by Clerk and Councillors on 11th November, the draft precept figures were tabled for consideration. It was agreed that Councillors reflect on these over the Christmas break and the matter be considered at the next meeting of the Parish Council on January 20th 2011. The figures showed that there would be a general reduction in the precept by some 12%.</p>	<p>Councillors to consider draft Precept figures for next Parish Council meeting</p>												
281 281.1	<p>Councillors Reports</p> <p>Cllr Afford advised the Council that there would be a Village Plan meeting with local residents on Friday 7th January 2011.</p>													
281.2	<p>Precept – it was felt that the fact that a reduction in this year’s precept request of some 12% be noted in the minutes (see 280.1 above).</p>													
281.3	<p>IT Support – it was noted that Clerk had experienced technical problems concerning the new IT equipment. To date Cllr Barbour had offered technical IT support but it was agreed that IT support closer to the Clerks home would speed the work. It was agreed that should the Clerk have problems of an emergency nature re IT, she had authority to spend up to £200 for 10 hours work.</p> <p>Proposed: Cllr Vernon, Seconded: Cllr Campbell.</p>													
282 282.1	<p>Clerks Report</p> <p>None</p>													
283	<p>The public and press were asked to withdraw due to the special nature of the business.</p>													
284	<p>Actions considered confidential were discussed.</p>													

Meeting Closed at 10.50 pm.

The next meeting would be Thursday 20th January 2011 to be held at the Pavilion.

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