

# HELIONS BUMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2017

### RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

NAME	POSITION	PRESENT
Jane Catchesides	Chair	Yes
Sue Kehr	Vice-Chair	Yes
Neville Nicholson	Parish Councillor	Yes
Judy Howard	Parish Councillor	Yes
Sue Cunningham	Parish Councillor	Yes
Chris Brown	Parish Councillor	Yes
Diana Garrod	District Councillor	No
David Finch	County Councillor	No
Cathryn Carlisle	Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer	Yes
Members of the public	Martin Catchesides for Superfast Broadband Update, and Mark Istance	2

#### 17/150 Members' declarations of interests

Cllr Catchesides, Cllr Kehr: Members of VHMC

Cllr Nicholson: Three Horseshoes

#### 17/151 Apologies for Absence

Were received from Cllrs Finch and Garrod

#### 17/152 Public forum

A member of the public mentioned that the grass at the play area, was looking in need of some attention at the weekend, it has since been cut. The Clerk mentioned that at the start of the season it was agreed that the grass be cut every 2 weeks. Cllr Catchesides had mentioned it to Malcom Cox last week. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Mr Cox.

17/153 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017 were amended and signed as a true record of the meeting.

#### 17/154 Finance Report

##### Payments

17/154.1	£252.72	Cathryn Carlisle	Clerks Salary	101581
17/154.2	£41.66	E-on	Lighting	D/D
17/154.3	£37.65	BT	Telephone	D/D
17/154.4	£19.99	Cathryn Carlisle	Expenses	101582
17/154.5	£1230.26	Hibbs and Walsh	VH	101585
17/154.5	£294.00	Cambridge Asbestos	VH	101583
17/154.8	£80.00	EALC	Training	101584
17/154.9	£399.00	Cathryn Carlisle	New Computer	101586
17/154.10	£91.25	Bird Table Gardening	Planters	101588
17/154.11	£961.00	Country Gardens	Play Equipment	101587
17/154.12	£75.00	EALC	Training	101588

17/154.13 £65.00 Chris Instance Maintenance 101589  
Payments were approved by all members of the council present. Cllr Howard and Cllr Cunningham checked the invoices prior to the meeting.

17/154.6 Month Bank Statement and Monthly Budget Form

The Monthly Bank Statement was approved by all councillors present.

17/154.7 Bank Mandate Update

The Clerk had received a letter from the Mandate team saying that Cllr Cunningham And Cllr Howards details weren't attached, the Clerk has spoken to the Mandate Dept this morning and they have found the forms. Cllr Brown needed his previous address which can be done over the phone.

17/155 Clerk's Report

The Clerk has received another letter from a resident complaining about the speed in which large tractors are travelling through the village.

**Agreed** to write to all local farmers to remind them of their responsibilities with respect to tractors and trailers driving through the village.

17/156 District Councillor's Report

Report to be sent to councillors

17/157 County Councillor's Report

No report

17/158 Reports from Councillors with Matters affecting the village

There is a white van park in the field behind Cllr Kehr house, it could just be left after the farmer was harvesting.

It's been reported that traffic is speeding up Sages End Road; a resident had been knocked over into the ditch by a four-wheeled drive vehicle.

17/159 Highways

No Report

17/160 Footpath review update

17/159.1 Footpath Map Review

Following information from a resident, Cllr Cunningham and Cllr Howard had walked a footpath looking for a bridge at the Three Counties point, which they were unable to find.

The bridge on Footpath 14 has been repaired

17/161 Helions Bumpstead Village Hall matters affecting the Parish Council

17/161.1 Update on refurbishment work

Work has started on the Hall; the scaffolding goes up at the end of the week, the ceiling will come down, and be rebuilt. New insulation will be put in the chair store, the plaster will be taken off and the damp will be investigated. The Hall will be shut for 2 months.

#### 17/161.2 Update on Planters

The Planters are now finished, and have received many compliments. Bulbs will be planted in the Autumn.

#### 17/162 Helions Bumpstead Recreation Ground

##### 17/162.1 Fields in Trust

It was agreed that HBPC needs to consult with the trustees at some point in the near future, to investigate the current status of the Parish Property Trust.

#### 17/163 Playground Report

Cllr Kehr has put in an expression of interest for CIF funding, and now needs to complete the application form by 22<sup>nd</sup> September. Cllr Kehr has applied to Tesco for their Bag Fund.

So far 2 quotes have been received and a third is awaited. Good response to village email seeking opinions on present usage and future designs; Cllr Kehr would like to get more people's opinions so an article will be put into the September Village Magazine.

#### 17/164 Superfast Essex Consultation on future broadband provision in the village.

Martin Catchesides reported on the recent request from Superfast Essex for county-wide consultation during the month of August, with every town and parish in Essex, about their Broadband speed and the companies that each community is working with. Essex have published an interactive map of the county showing the NGA (New Generation high speed) and State Aid coverage of Broadband. Householders in each Parish or Town have been asked to confirm their current Broadband status in terms of supplier(s) and speed. A tight deadline has been set with replies to be received by end of August. Several Parishes warned that it was unrealistic to expect householders to do this, particularly during August. It was agreed by Essex that Parish Councils could reply on behalf of their villages, and Mr Catchesides will respond on behalf of Helions Bumpstead.

The current situation in Helions - of the 170 houses in the Village, about 100 have Broadband connections supplied by BT and its subsidiaries such as Plusnet. These have speeds of about 2Mbps or less. About 60 houses are supplied by Fibre WiFi (Buzcom) using a wireless connection from St Andrew's church tower. Most of these houses can achieve speeds around 20 Mbps though a few houses can only achieve a fraction of this. The issue is currently being investigated by Buzcom.

No house in Helions can achieve superfast speeds either up or down – this is currently rated at 30Mbps. It was **agreed** that in the longer term, HBPC would like to be included in the Essex Superfast network so that the whole of the village can be brought into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, with speeds of at least 30Mbps, and to be included in any future plans for the system.

17/165 The Three Horseshoes Pub

Cllr Nicholson informed the Council that the process of acquiring the pub for the village is moving forward. Financial guarantees are in place to rent the pub for three years with a view to purchase after that time. At the moment it's the mundane things that are happening, health and safety issues, insurance, bank accounts etc. There are meetings planned later this month.

The Chair asked for an article in the Village Magazine to update the village on progress.

17/166 Emergency Plan

Deferred to next meeting.

17/167 Items for information and inclusion on next meeting's agenda

Village Events

17/168 Date of the next meeting

11<sup>th</sup> September 2017

17/169 Meeting Closed at 9.10 pm

Signed.....

Dated.....

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