

## PARISH COUNCIL OF HILLESLEY AND TRESHAM MINUTES

### Meeting held at Hopkins Hall, Hillesley on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2011

**Present:** Cllr D Darlow, Cllr T Burden, Cllr A Doughty, Cllr A Clark, and L Spratling (Parish Clerk)

**In attendance:** Cllr Paul Hemming

**Public Participation:** None

**1. Apologies for absence:** Cllr Sue Butcher (accepted), Cllr R Harlow (accepted) and Cllr John Cordwell (accepted)

#### **2. Declarations of interest:**

Cllr A Doughty (potential investor in the purchase of The Fleece)

Cllr D Darlow & Cllr A Clark potential pecuniary interest in The Fleece. Currently no active pecuniary interest until the Administrators of the Fleece have come to a decision over the sale.

Cllr D Darlow and Cllr A Doughty are allotment holders (see Item 15)

#### **3. Minutes of the last meeting:**

The minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> November 2011 were approved, and signed by the Chair (Cllr D Darlow). All Action Points had been completed.

#### **4. Clerk's Report:**

Allotments – all rents received and three 1/4 plots vacant.

**Action Point** Parish Clerk to inform HAA and request some text in Hillesley Happenings to publicise this. **(Completed)**

Santander Bank Account has not yet been closed as requested by letter.

**Action Points** Parish Clerk to give Cllr A Clark the telephone number of Santander **(Completed)**.

Cllr A Clark to ring Santander to request an immediate closure. **(Completed – now requires signed fax to close)**

#### **5. Correspondence & documents:**

Stroud District Form – concern expressed by Mary Leonard of Kingswood PC re lack of consultation with them (apart from the Annual Forum)

[www.localcouncilinfo.com](http://www.localcouncilinfo.com) – offer of daily review from Vic Quayle

Affordable Housing – Martin Hutchings to attend our 11th January PC Meeting

GAPTC bulletin – Parish Council powers – keeping community businesses running School Admissions, Criteria & Protocol from GCC

GAPTC – Free Understanding Planning Event – Feb 2012 – 4 venues

Comic Relief – Invitation to arrange a Sport Relief Mile on 25<sup>th</sup> March. **Action Point –** Clerk to forward to Steve Hayward **Completed**

Faster Broadband – invitation to complete on line questionnaire

Hillesley Allotments – request for Grant (see Item 15)

Skate Ramp for sale. **Action Point –** Clerk to forward to Steve Hayward **Completed** and also to inform GAPTC that H&T PC is investigating the potential response from the Parish. **Completed**

Refresh of South Glos Core Strategy

Neighbourhood Planning Consultation – GRCC (report from Cllr D Darlow/Cllr A Clarke)

Localism Act – Neighbourhood Planning - Glos Consultations

Friends of Glos Libraries – info on High Court ruling

Notification of Public Meeting on 14 Dec re Library Services

SDC – THE NEWS – 12 week consultation on dog fouling

Glos Fire & Rescue – Consultation on Integrated Risk Mgmt Plan – handed to Cllr A Doughty

**6. Planning Applications:**

Nothing to discuss

**7. Finance:**

a. To Monitor Performance to Date.

Performance approved

b. Payments approved:

Not applicable

**8. Parish Plan Update:**

Cllr A Clark – good discount again achieved this month. Website to be updated by Cllr A Clark

Cllr A Doughty – Martin Hutchings (Rural Housing Enabler) will attend the Jan meeting of H&T PC.

Cllr D Darlow – Report on Grit Bins see Item 9. Margaret Plummer is unfortunately unable to continue with the Village Directory activities. Cllr A Doughty has kindly agreed to take this on.

**Action points** – Parish Clerk to place an item on the noticeboards to advise residents of content to be found on H&T website **Completed**. Parish Clerk to make the factual amendments suggested by Margaret Plummer. **Not yet completed**

Cllr T Burden – nothing to report

Cllr R Harlow – nothing to report (not present)

Cllr S Butcher – nothing to report

**9. Grit Bins**

Cllr D Darlow confirmed that Yellow Grit Bins cost circa £180.00 each and 3 will be ordered from GCC to replace the crumbling concrete bins.

**Action Points**

Cllr A Clark to talk to the Chapples re removing the concrete debris of the existing grit bins.

**Subsequently confirmed by Cllr D Darlow that this will not be necessary**

Cllr D Darlow to meet with Julian Wilson (GCC) to look at all 6 sites in detail (including 2 new locations) during the week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> December to confirm what can be agreed and completed. **Completed**

Cllr D Darlow to approach Tony Goscombe to see if he can supply 3 blue plastic barrels for the other sites as these cannot be sourced from GCC. **Not yet completed**

**10. Highways, Footpaths and Waterways:**

No items.

