

HELIONS BUMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on

Monday 14th March 2016

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

NAME	POSITION	PRESENT
C. Baker	Chairman	Yes
J. Catchesides	Parish Councillor	Yes
S. Kehr	Parish Councillor	Yes
A.Meldrum	Parish Councillor	Yes
N. Nicholson	Parish Councillor	Yes
P. Richardson	Parish Councillor	No
L. West	Parish Councillor	No
R. Bolton	District Councillor	No
D. Finch	County Councillor	No
T. Evans	Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer	Yes

Mr. and Mrs. McKenna and Mr. Istance attended the meeting as members of the public.

The Chair welcomed everyone present at the meeting, which commenced at 7:30pm.

33/16 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs. Richardson, West, Bolton, Finch

34/16 Members' declarations of interests

None.

35/16 Public forum

Mr. Istance asked about the general tidy up of the wooded area behind the Children's Play Area and whether the selected contractor would take care not to remove any dens that had been built by children.

Mr. Istance also enquired as to the timing of the repairs to the Children's Play Area. Mr. Istance was informed that this would be discussed later in the meeting as part of Agenda item number 10.

Mr. McKenna informed the Council that Footpaths 7 and 10 in the Drapers Lane area were currently blocked. The Chairman thanked Mr. McKenna and said that this would be addressed by the Council although Public Footpaths were the responsibility of Essex County Council Highways.

Mr. McKenna stated that minute 30/16 of the previous meeting was inaccurate since the Clerk would have received an email from the Information Commissioner's Office. The Clerk replied that he had not received any such email from the ICO.

36/16 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8th February 2016

The minutes were **approved** as a correct record of the Council Meeting held on 8th February 2016 and were signed by the Chairman.

37/16 Election of Vice-Chairman

Cllr. Catchesides proposed Cllr. Nicholson as Vice-Chairman and this was seconded by Cllr. Baker. There being no other nominations the Council unanimously agreed that Cllr. Nicholson be elected as Vice-Chairman.

38/16 Braintree District Council Local Plan 2033

Following a summary of the background to BDC's Local Plan 2033 the Council considered the latest proposals for development and **agreed** the following comments in response.

HELI 323 Land r/o Krikseys, Haverhill Road, Steeple Bumpstead

The Council objected to any development of this site as there would be no access.

HELI 324 Land between Slate Hall & Chestnut Lodge, Haverhill Road, Steeple Bumpstead

The Council would support any development of this site solely for light commercial use but would object to any housing development.

HELI 325 Land between Hilltop Villa & Allemagne Pale Green

My Council has no objections to the development of this site and would like it to be included inside the village envelope.

HELI 326 North of Chestnut Lodge, Pale Green, Helions Bumpstead

The Council would support the allocation of this site for allotments but would object to it being developed.

HELI 327 Adjacent & South West of Chestnut Lodge Pale Green Helions Bumpstead

The Council would have no objections to the development of this site.

HELI 328 Land between Haven Cottage & water tower, Pale Green, Helions Bumpstead

The Council would have no objections to the development of this site.

HELI 329 between Breton Cottage & Mill Cottage, Mill Road, Helions Bumpstead

The Council would not support the allocation of this site for development because the site is considered to be too large and, if fully developed, would adversely change the nature of the village.

HELI 330 Land adj. Timbers, Pale Green, Helions Bumpstead

The Council had no objections to the development of this site. It recommended the extension of the village envelope to include this site and land extending from this site to HELI 325.

39/16 Work on trees behind Village Hall

Cllr. Catchesides summarise the need to carry out work on trees behind the Children's Play Area. An estimate of £530 had been received from a contractor. The cost of the work to be taken from General Reserves. Proposed Cllr. Catchesides. Seconded Cllr. Kehr. **Unanimously agreed.** The contractor would be instructed by Cllr. Catchesides to carry out the work.

