

## *HYDE LEA PARISH COUNCIL*

**Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting and AGM held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at Hyde Lea & Coppenhall village hall.**

**Those present;**

**Parish councillors;      Mr J Eaves [chair]      Mr R Pitt      Mr R Edwards[from 19.50hrs]**

**Mr W Mason [Deputy-chair]      Miss Jane Wilkes**

**Mr D Jones [clerk]. 5 members of the public.**

**1/ Chairman welcomed those present and the meeting started at 19.30.**

**2/ Apologies;** none received.

**3/Chairman' Annual report;**

Following the elections in 2011, the council has been up to the quota of 5 councillors.

The council has been actively involved in a number of planning applications which are always considered and responded to by at least 2 councillors. In addition the manager of Bostock Estate has consulted with the council regarding potential development on the estate land , and the residents have been informed through the survey and discussions at meetings. The issue is ongoing and further informal discussions are outlined in paragraph 9[7] of the minutes.

A footpath survey was undertaken and discussions continue with the County Council footpath officer regarding repairs required to stiles, way markers etc.

A salt bin has been provided on the main road and an additional litter bin on Barn Bank Lane. The trees on Hyde Lea Bank still cause concern despite being surveyed by the County Council.

Grants have been given to the Village Hall, Samaritans, Air Ambulance and the Stafford Stroke Club totalling £1250. The precept for 2012/3 has been kept at the same level as previous years.

The condition of the road surface on the main road has been taken up with County Council Highways.

The council carried out a parish survey which resulted in an over 50% response. Items for attention will be prioritised and addressed over a period of time.

Motor bikers on private land continue to be a problem and residents are encouraged to contact the police in all cases. Further information was given by the police representative at the meeting.

He took this opportunity to thank the clerk for his advice and guidance to the council and diligence to the duties of the post. Also thanks to the Parish, Borough and County Councillors for their valuable input to the meetings.

**4/Matters raised by the public present;**

It appears that some dogs are allowed off lead and have been causing problems. It was suggested that any such incidents be reported to the police or Borough council for appropriate action.

**5/Police report;**

This was given by PCSO Ian Brewis. He gave a brief outline of his career and his current responsibilities. He explained that the police were aware of the problems with the motor bikes in the parish area and were doing what they could with limited resources. There was a further initiative planned which again would depend on the manpower available. There was also concern about the number of break- ins in the area, mainly targeting large isolated properties. There has been approximately two a day and usually between the hours of 16.00 and 18.00. He asked that the council make the residents aware and remind them to lock doors, windows etc when leaving their property.

#### **6/Election of chairman and deputy chairman for the coming year;**

It was agreed unanimously that Councillor Eaves remain as Chairman and Councillor Mason remain as Deputy Chairman.

#### **7/Confirmation of parish representatives on the village hall committee;**

It was agreed unanimously that Councillors Eaves and Edwards will remain as Parish Council representatives on the committee.

#### **8/Confirm minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

The minutes, having been previously circulated, were agreed and signed as a true record with the following amendment.

Item 10, para4- should have referred to cardboard collection skip and not rubbish skip.

#### **9/ Report on matters arising from the meeting not covered elsewhere on the agenda;**

1. Speeding through village; clerk reported that he had contacted the Speed Reduction Partnership who had arranged for police to visit the village with appropriate equipment. On that occasion no speeding was noted. They have promised to position a Speed Indicator Device [SID] in the village when one is available to monitor traffic flow and average speeds.
2. Condition of roads; has been reported to the County Highways who have promised that the contractors will return and resurface the road through the village.
3. Grammar school parking; some of the vehicles parked on the bank belong to pupils from the school. The school have been contacted but have no control over events outside their property. The advice to residents is to report any dangerous or inconsiderate parking to the police.
4. Rubbish on verges; a trial litter pick produced a significant amount of rubbish .Councillor Eaves reported that a number of residents had volunteered to undertake the work on a regular basis and he was arranging for them to be organised in teams with responsibility for set areas of the village. Equipment had been purchased by the council and bags can be obtained from Streetscene. Clerk will liaise with Aviva concerning insurance requirements.
5. Community transport; 16 residents had indicated on the questionnaire that they would be prepared to help on a voluntary basis by using their own vehicles. As only one resident had followed this through the idea was dropped.
6. Skip in pub yard; despite frequent reminders to the Borough Council no replacement has been provided. Clerk to take up with Councillor Sutherland.
7. Land for housing; Councillor Eaves reported an informal conversation he had had with John Mills from Bostock Estate. The estate had approached the Borough Council Planning Department about housing on the land. This was not accepted, the Planning Department would like either agricultural or commercial usage of the existing farm land. If this is proven commercial unviable they would reconsider housing.
8. Dog fouling; 25 notices have been received and distributed around the village. Hopefully the situation will improve.
9. Neighbourhood highways gang; visited briefly but did not achieve much as they were called away to an emergency. Will visit again on 12/13<sup>th</sup> September.

## **10/Financial matters;**

### ***A/ Invoices for payment***

<i>Clerk's salary</i>	<b><i>£465.30</i></b>
<i>Clerk's expenses</i>	<b><i>£83.98</i></b>
<i>PAYE</i>	<b><i>£116.32</i></b>
<i>Community Council</i>	<b><i>£35.10[photocopying]</i></b>
<i>SPCA</i>	<b><i>£147.73[annual membership]</i></b>
<i>R Pitt</i>	<b><i>£179.90[various including plants and litter picking equipment]</i></b>
<i>Mr J Williams</i>	<b><i>£80.00[audit fees]</i></b>

***B/annual accounts; had been circulated prior to the meeting and were accepted unanimously.***

***C/annual governance statement; had been circulated prior to the meeting, was agreed and duly signed..***

## **11/ Planning matters;**

Crown public house-extractor fan- the amended planning application 11/15966/FUL was "called in" and is being considered by the planning committee of the Borough Council.

Billington farm-Application 12/16870/COU for the use of former agricultural land to site caravans for seasonal workers had been considered in advance of the meeting by the council, who did not object but stressed that the caravans, which are an eyesore, must be screened and/or painted to blend in with the rural scene.

1 New Row, Bradley Lane-application 12/16871/HOU for a side and rear extension had been considered in advance of the meeting by the council, no objections were raised.

## **12/Village hall matters;**

Nil report

## **13/ Correspondence;**

A list of recent correspondence received was given to the councillors. If any councillor wishes to peruse any of the items please contact the clerk.

## **14/ Roads, Highways& Footpaths;**

Stadco Automotive have sold their land holdings to various local groups but until the land is registered it will not be possible to identify the new owners. The question was asked about some footpaths being blocked off, but on further examination it appeared that they were unofficial paths and not registered ones in which case the landowner is quite entitled.

As the waste bin at the end of Barn Bank Lane has proved a great success, it was decided to ask Streetscene if one could be installed further down the lane towards the motorway.

**The next meeting will be held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2012.**

**Meeting ended at 21.10 hrs.**

**Please note the clerk will be on holiday from 8<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> June.**