

HOCKLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 13th December 2006, at Hockley Heath Pavilion. The meeting commenced at 7.30 p.m.

Present:-

Cllr R Holt
Cllr B Brown
Cllr P Bulcock
Cllr B Lintern
Cllr M McCarthy
Cllr J Potts
Cllr P Kennard
Cllr A Thompson
Cllr A Vine

Chairman

Mrs D Weir

Clerk

Members of the public 2

Public Forum

No issues were raised.

Minute 159/2006 - Declarations of Interest

Cllr Brown declared an interest as a member of Cheswick Green Residents Association under the Code of Conduct in respect of the Agenda Item: Provision of Recreational Facilities

Cllr Holt declared an interest under the Code of Conduct in respect of the Agenda Item: Land adjoining Cheswick Green Surgery – Potholes.

Apologies received from : Cllr Pettinger who had undergone an operation, Cllr Skelding due to a prior engagement and from Cllrs Robinson and Arfan.

The **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 15th November 2006** had been circulated.
IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Minutes be approved.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Minute 167/2005 - Dickens Heath Youth Club – Agreement

Members noted that the Borough Council's Youth Team were to make enquiries with Borough Council's Legal Department with regard to progress of the draft Service Level Agreement for Dickens Heath Youth Club.

Minute 157/2006 - Dickens Heath Village – Ambulance Service

Members noted a copy of a letter from West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust to Caroline Spelman MP in response to the complaint advising that once the Ambulance Service receive notification of new addresses, in future, they will have appropriate policies and practices in place to ensure updates are constantly maintained.

Minute 142/2006 - Management of Village Halls – Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 – Seminar

Management Committee Representatives were asked to confirm that Management Committees had been advised of the date of the seminar to be held on Saturday, 13th January 2007 at Hockley Heath Pavilion and also to confirm numbers of Management Committee members attending. Cllr Kennard requested the seminar commence at 9.30 am and the Clerk advised she would see if this could be arranged.

Minute 145/2006 - Hockley Heath Pavilion – Request for consent for installation of CCTV

The Clerk reminded members of the need to arrange a Working Party Meeting to consider policy and procedure for CCTV and members requested the Clerk make enquiries with Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council to see if an Officer could attend a Working Party Meeting to advise on CCTV.

Minute 90/2006 - Parish Council/West Midlands Police – Agreement to fund Police Community Support Officer

Members noted there were no further developments.

Minute 148/2006 - Solihull Primary Care Trust – Application for a 100 hour Exempt NHS Pharmaceutical Contract at Tesco Extra, 1505 Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull

Members noted receipt of responses from Solihull Primary Care Trust.

Minute 159/2006 - West Midlands Police Authority – Consultative Meetings

Members noted advice from West Midlands Police that the consultation review undertaken by the Police Authority is almost complete and an event would be organised in the new year in order to feedback the findings of the consultation exercise and to get further views on policing priorities in Solihull.

Minute 160/2006 - Provision of Recreational facilities

The Clerk advised that she had obtained a quotation to replace benches at Cheswick Green Recreation Ground. A complaint had been received that these benches were on a slope and unsafe.

The Clerk had also obtained a quotation for provision of picnic tables/benches which would be suitable for disabled users that could be located at each of the villages within the parish, for consideration by the members.

A quotation had been received for the provision of a replacement multi play area at Cheswick Green and a trim track for Dickens Heath.

The Clerk explained that with regard to Dickens Heath the siting and installation would require the approval of Dickens Heath Management Company. She also advised that with regard to possible siting of a bench and picnic table at Tidbury Green, this would be subject to the provisions of the Lease of the Village Hall from Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council and possible consent of the Borough Council.

The Clerk advised that funds had been allocated in the budget for provision of recreational facilities.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that a) the Clerk contact Dickens Heath Management Company for consent for recreational facilities to be provided at Dickens Heath Village Green funded by the Parish Council and b) a Working Party Meeting be arranged to consider the quotations for recreational facilities at each village, an invitation to be extended to the respective Residents Associations.

Minute 161/2006 - Noticeboards for Cheswick Green

Members considered a complaint from Cheswick Green Residents Association regarding the condition of the two noticeboards at Cheswick Green.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Clerk obtain a quotation for repair of the noticeboards.

Minute 124/2004 - Proposed Motorway Service Area at Jctn 4 M42 Monkspath

Members considered a letter from Stansgate Planning Consultants dated 11th December 2006 giving an update on the Pre Inquiry Meeting which took place on the 27th November 2006, and noted the advice contained in the letter and details of the Programme Officer appointed to run the inquiry.

