



# Hedgerley Parish Council

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2018 8.15 pm in the Memorial Hall, Hedgerley

Chairman indicated emergency exits.

In attendance: Cllr. Thomas Broom (TB), Cllr. Derek Baker (DB), Cllr. Maurice Ridgeley (MER), Cllr. Neil Coxhead (NC) and the Clerk

Present: two members of the public

Apologies for absence – Cllr. Marcus Orchard (MO), Cllr. Barbara Gibbs (BCC)

Not present - Cllr. Marlene Lewis (SBDC)

### 1. To approve Minutes of Meeting dated 16<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Minutes were approved as a true record, and signed

### 2. County Councillor

BG sent apologies and provided a written report.

In this short update there is reference to the LGA conference I attended last week where the burning issue which was exercising the delegates country wide was funding and how to pay for local government's statutory responsibilities within the context of diminishing monies coming from central government. The conference was also an opportunity to meet other councillors and discuss common problems.

Firstly the funding for Child social care is already an issue here in Buckinghamshire in the current financial year. There continues to be an increasing need for children to be looked after by the County. There is also a shortage of people coming forward to take on the responsibility of foster care. At the LGA conference it was pointed out to James Brokenshire (cabinet minister local government) and to other MPs who spoke to us that the present funding regime for both child and adult social care was unsustainable. He, James Brokenshire, listened politely but was as you would expect non committal.

Providing adequately for adult and child social care remains a huge problem which in my opinion needs a paradigm shift in thinking about how it should be tackled. There is a need to find a way to encourage (educate) communities to become more resilient. People need to be helped to become more self confident and more capable and therefore able to look after themselves for longer. If this doesn't happen it is difficult to see how there can be a sustainable model for care going forward. By continuing to provide more and more many additional people will be tipped over into dependency. Enabling as many people as possible to be independent for longer and therefore live richer more fulfilled lives must surely be the aim.

Secondly the other issue which is still on the table is that of modernising local government. There is no news as yet indicating whether Sajid Javid's "minded to" (with reference to having a single unitary) statement is to be the way forward or whether it will be two unitaries one based in the South of the County and one in the North. The results of the polling that has been done is that only one third of residents county wide want a single

unitary. The majority feeling appears to be that local government should be "local". James Brokenshire was asked but as again one would expect he was non committal.

Lastly if there are any other groups who are working to encourage healthy living in the area and who need a little financial help they can still bid for what remains of the community fund for 2018 which has been allocated. There is, as always, a form to fill in which I will send. The bid needs to be specific in terms of aims and expected outcomes and also precise giving expected costs for any equipment not approximate amounts. To be considered for funding the outcomes should be for community benefit going forward not just for individual benefit.

### 3. District Councillor

ML did not attend.

### 4. County Council Matters

Complaint regarding speeding in the 'narrows' (Village Lane)

Clerk had had a complaint about the 'narrows'. The complainant said she was involved in an altercation with another driver and asked what we intended to do about the lane. Clerk did explain that unless there had been several instances of Police involvement with accidents happening in that part of the lane, then there is nothing that could be done.

### 5. Clerks Information Items

- Information board for Community Orchard, update  
Clerk had been in touch with the design company who said that there was very little on the internet that wasn't in copyright.  
Clerk suggested waiting for the fruit to grow and take photographs of the apples on site. MER suggested taking photos at this time, then in September. He was concerned that with this continued dry weather, the fruit would show earlier than normal.
- Complaint about the evidence of lots of litter on Hedgerley Lane, now the verges have been cut.  
A resident of Wapseys Lane had cleared up two sackfuls of litter (Councillors sent their thanks) and wanted to know who is responsible for keeping it clear.  
Clerk to speak to SBDC and possibly the management of the MSA.
- Event on the Green – update  
Even though the Clerk had sent him the conditions required before the event could be approved, she had not received a reply, nor had she received a response from a reminder email before this last meeting. Councillors said that Clerk should send the conditions again, asking for confirmation of receipt. NC said that time was getting on if it was to be August Bank Holiday Monday, so we would have to hear back very soon.

### 6. Finance

To note report. Report noted, cheques signed.

Bank reconciliation 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. TB signed

### 7. Planning

There had been no new applications for this month. TB noted that work had commenced on the MSA extension.

## 8. Hedgerley Magazine

There had been no response from the noticeboards, website or FB page, Tom Webb said that they had spoken with someone who had moved into the new cottage at the bottom of Kiln Lane. She was a graphic designer and was willing to help. Tom Webb offered to hold a meeting at his house to discuss the way forward. He also said it should be kept reasonably simple in design, rather than how it had been previously.

MER asked if HPC were happy to fund it as they did in past times. He suggested the PCC be asked for their support as well. NC suggested the first publication be a temporary cover and decide on something more permanent for the further publication.

## 9. Property

- Proposal for extra parking spaces at top of Holt  
MER had met with ML. He said after seeing the revised plan from Rob Grazebrook, where the parking areas would be straight instead of herringbone, it made more sense. Councillors agreed there would be no further need for discussion or any action on this as it is not a Parish Council matter.
- Gatepost at bottom of the Holt.  
After considering the options, it was agreed that the remaining gate and post be removed completely. MER will meet with Ben Harris to discuss what was needed to tidy up around the bottom of the Holt.
- Flooding at the Holt  
Clerk had spoken with John Thackeray, the LAT from Highways Dept, BCC. He has been in touch with the Rights of Way Officer to see if they can identify the ownership of the bridlepath at the top of the Holt. Clerk to ask him if he can put forward any suggestions for some form of remedial work to prevent the debris being washed straight down the Holt.

## 10. Slade Farm – update

TB said he will be speaking with Andy Clark about setting up a meeting with PCs to discuss what might be done for the village, prior to a public meeting on this. He hoped it would be next week some time.

## 11. Meetings

To report on – SBALC 7<sup>th</sup> June

Clerk attended. Several of the Members present had voiced their disappointment at the poor quality of the Planning Department and considered they were not providing a good service.

## 12. Date of next meeting

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September**, Memorial Hall, 8.15pm.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm