

Hildersham Parish Council
Clerk: Mrs. PM Harper
17 Lewis Crescent, Great Abington, Cambridge CB21 6AG

A Meeting meeting of Hildersham Parish Council was held on Tuesday 4th July 2023 at Hildersham Village Hall

Present : Darren Long, David Mercer, Rob Clay, District Councillor John Batchelor, one member of the public and the Clerk.

Meeting started at 7.40pm

17. Open Forum – Jean Kelly explained that there was a branch down outside the village hall; councillors would check it after the meeting. Lynne Hartland met Martin Meehan in the middle of July and asked that white lines be painted to distinguish between the access to Fourwinds and other homes and the Farm shop. Peter Gaskin had explained that ‘No cycling’ signs are of little use as they are misunderstood and do not stop cyclists using a footpath. Jean Kelly suggested that a sign saying ‘No cycling’ would resolve the matter on the footpath between Linton and Lady Walk. – **John Batchelor** to investigate.

18. Apologies - received and accepted from Mark Logan, Billie Chapman and County and District Councillor Henry Batchelor.

19. Councillors to declare any interests in the items to be discussed during the meeting? Has the Clerk granted any dispensations under section 33 (1) of the Localism Act and the basis is set out under section 33(2)? No interests were declared.

Under the Local Government Act 1972 section 85 Councillors accepted Billie Chapman’s 6 months absence so that she could remain a parish Councillors – this was proposed by Rob Clay and seconded by David Mercer and Darren Long

20. The minutes from the last meeting on 16th May and 20th June 2023 were accepted unanimously by councillors.

21. Report from District Councillor John Batchelor

The government had said that SCDC must stop working a 4 day week but the council had not changed its working practice and was engaged in discussions with the government. It seemed central government had no power over local government staff employment. The Bin men were due to trial a 4-day week. The 4 day week had improve the SCDC recruitment and staff retention, saving £2 million in agency fees. Details of the A1307 closures are on the website.

22. Report from County Councillor and District Councillor Henry Batchelor – he did not attend the meeting, but had forwarded a report.

Item 24 was moved earlier in the meeting to enable Councillors Batchelors to assist with this item.

24. Update on application for LHI funds to improve safety at the Back Road/High Street/Balsham Rd crossroads the Back Road junction. After much verbal support for how dangerous the junction is seen by Michael Meehan , it was very disappointing that the bid for funding was unsuccessful without any explanation as to why. Michael Martin had suggested David Mercer contact Erin Boddington but had received no reply. Action: John and Henry Batchelor to follow up to get feedback on the application. The road width was less than that required for speed humps and the warning signs were not early enough before the hazard. AS the safety risk is so great the council should reapply

District Councillor John Batchelor left the meeting.

23. Feedback on items form the last meeting

- a) Reply from Sarah Tunnicliffe who had offered of funding for new trees, and thre councils suggestion that some could be planted in South Holding along the boundary with the A1307. Sarah felt that any developer would provide these trees.
- b) Pay Tees Law reduced invoice. The Clerk continued to chase up this invoice so that there was a record for our auditor.
- c) Feedback from councillors on need for new street lights, having noted some residents felt that these were not required. Rob and Mark had not yet looked at the area suggested for a new light after dark, between Mabbutts and the church- **action Mark & Rob.**
- d) Can any action be taken to prevent cyclists using the footpath alongside the sewage works from Linton? Discussed earlier under item 17

25. Village maintenance

- a) Overhanging bushes from Pampisford Hall Estate blocking path from A1307. The Clerk had emailed Sarah Tunnicliffe.
- b) Condition of Christmas tree. David Mercer had watered the tree a great deal but it looked dead. He suggested talking to Babraham Estates owner Arabella Binney about the possibility of a new tree. A container tree is likely to cost £500-1000. The Fayre committee may be willing to use the funds they hold to help with the cost of a Christmas tree, but wait until David has spoken with Miss Binney.
- c) Painting road bridge- no budget for this work currently.
- d) Update on new parking spaces in Meadowlands – no news

26. Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

- a) Feedback on consultation on NP. Jean Kelly to ask Linton Parish Council for 2 paper copies of the public consultation documents., one for Mark to hold for people to borrow.
- b) Update on what happens next. A meeting is being arranged for people to discuss sustainability and habitat impact. All documents must be submitted to SCDC by 13th August, as a three 3 week warning to SCDC.

