

Heytesbury Imber & Knook Parish Council
Minutes
Tuesday 22nd October 2019 @ 7-15pm

Membership: Councillors L Morris (Chair) D Bond (Vice Chair), S Buttenshaw, E Colvin, T Eastman, P Fellowes, L Gould, D Hiscock, A Moore, A Perry and V Sturmeay.

Present: Councillors L Morris (Chair) D Bond (Vice Chair), S Buttenshaw, T Eastman, P Fellowes, L Gould, A Moore, A Perry and V Sturmeay.

Officers: Parks

Public and Press: 13 members of the public and no press.

PC/19/65 Apologies

Apologies received from Councillors Colvin and Hiscock.

PC/19/66 Minutes

PC/19/66.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 17th September 2019 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

PC/19/66.2

None

PC/19/67 Declarations of Interest

None

PC/19/68 Chairman's Announcements

"My husband and I had a planning appeal for a double garage recently refused by Wiltshire Council. A Wiltshire Times article last week, titled "No-go ahead for Heytesbury garage" was gloatingly posted on the Heytesbury Hub under the guise of an interesting news feed. An updated version of this article was posted on line at the Wiltshire Times by journalist John Baker. It was re-titled "No-go for Parish Chairs garage.

The inference is that somehow me being the Chair of the Parish Council is anyway relevant to our planning application.

It is not.

My husband and I put in a planning application for a double garage. I declared a pecuniary interest when it came to the Parish Council as a consultee. I left the room; I did not hear the debate or the vote. We followed all the usual procedures with Wiltshire Council planning, through to appeal, and we are disappointed to have the application turned down by Wiltshire Council. This is now a matter for us to decide how we take this forward.

This is a private matter, involving real people in this village, not a story, and this coverage has been an infringement. I have asked the journalist for an explanation and I am less than impressed with his justification.

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A combination of gutter press reporting by the Wiltshire Times and the ill-intended posting and promoting of this article by the editor and publisher of the Heytesbury Hub Facebook page, Councillor Sturmeay, is an exploitation of what is a private matter and is unacceptable.”

Standing Orders were suspended to allow for public participation at 7.20pm

PC/19/69 Public Participation

PC/19/69.1

Anthony Wilson – circulated a statement to comment on item 8.1 and 8.2 Parish Poll Results. He felt that this a last chance to strike a deal with the Sassoon Trustees to gain a maximum gain for the village and to secure a village hall and housing whilst saving the sports pitches. He set in motion the Parish Poll and he now supports the view that it is up to the Raymond Trust to work with the Sassoon Trust and experienced trustees should be appointed. The negotiation with the Sassoon Trust should be carried out by a sub-committee answerable to the Raymond Trust. Representatives to be appointed from various interested sections of the village.

Luke Woods – challenged the information given by A Wilson and wanted evidence. Felt that the cost of the Parish Poll, being 25% of the Parish Council budget, was a waste of money.

Peter Simcox – talked about the bad feeling in the village.

Giuseppe Wheeler – informed the Parish Council about the 5-year housing allocation plan and advised members that full development would come if the housing land supply could not be managed.

Peter Sides – spoke on his grant application for the Bonfire event. Last year was a washout and the event made £800 to keep in the pot for the start of this year. The grant would support the whole event and assist in continuing to hold reserves to cover all eventualities.

Rob Robson – Heytesbury & Sutton Veny Cricket Club – was disappointed by the continued use of the Cricket Club name in flyers that were being posted within the village. We have 56 members and 3 live in the village. We are there at the generosity of the Sassoon Trust and the ground has a history. We have remained quiet but stop using the Cricket Club as a pawn.

PC/19/69.2 None

Standing Orders were reinstated following public participation at 7.35pm

Members agreed to bring forward to two items discussed in Public Participation and the details of the Bonfire grant were discussed first but are recorded in the finance section.

PC/19/70 Parish Poll Results

PC/19/70.1 Next Steps Councillor Morris led the discussion and put forward a proposal.

“The result of the poll was very close. This is not a clear and overwhelming mandate of huge

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support from the Parish. Councillor Newbury indicated at the public meeting that projects, such as this, outside village boundaries, needed to have overwhelming total support – over 90% in Codford to get their development through planning.

The Sassoon Trustees have previously indicated they would need to see “an overwhelming clamour from the village” there was not last time and I don’t think the poll says that now.

However, the poll question has been carried. There was a majority, however marginal, and in the spirit of democracy and respecting the result of the poll **I propose:**

The Parish Council write to the Sassoon Trust inviting them to engage with the Parish Council with regard to their intentions for the land and any future planning proposals they may have. Seconded Councillor Perry.”

