

Minutes of the Little Horkesley Parish Council

meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 3 May 2017

Present: Steve Clarke (Chair),
Maria Oats,
Chris Exley,
Hannah Taylor,
Roger Drury (Clerk)

Apologies were received from Nigel Chapman (CBC Rural North)
No pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests were declared.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 April were approved as an accurate record.

2. Section 1 Annual Governance Statement 2016/17

The Council's Risk Analysis was agreed at a reasonable basis to assess potential risks faced by the Council going forward with the following amendments:

- Risk 8 to be amended to read other Assets *to include computer hardware/software* and under Action Taken */insurance cover*.
- Risk 12 Tripping or slipping Seriousness of Risk to be reduced to 3.

3. Annual Parish Meeting

The following Officers were elected for 2017/18:

Steve Clarke – Chair;

Maria Oats – Vice Chair;

Roger Drury – Clerk/RFO.

4. Clerk's Report

a. Superfast Essex

No further information on the Phase 3 rollout of broadband had been received but the Clerk will continue to monitor developments.

b. Playing field

The Playing field continued to look excellent but the RoSPA inspection in May would confirm action needed this summer.

The pile of grass cuttings was becoming a concern and would be monitored.

c. Roads/Verges

The Clerk confirmed that the three "protected lanes" in the village, Fishponds Hill, Workhouse Road and Holt Road, had retained their status after the review by ECC.

The repair of the signpost at the Beehive Xroads now had an ECC Job No. so action could be expected.

d. Footpath

Having failed to get any response from ECC on the state of road side and field footpath signs, the Clerk had completed a ECC Footpath Survey fully reporting the problem and lack of response.

e. Littlehorkesley.org.uk

It was reported that an application for £350, the amount allocated in the FY 2017/18 budget, to EALC for ongoing maintenance but they had demand clarification on the detailed costings.

The website had been fully updated with the Spring Farming Focus and all agenda/minutes and some 80 email addresses had logged in over the first six months.

f. Fire Hydrants

The Clerk had looked into the state of hydrants to the south of the village and discovered that there are no hydrants in Holt, Crabtree, Workhouse and Vinesse Roads. Nor are there any swimming pools or large ponds to provide an alternative water supply.

The Clerk would report the facts to Essex Fire Brigade.

5. Planning

a. Application No: 171000 Joscelyns, Water Lane, Little Horkesley

Noted the objection from the Parish Council and the increasing concern by the community at the developments on the site.

b. Application No:170962 Rose & Crown, Nayland Road, Great Horkesley

Agreed the minute in the meeting of 19 April although the Chair raised the concern that this was yet another village inn threatened if the use of the facilities as licenced premises were to be lost.

c. CBC Enforcement of planning decisions

The Chair reported on conversations with Laurence Mott over various planning issues which seemed to indicate a failure to liaise and work with CBC in preparing past/current planning applications.

The email from Cllr Nigel Chapman informing the Council that he had raised the issue of Thrift Farm Barns and Thrift Farm with CBC was noted and the Clerk requested to follow up before the next meeting.

6. Finance

a. The Clerk reported that the FY2017/18 audit papers were with the Internal Auditor, Gavin White, and the completed audit had to be returned by early June.

b. The expenditure of £387.07 to Came & Co for Parish Council insurance was approved. It was recognised an additional payment would probably be due as the purchase of playground rockers and computer hardware and software was not included in the estimate.

7. Correspondence

The DV&SV Project newsletter for March'17 was noted.

8. Items for the Next Agenda

..... (Steve Clarke – Chair)

..... (Date)

The Next Parish Council Meeting will be held at 1930 on Wednesday 21 June