

Claybrooke Magna Parish Council

MINUTES of a MEETING

held on THURSDAY, 11th August 2016
at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall

Present:

Cllr Nicholas Reseigh, Chairman
Cllr Michael Lenihan
Cllr Jan Butcher
Cllr Robin Deacon

Mr Peter Jones, Clerk to the Parish Council

Cllr Rosita Page, District & County Councillor

Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies from elected representatives.

Vacancy for Parish Councillor

A prospective new Parish Councillor had come forward but submitted her apologies for not being able to attend this meeting.

Disclosure of personal interests. There were no disclosures.

Minutes of the last meeting, held on 12th May 2016, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising from the last meeting

Dog paint/Stencils

It was agreed not to proceed with the proposal to purchase stencils and paint. Cllr Butcher had identified "glow in the dark" posters from another source, available at £250 for 10. It was agreed that the posters be ordered and Cllr Butcher agreed to arrange this through the Clerk.

Village Road signs

Cllr Lenihan had sourced two quotes for plain and embellished village name signs, ranging from £250 to over £1000. Clerk to approach HDC to enquire as to whether any grant funding would be available for the more embellished version. Cllr Lenihan also agreed to approach the Gazeley Magna Park Community Fund.

Skateboard Park

10 users of the skateboard park had turned up today. Cllr Lenihan agreed to enquire about social media outlets to advertise the event to a wider audience. Deferred to next meeting.

Matters raised by District/County Councillor

Cllr Page raised the following matters:

There will be an A5 Working Party meeting at HDC and anyone who wished to attend would be welcome. Cllr Page would send details.

Members were urged to look at the Magna Park/Gazeley website to obtain information regarding their offer to provide a bus service to and from the site.

Leicester and Leicestershire Strategic Growth Plan – a consultation would be held but it was felt that there was nothing in the document suggesting protection of the rural countryside. Cllr Butcher said she had responded as an individual. The Clerk would respond similarly on behalf of the Parish Council.

LCC was to undertake a Highways Consultation and Cllr Page asked members to read it and respond.

Matters raised by Residents, at Chairman's discretion

A resident had approached Cllr Lenihan regarding overgrown bushes in the Vineyard. This had already been reported to LCC. Clerk will chase up a response.

Finance

Accounts for Payment:

It was proposed by Cllr Lenihan, seconded by the Chairman and agreed that the following accounts be approved:

Clerk's Salary & Expenses April – July 2016 : £329.78

Alpha Group – Skateboard Park Banners £171.60

HDC – litter/dog bin emptying Oct 15 to Mar 16: £175.52

HDC – litter/dog bin emptying Apr – June 16 : £88.59

Trevor Dawes – petrol for mower: £6.82

LCC – website service Apr – end August 16 :£90.00

2Commune – Set up costs for new website :£780.00

CPA Horticulture – Bark Infill for Playground (paid by Cllr Deacon)£189.00

Cameron Roofing - repairs to bus shelter (paid by Cllr Reseigh) - £180.00

Griffindale Printers (Swift Flash) Skateboard leaflets (Paid by Cllr Reseigh) - £28.00

Monthly Budget Report:

The Parish Council had spent approximately 41% of its Precept in the current financial year. This was noted.

Planning

New/Unresolved Planning Applications

16/00912/FUL Land adjacent to Smithy House, Main Road – erection of extensions and fence; installation of new window and demolition of outbuilding.

The Parish Council had no comments to make on this application.

Other/Ongoing Planning Matters

Open Spaces Consultation

Cllr Butcher had completed this consultation and returned it to HDC.

Claybrooke SRV Status

A meeting had been held on the 10th August between the Parish Council and Mr Stephen Pointer of HDC, in which all matters relating to the status of Claybrooke Magna as a Selected Rural Village were discussed. A Note of the meeting is attached to these Minutes.

Magna Park

Two further applications will come before the Planning Committee in October.

Correspondence

The Clerk produced items of correspondence, some of which were distributed amongst members. Emails from Trevor Dawes had been received querying whether the weeds in the playground could be cut back – Cllr Deacon said he would look at this with a view to carrying out strimming - and whether the gate to the playground could be repaired as it was off its hinges. Cllr Deacon confirmed that a new gatepost was needed and would have a word with John Allcoat regarding repairs.

A letter from Fields in Trust inviting the Council to nominate an area of land as a memorial to the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, was discussed but members felt there was not a suitable location in the village.

