

HOCKLEY HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 18th July 2007 at Cheswick Green Village Hall

Present:-

Cllr R Holt	Chairman
Cllr B Brown	Vice Chairman
Cllr V Arfan	
Cllr P Kennard	
Cllr B Lintern	
Cllr M McCarthy	
Cllr M Pettinger	
Cllr C Robinson	
Cllr A Thompson	
Cllr T Hodgson	
Cllr P Seddon	
Cllr D Skelding	

Mrs D Weir	Clerk
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There were no members of the public present and the Chairman opened the meeting with the published agenda.

Minute 99/2007 - Declarations of Interest

Cllr Seddon declared an interest under the Code of Conduct in respect of Agenda Item 18)
Tidbury Green Residents Association – Request for Donation – Xmas Dinner
Cllr Kennard declared an interest under the Code of Conduct in respect of Agenda Item 18)
Tidbury Green Residents Association – Request for Donation – Xmas Dinner
Cllr Thompson declared an interest under the Code of Conduct in respect of Agenda Item 14)
Dickens Heath Community Association – Request for Donation – Social events
Cllr Holt declared an interest under the Code of Conduct in respect of Agenda Item 14)
Dickens Heath Community Association – Request for Donation – Social events

Apologies received and accepted from :- Cllr Vine due to business commitments. Cllr Kennard tendered apologies for being late as had been to visit his wife who was in hospital following an operation.

Public Forum

PCSO Shale and PC Harrison were in attendance at the meeting and introduced themselves to members. PCSO Shale outlined various issues recently dealt with in the parish

The **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 20th June 2007** had been circulated.
IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Minutes be approved.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Minute 132/2006 - Proposed junction at Haresfield/Brixfield Way, Dickens Heath

Cllr Thompson updated members on advice she had received about the Borough Council's Technical approval for the contract for the proposed junction at Haresfield/Brixfield Way and also with regard to an independent survey about alternative proposals for the junction.

The Clerk advised that she understood from the Borough Council's Highways Officer that an alternative solution was being progressed by Redrow Homes which entailed creating a shared footway and vehicle area off the main highway for vehicles to turn into without affecting traffic,

but that as it was a private road it was down to the developer to consult with residents and for any proposal to be put to the Borough Council for it to approve as Highway Authority.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Clerk request the Borough Council arrange a meeting between the Consortium, the Borough Council and the Parish Council regarding the proposed junction at Haresfield/Brixfield Way, Dickens Heath due to the lack of consultation over the proposals with residents and the Parish Council.

Minute 156/2006 – Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council - People sleeping rough in Solihull

Members noted the contents of a letter received from Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council dated 13th July 2007 regarding people sleeping rough in Solihull and advising that a count would be undertaken on the 27th July 2007 between the hours of 1am and 5am of areas where it was indicated that there may be more than 10 rough sleepers residing in a particular Local Authority area in accordance with government guidelines.

Minute 2/2007 - Dickens Heath Youth Club – Storage facilities

Cllr Skelding reported to members that he understood that quotations were being obtained for storage facilities at Dickens Heath Community Hall.

Minute 100/2007 - Adoption of Code of Conduct – Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007

The Chairman reported receipt of a letter dated 3rd July 2007 from the Borough Solicitor outlining the Standards Committee's recommendation that Parish and Town Council's should adopt the code in the mandatory form and also consider inclusion of paragraph 12(2) of the Model Code which was optional. Members also considered an email from NALC regarding the new Code and recommending the Parish Council deferred adopting the new Code until further guidance was available.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that this item be deferred to the September Meeting for consideration. The Borough Solicitor to be invited to attend a Parish Council Meeting to discuss the Code of Conduct.

Minute 101/2007 - Declarations of Acceptance of Office – New Code

Members considered email advice from NALC indicating that advice was to be taken regarding the New Code of Office and suggesting the Parish Council defer acceptance of the New Code pending receipt of that advice from NALC.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that this item be deferred to the September Meeting for consideration.

Minute 102/2007 - Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council – Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places - (Parliamentary Elections) Regulations 2006

Members considered a letter dated 9th July 2007 from the Borough Council's Democratic Services Manager advising that the Borough Council was undertaking a review of the polling districts and polling stations in the Borough of Solihull and views were invited from local residents, local political parties, councillors and community groups and from those with specialist knowledge and interest in issues around accessibility such as disability groups.

Representations were requested by 31st August 2007 and following receipt of responses, the Returning Officer would make formal recommendations to the Council and the Council's final decisions on the review would be made in the Autumn prior to publication of the new electoral register on 1st December 2007.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the contents of the letter be noted.

Minute 103/2007 - Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council – Public Path Division Orders

Members noted the following correspondence received regarding proposed Public Path Diversion Orders:-

(SL75 (Part) Earlswood)

A letter from Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council dated 26th June 2007 enclosing a copy of the Order together with a copy of the Notice of Making and advising that any objections or representations to the proposed Order should be submitted by 3rd August 2007.