Councillor Fellowes felt that the Sassoon Trust will only negotiate if we put ideas forward.

Councillor Sturmeay said that a lot of people are concerned about the housing. “We have had a Housing Needs Survey and 11 houses are needed and identified. The referendum result is a small majority and we are now starting again from scratch. We need a better letter than sent previously and we need to work with them.”

Councillor Moore said that “we were due a response from the Sassoon Trust and maybe they don’t want to engage and may not believe it is a serious approach. We need an outsider to negotiate for us.”

Councillor Morris read out her proposal again and added that no letter would be sent to the Trustees, but brought back to the next meeting for debate and decision.

Voting in favour of the proposal was unanimous.

PC/19/70.2

Councillor Fellowes proposed: A subcommittee should be formed to try and establish where divisions exist, what the key blockers are and where there is ground for compromise to achieve consensus. This information can then be presented to a future Parish Council meeting for agreement or further work before a formal approach is made by the Parish Council to the Sassoon Trust or their advisors to initiate meaningful discussions and negotiations.

Seconded Councillor Sturmeay.

Councillor Fellowes spoke to the proposal and wanted to canvas everybody in the village on their views. There had been talk about a Village Hall committee in the past and could this be resurrected?

Generally, members felt that the previous proposal to write to the Sassoon Trust should take place first before any further decisions are made.

Voting in Favour 3. Against 5. Abstention 1. Proposal not carried. Members did outline that this proposal could come back at a future date for further debate and once contact had been established with the Sassoon Trust.

PC/19/71 Financial Information

PC/19/71.1 Payments for approval:

001294 £49.99 A Perry Web Hosting
001295 £80.93 H Parks Stamps
001296 £40.00 Acorn Trust Room Hire
001297 £238.28 idverde Ltd Sept Grounds Maintenance
001298 £115.80 Play Safety Ltd Rospa Inspection
001299 £134.14 H Parks Toner for Printer
001300 £274.57 H Parks October Payroll
001301 £68.60 H M Revenue & Customs

Councillor Buttenshaw proposed approval of all payments. Seconded Councillor Fellowes.
Voting unanimous in favour.

PC/19/71.2 Balances of the Bank Accounts for noting:

Treasurers Account £8602.36 Balance @ 30 September
Bus Instant Access £4194.00 Balance @ 9 September
Noted.

PC/19/71.3 Monthly financial report:

Members received the monthly report, and the monthly reconciliation for September 2019 was signed by Councillor Moore.

PC/19/71.4 Clerks Salary

Noted.

PC/19/71.5 Heytesbury Bonfire Committee – Grant request

This item was discussed straight after public participation and Councillor Gould proposed, Councillor Fellowes Seconded support for a grant of £250 towards this year’s event. Voting unanimous in favour.

PC/19/72 Planning Applications

PC/19/72.1 Applications received and for comment:

19/09694/TCA

Site: Harcourt, Mill Street, Heytesbury BA12 0EE

Proposal: - Sycamore - Crown thinning, crown lifting & crown reduction of 4 feet.

No Objection

PC/19/73 Outside Spaces Working Group (OSWG)

PC/19/73.1 Report from the OSWG – Members received the report from the meeting held on 1st October. There was a discussion on the provision of dog boxes and bags. This would be discussed at the next working group meeting.

PC/19/73.2 Recommendations from Report – It was proposed by Councillor Sturmeay and Seconded by Councillor Fellowes that thank you letters x 2 be prepared, with full details supplied to the Clerk to enable these to be sent.

Purchase 1 Gallon of clear wood varnish and apply for a Section 96 Licence on the area of land opposite St Johns. Voting unanimous in favour.

PC/19/73.3 Rospa Safety Inspection Report

Members were pleased with the report and only minor works required. A great deal of attention had been given to the equipment over the last 12 months. No further decisions made.

PC/19/73.4 Grass Cutting Park Street/Mantles Lane

Members decided not to make any changes to the grass cutting schedule. The request was noted.

PC/19/74 Chitterne Junction and A36

Noted

PC/19/75 Flood Workshop

Noted

PC/19/76 VE Day

Councillor Perry announced that the PCC are planning to organise an event, the plans are in their infancy but a service is to be held in the church, and refreshments in the form of a hog roast are being considered. Tickets to be sold to fund. The feeling is with residents that this should be a celebration.

Noted.

PC/19/77 Items for a press release or statement from the Parish Council.

None

PC/19/78 Correspondence Issued to members 10.09.2019 – 14.10.2019.

Noted

Meeting closed at 8.21pm

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