Parish Events

Cllr Lenihan said there was a race night event at the Village Hall on 7th September.

Christmas tree on Green

Members felt it was too late to arrange this for 2016 but would look at it favourably for next year.

Damaged pavement Main Road

This had been reported to LCC Highways who acknowledged the problem but were unable to carry out any repairs in the foreseeable future due to a lack of funding.

New Parish website

The Clerk and Cllr Reseigh would liaise re the training and other matters necessary to have the new website up and running.

Review of Parliamentary Constituencies

Cllr Page recommended that the PC respond in the same way as the last time when the boundaries were proposed to be moved to Daventry.

Speed Camera in Claybrooke

The Parish Council felt it was not committed to speed cameras in the village at present but the Clerk would seek further information from the Clerk to Bitteswell PC on their current investigations

Village Hall

Cllr Lenihan reported that the restoration of the rear of the property and the wall repairs would cost approximately £9000. Applications for grants normally require match funding and the Village Hall Committee may approach the Parish Council for further funding. Cllr Lenihan suggested this could be in the region of £2000. Members agreed to commit Parish Council funds to this even though the budget for Village Hall repairs for the current year has been almost exhausted. Cllr Butcher suggested approaching HDC's Community

Fund.

Playground

Annual Inspection

Clerk to enquire whether the annual inspection has been carried out by HDC, as requested.

Bark Infill

Cllr Deacon has now filled in the missing patches with infill, but estimated that there is a need for more bark to cover the whole area to create an even surface. Authority was given to Cllr Deacon to order the extra material and arrange for the work to be carried out.

Any Other Business

Cllr Lenihan requested that Mr Hollingworth, who carried out the work last year, be asked to trim the hedge around the Green. This was agreed . Cllr Lenihan would arrange for the work to be carried out.

The Chairman drew attention to the fact that opposite his house there is a piece of equipment belonging to the National Grid , fenced in with railings, where the gate is hanging off its hinges. He will investigate to see whether there is an identification mark to inform the authority and have the gate repaired. Matter deferred to next meeting.

Date of Next Meeting : 8th September 2016

The meeting concluded at 9.15 pm.

APPENDIX

Meeting 10 August 2016: Harborough District Council (HDC) and Claybrooke Magna Parish Council (CMPC) - Re Village SRV Status

Present: Councillor Rosita Page, Stephen Pointer, Nick Reseigh, Rob Deacon, Mike Lenihan, Jo-Ann Allcoat, Jan Butcher

Nick welcomed Stephen and thanked him for coming to the village to help resolve the outstanding SRV

issue. Both agreed the issue needed to be brought to a swift conclusion.

Stephen gave some background and context to planning policy and the settlement hierarchy framework. Nick and other council members explained CMPC's concerns about the potential designation of the village as an SRV in respect of not meeting the 2 of 6 key services criteria. The 800m walkable distance accessibility test was discussed in some detail. Rosita highlighted the question of non-compliance with due process and emphasised the need for a transparent audit trail for decision making. CMPC members and Rosita queried fairness in application of the 800m test and provided examples that appeared to indicate the test was not applied consistently across the district.

AP: Stephen to supply CMPC with documentation showing the analysis of all settlements across the district detailing the assessment of their proximity to key facilities (in order to provide assurance of the application of the 800m test).

CMPC members sought clarification of the 800m test in practice. Stephen confirmed it was applied as per Lesley Aspinall's email to Nick in January 2015 in that HDC consider services to be accessible if they are within 800m walkable distance of half the households in the village.

Nick advised that CMPC had very recently conducted a detailed measurement exercise to identify the precise number of houses within Claybrooke Magna that fall within 800m walkable distance of the school. The result was that only a third of the houses were in fact within the designated distance. Stephen agreed the potential designation of the village as an SRV would need to be reconsidered in light of this evidence.

AP: Nick to send Stephen the results of the measurement exercise to enable him to re-evaluate the option of Claybrooke Magna as a potential SRV.

Stephen confirmed Claybrooke Magna is not currently designated as an SRV and any planning applications would be assessed in that light. After some general discussion about planning application policies and section 106 funding, the meeting was closed by Nick thanking Stephen for engaging in positive and productive discussions on this important issue.

Note-taker: Jan Butcher

Addendum - Dwellings within 800m of the school gates:

Main Road: 21

Bell St: 32

Back Lane: 7

Roman Close: 14

This yields a total of 74 from a published dwelling count of 222, a 33% outcome.