Members noted that the letter drafted by the Vice Chairman had been approved by the Planning Consultant and the cost of circulation of the letter (approved previously) which included folding of the document to be enveloped and 2nd class postage would be £994.00 with printing costs of £122.50.

The Chairman drew to member's attention the email from Dickens Heath Community Association.

Minute 162/2005 - Wood Lane Allotments – update

a) Wood Lane Allotments

The Clerk reported that she had met with the Supervising Officer and the Borough Council's Enforcement Officer at Wood Lane Allotments to look at the work which had now been finalised. The Supervising Officer had requested the contractor return to undertake some minor work and this had been carried out.

The uneven ground between the new allotments and the bund would be graded when ground conditions permit (the ground was currently waterlogged) and the Contractor was to put a final finish on the land between the additional allotments and the bund when weather permits which may not be until Spring 2007.

The Supervising Officer advised that the Contractor has a single season's liability for replacing any plants that die and from November 30th 2007 this would be the Allotments Society's responsibility. Members noted that this liability would last a further 4 years from November 30th 2007, terminating November 30th 2011 and that this was a condition of the planning consent.

The Council's Enforcement Officer had raised the issue of drainage in the planning consent and the Supervising Officer had sent the Enforcement Officer a further copy of the letter dated 23rd March 2006 from British Waterways stating that no drainage is required

b) Dickens Heath Road Allotments

Members noted the contents of an email sent by the Clerk to Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council with regard to Dickens Heath Road Allotments.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the contents of the email be noted and the Clerk report back when further information is available.

Minute 163/2006 - Society of Local Council Clerks – Subscription

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the annual subscription in the sum of £135 per annum be renewed.

Minute 164/2006 – Land adjoining Cheswick Green Surgery – Potholes

"Members noted the contents of a letter dated 8th December 2006 from the Clerk to the Parish Council's Solicitor requesting advice regarding a letter received from Standley & Co on behalf of Dr Leese

The Chairman read an email to members dated 13th December 2006 from the Parish Council's Solicitor advising that his advice would be for him to write to Dr Leese's Solicitor advising that the Parish Council propose to invoke the arbitration clause.

Cllr Kennard proposed the Parish Council's Solicitor write to the freeholder advising him that the access drive needs resurfacing and advising that the Parish Council would undertake to do the repairs and would pay 50%.

The Clerk advised members they should consider the advice of the Parish Council's Solicitor and

of future liability on the Parish Council if it undertook the repairs.

The Chairman suggested members may wish to consider the Parish Council's Solicitor writing to the Freeholder advising that the condition of the access drive was a breach of the Environment Protection Act.

The Chairman therefore proposed the Parish Council write to the Parish Council's Solicitor advising that the Parish Council was minded to get the access drive resurfaced with the Parish Council contributing 50% of the total cost thereof and with the doctor's contribution to be defrayed with other freeholders/shopkeepers

The Clerk advised the Council to have regard to the advice of the Parish Council's Solicitor to invoke the provision relating to arbitration.

The Chairman considered that there were public health and safety issues and the work could be undertaken 'without prejudice' and the doctor requested to pursue the cost of this against the other freeholders/shopkeepers.

Cllr Potts proposed an amendment that the Parish Council should refer the matter to arbitration in accordance with the advice of the Parish Council's Solicitor before the Parish Council determine whether or not to carry out the work and certainly to take advice before it makes a further decision.

The amendment as proposed by Cllr Potts was put to the meeting and was, on a show of hands 3-3.

Cllr Lintern stated she was unsure what she had voted for.
Cllr Thompson returned to the meeting.

The Chairman outlined the amendment.
The amendment as proposed by Cllr Potts was put to the meeting and was, on a show of hands 4-3 against. The amendment fell.

Further discussion on the proposal continued.

Minute 165/2006 - Parish Precept 2007/2008

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that a Working Party comprising of all members be established to consider prospective expenditure, to meet on Wednesday, 31st January 2007 at Cheswick Green Village Hall.

Minute 166/2006 - Village Hall Website

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the proposal for village hall websites as detailed by the Clerk be approved. The Parish Council to meet the costs incurred by Ian Sill be met for undertaking the work and for the payment of the registration fees for the domain names.

Minute 167/2006 - Representatives Reports

- a) Cllr Kennard informed members that interviews were taking place for a new Headteacher for Tidbury Green School.
- b) Cllr Lintern advised that graffiti on the cable boxes in Cheswick Green had been removed.

Minute 168/2006 – Any Other Business

Members noted that Tidbury Green Residents Association proposed to hold a community carol service.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 9.45 p.m.