27. Update on the improvements to the A1307 junction

- a) Invoice to be issued to GCP/CCC as the site was vacated on 30 June. **Action: Clerk** to raise invoice.
- b) Gerald has raised concern the height of the reinstatement of the gateway as the gatepost has been installed at least 300mm lower than we asked for meaning that the ground will have to be lower. This will make it easy to enter with a caravan. To be discussed as part of the Trust meeting following this meeting.

28. Correspondences

- a) Letter from SCDC reminding the council to submit a new ACV for the Pear Tree pub 8-12 weeks prior to 15/10/23.
- b) Concern about the proposal to install additional street lighting in the village. Discussed earlier in the meeting under item 23c.
- c) Query about whether giant hogweed was going in the village. Some had been removed as it causes burns and scares

29. Finance

- a) a) The Council unanimously authorised the payments and approve the financial statement dated 04.07.2023. **Action Clerk** to raise the second half of the payment for the Parish Nurse Scheme. Jean was thanked for putting all of the year end documents on the website as pdfs
- b) HMRC – has issued new revised tax code for the Clerk which is being used now.

30. Year end

- a) The Public Right of Inspection period started on 28/06/23, with notice given on the website and noticeboard on 27/06/2023.
- b) All required notices and documents are on the website and noticeboard.
- c) Councillors to Review Internal Control Statement, to see if it needs updating. **Darren Long proposed that the updated and reviewed Internal Control document should be accepted, which was seconded by David Mercer with the support of Rob Clay.**

31. Open Forum for Parishioners to make comments or raise items

The County Ecologist had suggested that only small areas in ‘bits and pieces’ needed to be left for the ‘No Mow May’ initiative, Jean Kelly reported. The council was unlikely to have any costs for the Neighbourhood Plan.

32. Items for the next meeting’s agenda on 12th September 2023.

Consider where funds for the allotment expenses should come from and how the budget would be prepared now that the land was part of the Trust.

Closed at 8.50pm

LAND TRSUT MEETING – Proceeding PC meeting on Tuesday 4th July 2023 at Hildersham Village Hall.

A separate meeting to the Parish Council started after Parish Council meeting finished at 9.05pm

Present: Darren Long, Rob Clay, David Mercer, One member of the public and the Clerk.

Land Trust Meeting Agenda

1. South holding access – Gerald Franklin had highlighted that the new access to the South Holding was no longer a long difficult slope for unwanted vehicles to access. Additional measure have been requested to make access into this field less accessible. A couple of concrete blocks to stop ordinary access which Gerald could move with one of his machines? The access does look flatter than before, but the gate is in the line of the fence where it has always been, Mark believes. **Action: Mark Logan** to discuss what additional measure could be installed to secure the field access by contacting Martin Meehan.
2. Raise an invoice for 36 weeks from the 1st of November to 30th June for south holdings. **Action: Clerk**
3. Tees bill: Tees have offered us a price of £750+VAT, which Mark recommends the council accepts as the council does owe them the money; they forgot to bill us the original bill should have been £951.50. **Darren Long proposed that the council accept a new invoice for Trust fund advice for £750+VAT, which was seconded by David Mercer with the support of Rob Clay.**
4. Trees for south holding offered by Sarah Tunnicliffe from a village fund. This had been discussed at the Parish Council meeting earlier in the evening.
5. Christmas tree next steps. This had been discussed at the Parish Council meeting earlier in the evening.
6. Review RoSPA report- many low level risks were highlighted. **Action: Darren Long** to look through the report and report at the next meeting.
7. Strimming the little trees- awaiting Mark Logan's return

Closed at 9.05pm