40/16 Possible development in neighbouring parishes

Cllr. Baker reported that he had recently attended a public meeting in Steeple Bumpstead concerning a planning application to build 95 dwellings. He believed this would result in a 15% increase in the population of Steeple Bumpstead resulting in an increase of traffic through Helions Bumpstead. To be included on next meeting's agenda.

41/16 HM Queen's birthday

Cllr. Catchesides suggested the Council could arrange for a locally made birthday card to be sent to Her Majesty from the village. The Council **agreed** that Cllr. Catchesides make the necessary arrangements for the card to be made.

42/16 Volunteering requests

Cllr. Nicholson reported that Parish Safety Volunteers had been requested by Essex Fire Brigade to give advice to householders. It was **agreed** that Cllr. Nicholson would respond to EFB's request and suggest placing an advertisement in the Village Magazine. Cllr Catchesides suggested that this could be done subject to providing sufficient notice to householders as to when the volunteers would be visiting homes in the Village.

The Council **agreed** to produce and distribute leaflets requesting Community Speed Watch volunteers.

43/16 Loss of bus service to Braintree

Cllr. Baker reported that he had recently attended a local transport consultation meeting in Braintree with Mr. Moore. The local No. 23 shopper bus service to Braintree each Wednesday would be replaced by a dial-a-ride service. The service would operate 6 days per week and would commence in April 2016.

44/16 Speeding in the Village

Cllr. Baker reported that there was no 30mph repeater sign going up the Church Hill and Cllr. Catchesides reported that the priority sign that the crossroads needs changing.

Following Cllr. Baker's suggestion it was **agreed** that a competition be announced for local children to design road signs to encourage drivers to drive within the speed limits.

Action: C. Baker to place an advertisement in the Village Magazine to publicise competition.

45/16 Repairs to the Children's Playground

Cllr. Kehr proposed that the works in the Children's Play Area be carried out by the recommended contractor at £1556 to include the removal of the boundary barrier. Seconded by Cllr. Baker.
Unanimously agreed.

46/16 Registration of Village Hall and Recreation Ground Land

In his absence Cllr. Richardson had reported that limited progress had been made with the land registration.

47/16 Footpath Diversion Scheme

The Council **agreed** that a Working Party comprising Cllr. Nicholson and Cllr. Catchsides would draft a submission to the public hearing and to confirm the selection of the Council's representative at the hearing.

48/16 District Councillor's report

None in Cllr. Bolton's absence.

49/16 Clerk's report

The Clerk confirmed that he was not eligible for automatic enrolment in a pension scheme as his monthly earnings fall below £833 per month or £192 per week.
The Council will be required to make a declaration to confirm this within 5 months.

The date for the Annual Parish Assembly has been confirmed as 29th April.

50/16 Finance Report and Approval of Payments

Copies of the Financial Report, bank statement and payments list were distributed to Members prior to the meeting. The Clerk reported that the Administration budget had been overspent by £189. The laptop rental company had once again taken £16.90 from the Council's account without authorisation but this amount had then been credited back into the account. Previous unauthorised payments still needed to be credited into the Council's account.

The Village Magazine printers had very kindly decided to provide last year's printing services for free and so the Clerk would cancel the existing unrepresented cheque.

PAYMENTS

<u>Cheque No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
101513	14th March 2016	Clerk's Salary	£205.22
101514	14th March 2016	Road Gritting	£154.86
101515	14th March 2016	Street Cleaning	£65.00
101516	14th March 2016	VAT on legal advice	£75.60
101517	14th March 2016	Clerk's Expenses	£25.00

The Council unanimously approved these payments.

51/16 Items for information and inclusion on next meeting's agenda

Cllr. Meldrum reported that the Planning Inspector's visit to the pub took place on March 1st and a decision would be announced 6 to 8 weeks from the visit. The Pop Up pub event would take place on April 30th.

Cllr. Nicholson requested "Emergency Page" as published in the Village Magazine to be added as an agenda item at the next meeting.

Cllr. Baker requested "File sharing" to be added as an agenda item at the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 9:45pm.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

Cllr. C. Baker
Chairman

For further information regarding these minutes, please contact:

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