(SL78 Blythe Valley Park)

A letter from Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council dated 25th June 2007 enclosing a copy of the Order together with a copy of the Notice of Making and advising that any objections or representations to the proposed Order should be submitted by 27th July

(SL79 Blythe Valley Park)

A letter from Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council dated 25th June enclosing a copy of the Order together with a copy of the Notice of Making and advising that any objections or representations to the proposed Order should be submitted by 27th July 2007

Minute 104/2007 - Solihull Area Committee – Meeting 6th September 2007

Members noted receipt of a letter dated 3rd July 2007 from Solihull Area Committee enclosing Notice of next meeting of the Committee together with a copy of the Minutes of the meeting held on 7th June 2007.

Minute 105/2007 - Parish Council's Standing Orders – Amendment

Members considered an amendment to the Parish Council's Standing Orders to give members of the public the same rights as members would have under paragraph 12 (2) of the Code of Conduct should the Code of Conduct be adopted with the inclusion of paragraph 12 (2) as outlined in the Guidance Note from WALC dated May 2007

Members also considered email advice from NALC advising that the Council consider deferring adoption of the Code until the September Meeting by which time guidance would be available from NALC regarding the application and effects of paragraph 12 (2).

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that this item be deferred to the September Meeting for consideration.

Minute 4/2006 Hockley Heath Village – Replacement noticeboard

Members noted email correspondence dated 10th July 2007 regarding the request by Monkspath Rotary Club to replace the Parish Council's double sided noticeboard at Hockley Heath with two noticeboards 40" x 30" in aluminium which will fit the posts outside the post office in Hockley Heath. It had been confirmed that the sign which was attached to the posts would be re attached. The Clerk advised that if the Parish Council wished the noticeboard to be replaced she would notify Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council of the proposed work as the noticeboard was on highway land.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Parish Council accept the offer by Monkspath Rotary Club to replace the Parish Council's double sided noticeboard at Hockley Heath with two aluminium noticeboards 40" x 30" to fit the existing posts outside the Post Office at Hockley Heath.

Minute 107/2007 - Bus Shelter – Dickens Heath

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Clerk be authorised to make enquiries to ascertain if consent was likely to be given for a bus shelter to be erected in Dickens Heath.

Minute 108/2007 - Dickens Heath Community Association – Request for Donation – Social events

Members considered a request from Dickens Heath Community Association for a contribution towards its forthcoming community events, the 'Picnic on the Green' and the summer fete to offset the costs of organising the events.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that a) the Parish Council donate the sum of £250 for each community event to Dickens Heath Community Association, totalling £500 in accordance with the provisions of Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 and b) the Clerk to man a parish council stall at the summer fete on the 8th September and c) that a budget of £500 be allocated for any material required to be provided for the stall.

Minute 109/2007 - Appraisal arrangements

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the Clerk write to Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council to see if it would be prepared to assist in the Clerk's appraisal.

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

Members noted receipt of a letter from Stansgate Planning Consultants dated 19th June 2007 enclosing a copy of the Minutes of the fifth Pre-Inquiry Meeting which they had attended on the 11th June 2007.

The pre-inquiry meeting had been called to establish a new timetable for the Public Inquiry and the Planning Inspector had set a further deadline of 28th September for the finalisation of all highways and environmental information and members noted that the Inquiry itself would now start on 12th February 2008 and would sit continuously until finishing on 20 March 2008.

The Inspector had requested all written representations to be submitted by 30th November 2007.

Minute 110/207 – Tree Surgery – Cheswick Green

The Clerk advised that she had received a request for the trees on land adjoining 64 Saxonwood Road to be inspected as there were broken trees blocking the footpath. She had asked the Parish Council's tree surgeon to inspect the trees and to provide a quotation for remedial works required to the trees and also work required to broken trees on land adjoining Saxonwood Road.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that the quotation from Mousley & Son for tree surgery on land at the side of 64 Saxonwood Road, Cheswick Green in the sum of £290 plus VAT be accepted together with an interim invoice in the sum of £3,395.75 for tree surgery at Hockley Heath Recreation Ground be approved for payment.

Minute 111/2007 - Tidbury Green Residents Association – Request for Donation – Xmas Dinner

Members considered a request from Cllr Seddon in his capacity as Chairman of Tidbury Green Residents Association requesting a donation of £500 towards the cost of Tidbury Green Over 60's Christmas lunch. Invitations were to be limited to 50 and the event was to be supported by the Association with attendees to make a nominal contribution of approximately £3.00 with under age spouses/partners to pay the full cost.

IT WAS RESOLVED:- that a) the Parish Council donate the sum of £500 to Tidbury Green Residents Association for the Tidbury Green over 60's Christmas lunch in accordance with the provisions of Section 137 Local Government Act 1972.

Minute 112/2007 - Any Other Business

Members raised various issues including provision of a replacement lock for Wood Lane Allotments, the position regarding the 'No Ball Games' sign for Cheswick Green Village Hall, and graffiti on the boards boarding up Rose Cottage, Tanworth Lane, Cheswick Green and problems with parked vehicles along Salter Street, outside St Patricks C of E School, Salter Street, Earlswood.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 10.10 p.m.