**11. County and District Councillor Reports:****John Cordwell – County Councillor****Electoral Boundary Review of GCC**

At last Wednesday's full County Council meeting the Leader of the council, Mark Hawthorne, was asked to explain the statement in the Boundary Commission's report that "the Conservative Group ...noted a reduction in the workload of a county councillor". His response was that this was not the case and this had been written by the Commission. It appears he was unaware of the submission by the group he leads which contains this assertion and drew the Commission to the view that ten fewer councillors were needed.

**Wotton Youth Centre**

A County Council paper to last Wednesday's meeting said that cabinet member responsible for this area was continuing negotiations on the funding arrangements for youth provision in Wotton. He has not yet responded to the letter of 24th September on Wotton's funding needs and that it took two parties to negotiate. A reply is awaited.

### **Library Closures**

The outcome of the judicial review was a partial success for the opponents of the proposed closure of ten libraries in Gloucestershire. The council would do its best to provide library services that replicate the service levels that existed last February, returning opening hours to the ones that existed then, or to any higher opening hours subsequently agreed. The council will start the decision-making process again taking into account a user needs assessment and the public sector equality duty, working with the Equality and Human Rights Commission. Returning to the previous opening hours will prove difficult given the number of staff that have left the library service. The judicial review will have cost the County Council the best part of £1M.

### **2012/13 Budget**

Work is under way on this with consultation ending on 18th January and the budget finalised on 22nd February. Draft budget proposals will be considered by the county's cabinet on 14<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Residual Waste Project**

The cabinet meeting on 14th December will also decide on who should be awarded the residual waste contract.

### **Civil Parking Enforcement**

The annual report for 2010/11 has been submitted to the DfT. It contains information supplied and written by the district councils.

### **Paul Hemmings- District Councillor**

Allocations within the proposed Core Strategy were adjusted, after an amendment, at the last full Council Meeting. Totals reduced for Stroud Valleys and North East of Cam, while West of Stonehouse numbers remain as in the cabinet proposal. Aston Down and Sharpness were added, together with indications of the target new jobs for each of those areas. The new figures in the updated proposal will now go out for further consultation.

The Vice Chairman of the Council resigned his position following a formal caution for possessing CS Gas.

### **12. Training:**

No training to be booked.

### **13. Grass Cutting:**

Cllr A Clark is awaiting the formal quotation from Derek Bond and has already been given authority to finalise the arrangements.

#### **Action Points:**

Parish Clerk to send resulting contract to D Bond for signature in due course. **Not yet completed**

### **14. The Fleece**

Nothing to discuss.

### **15. Allotments**

Request for grant of £100.00 agreed (as in budget for 2011/12)

**Action Point:** Cheque to be signed in January 2012. **Cheque prepared for signature at Jan meeting.**

### **16. Hillesley Sign**

Cllr D Darlow has identified that a non-aluminium replacement sign can be obtained from GCC for £41.18. **Action Point** – Cllr D Darlow to order this and arrange for the invoice to be sent to the Parish Clerk. **Completed**

**17. Parish Council Elections in 2012**

All councillors need to stand for re-election.

As both Cllr C Halpin and Cllr R Harlow are not seeking re-election, Councillors should be thinking who else could be encouraged to join the Parish Council. The PC election date will co-incide with District Council elections and therefore no Polling Station will need to be arranged.

**Action Point** – Parish Clerk to review Election Procedures. **Completed.**

**18. Budget for 2012/13**

The Draft Budget prepared in advance by the Clerk was examined and the following decisions made to enable budget for 2012/13 to be agreed in principle.

**Playing Fields** – Agreed that £1200.00 cheque should be raised in January for the Jubilee Playing Fields Committee (see Item 5). **Action Point** – Clerk to write to Steve Hayward to ascertain what funding they might be looking for during FY 2012/13. **Completed**

**General Administration – increases** as in Draft Budget except for Stationery – increase to £100.00

**S 137 Payments** – remain at 11/12 levels

**Grants under Other Duties & Powers** – remain at 11/12 levels

**Running Costs – No increase (pending response from JPFC)**

**Action Point** – Cllr D Darlow to write a letter of thanks to Margaret Plummer for her work with the Village Directory). **Completed.**

**Parish Plan** – Revert to £1250.00

**Other Expenditure** – No recruitment costs or Equipment costs but £100 for maintenance of Tresham Noticeboard.

**Action Points**

Clerk to prepare revised budget and circulate to all Councillors in order that Budget can be formally signed off at January Meeting. **Completed**

Clerk to return Parish Precept Request Form 2012/13 for a figure of £7000.00 to Stroud DC before deadline of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012. **Completed**

**Meeting closed at 9.45pm**

**Date of Next Meeting:** 7.30pm Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at Hopkins Hall, Hillesley

I certify that the above minutes are a correct record of the above meeting

Signed:.....Date:.....