

## HUNSTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Hunston Parish Council held on Wednesday 19 June 2013 in the Main Hall of Hunston Village Hall.

Present: Mr S Baker, Ms L Kenney (Chairman), Mr R Pagram  
Mrs F Beckett, Mrs T Lock

In Attendance: Mrs C Smith (Clerk), 1 member of the public,  
Mrs M Whitehead (WSCC),

The meeting commenced at 7.20pm

### **70/13C Questions/Comments from members of the public.**

Mr Mann produced a number of bolts that had been apparently left when the roundabout was repaired and he highlighted the fact that the contractors had not cleaned out underneath the roundabout.

Mr Mann asked if the Football team could be asked to move the goal posts by pivoting them 180 degrees around the side nearest the playground. This would also mean that when the fair came in November then the vehicles could use the north side of the field rather than travelling right across the field.

Mr Mann also suggested that the Football Club should be asked to move the goal posts from the hardstanding area at the back of the hall. He also suggested that the goal posts that came from the hard court area could also be advertised for sale.

The Chairman expressed thanks on behalf of the Parish Council for the ditch clearance work that Mr Mann had completed on the playing field. Mr Mann then left the meeting.

### **71/13C Co-option of a Councillor.**

The Clerk explained that the District Council had advised that the Parish Council was now able to co-opt someone onto the Council. Some discussion took place on how to encourage people to come forward and join the Parish Council.

### **72/13C District and County Councillor reports.**

#### **72.1 Mrs T Tull (District Councillor)**

Mrs Tull was unable to attend the meeting due to a clash of meeting dates with Sidlesham Parish Council.

#### **72.2 Mrs M Whitehead (County Councillor)**

Mrs Whitehead confirmed that the newly elected Councillors were settling in and gave details of a new Highways issues reporting address.

The Chairman asked when the pavement outside the Post Office would be done. Mrs Whitehead said she would chase this up.

Cllr Baker raised the issue of the very overgrown grass verges. Mrs Whitehead pointed out the A27 was the responsibility of the Highways Agency.

It was noted that the Highways Rangers were out in force in the village this week.

### **73/13C Code of Conduct**

#### **73.1 Declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda.**

The Chairman and Cllr Baker declared an interest in Agenda Item 20 (Village Hall) as members of the Village Hall Management Committee.

Cllr Pagram declared an interest in Agenda Item 22 (Financial Payments) as recipient of one of the payments.

73.2 Requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests.  
There were no requests received.

73.3 Requests for dispensation as appropriate  
There were no requests granted.

**74/13C Apologies for absence.**  
Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Bonthrone.

**75/13C The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting of 16 May 2013.**  
The Chairman called for the approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 16 May 2013. These were **AGREED** and the Chairman duly signed the Minutes as being a true record of the meeting.

**76/13C Matters Arising from the Minutes of 16 May 2013.**  
The Clerk reported that there had not been sufficient time to effectively advertise the planned Spring Clean Day and it was agreed to postpone this to 21 September 2013

**77/13C Chairman's report.**  
The Chairman commented that she had recently attended a Chairman's networking day and would shortly circulate a report on the session. There had been a good presentation from Nick Boles, Minister for Planning, which gave an insight into government plans. Ferring Parish Council had also given a presentation on their experiences in starting their Neighbourhood Plan the costs of which were towards £30,000.  
Other interesting subjects included personnel issues and legal issues around land ownership.

**78/13C Reports from recent meetings:**

78.1 Annual Meeting of the Parishes  
A report by Cllr Baker on the Annual Meeting with the Parishes had previously been circulated to Councillors. Key points highlighted included changes to development control and the process of delegating the decision making process for /DOM applications.  
Discussion on the Local Plan centred mostly on concerns about infrastructure. Most of the infrastructure issues are the responsibility of other agencies, however, an infrastructure plan is due to be produced by the District Council.  
The Chairman commented that Nick Boles had suggested that with backing from the District and County Councils, the A27 will be put on list of areas to be looked at.  
Cllr Baker highlighted the importance of having a Neighbourhood Plan.  
There was also some discussion on Gypsies and Travellers. The District Commander had explained this was a civil matter rather than criminal. The bottom line is that transit sites need to be found. With transit sites in the County the Police have the power to move any unauthorised encampments.

78.2 Manhood Peninsula Forum  
A report by Cllr Pagram on the Manhood Peninsula Forum was circulated to Councillors for information.  
It was noted that some of the issued crossed over with the all parishes meeting.It

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was suggested that the old MOD site adjacent to the Bognor roundabout could be put forward as a suitable transit site for Travellers.

**79/13C Chichester District Housing Strategy 2013 – 18**

Copies of the Housing Strategy had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. The Chairman raised a query over houses that are in the pipeline that have not been built. There was concern over the demand for housing and the actual need for housing within individual parishes. It was noted that the number of people moving had reduced because of a lack of affordability.

It was agreed that the Clerk would put together a response based on the discussions that had taken place.

**80/13C /DOM planning applications.**

The Chairman suggested that Hunston was not greatly affected by the proposed changes but the principle of having objections heard by the Development Control Committee was very important. Councillors agreed that there was a need for local knowledge in considering applications and that if the Parish Council felt it was important enough to object to then this should go through the established democratic process.

**81/13C Village Hall.**

Cllr Baker reported that Richard Netley was stepping down as Secretary. He has done a good job for a great number of years but was also involved in a lot of other things. Amanda Cope will step in to act as Minute Secretary.

**82/13C Clerk's Report.**

Local Council Review

A short questionnaire on Parish Councils having Mayors had previously been circulated to Councillors. The Clerk was authorised to respond on behalf of the Parish Council.

Website

The website has now been redesigned to allow future clerks to be able to update without having any programming skills. It is hoped that the website will be a little more dynamic and because it is easier to upload information it can be updated more quickly. Even at a Parish Council meeting if necessary!

Meeting Room

The Clerk recommended that the Parish Council revisits the option of putting a temporary building at the back of the village hall. Except for meetings where we would need the space in the main hall this would enable greater flexibility for the Parish Council with regard to planning its meeting schedule. It would also offer a good working space for working party or other ad hoc meetings the Council might want to have. It was agreed that the Clerk should make the necessary investigations.

Priorities

Due to a number of changes in Councillors since the last elections it was agreed that there was a need for the Parish Council to review its priorities. It was agreed that the Clerk would circulate some possible dates to all.

Playing Field

The barrier post ordered for the entrance to the playing field for protection against the possible encampment of travellers unfortunately arrived with locks that would

not work so this has been returned. On reflection and in consultation the suggestion now is to replace the existing gate that is in situ – albeit overgrown with brambles. A secure lock could be placed on the gate which would be vandal proof (as far as possible). This would also make life easier for the grass cutters who access the field on the most regular basis. This was agreed.

Protocol for dealing with Travellers

At the recent All Parishes meeting the District Council suggested it would make some financial and practical assistance available to support Parishes in dealing with Unauthorised Encampments. Copies of the protocol with supporting documents which sets out that support and how it can be accessed were circulated to Councillors for information.

**83/13C Finance.**

83.1 The Schedule of Payments and Receipts

**RESOLVED** that the payments listed in the schedule of payments and receipts totalling £2777.97-be made. See appendix 1 (June 2013)

83.2 The Financial Statement for June 2013

The Statement of Accounts up to 31 May 2013 was **APPROVED**.  
See appendix 2 (June 2013).

**84/13C Items for noting or referral to a future meeting.**

Football club – contribution to facilities.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.51 pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman