

## *HYDE LEA PARISH COUNCIL*

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2007 at Hyde Lea Village Hall. Meeting started at 19.30 hrs.**

### **Those Present; Parish Councillors**

Mr D Allan [chair]      Ms A Makin      Mr W Mason      Mr C Bayford

Mr D Jones [Clerk]

**1/ Councillor Allan** welcomed those present and the meeting started at 19.30 hrs.

**2/ Apologies;** Apologies were received from Councillors J Eaves & M Winnington & R Sutherland

**3/ Matters raised by the general public;** No members of the public were present.

**4/ Confirmation of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2007**

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

**5/Matters arising from the minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda;**

There were no matters arising

**6/ Website;**

The clerk reported that the web site was progressing and now contained meeting minutes, accounts for 2007 and a brief outline of the parish. He hoped to include some photographs in the near future. Councillor Allan promised to investigate the possibility of creating a link with the Community Council website.

**7/Financial matters;**

**1] Authority was given to pay the following invoices;**

Clerk's salary & expenses --	£350.30
Mrs J Williams [audit fees] --	£54.00
S P C A [seminar "welcome new councillor"] --	£20.00
Village hall [hall hire March/May/July] --	£60.00

**2] Annual Return for financial year ending 31/03/2007;**

A copy of the annual return had been circulated with the minutes. The clerk reminded the councillors of the purpose and background to the return and the District Auditors requirements. Section 2 sub paragraph 6 was an addition to previous years and asked if the council were satisfied with their financial controls.

For the record; all invoices are paid by cheque [no petty cash is held] and proposed payments are included on the meeting agenda for discussion and challenge by the councillors. After agreement cheques are signed by two councillors and all payments made are recorded in both cash book and on the meeting minutes for the public record. All cheques are prepared by the clerk but require two separate approved signatories to sign. At the year end the accounts and cash records are audited by a person independent of the council. In future the clerk will bring the cash book to meetings so that any question about account balances can be scrutinised by councillors and questions answered. The meeting agreed the annual governance statement and it was duly signed.

### **8/ Planning matters;**

From 01/01/2007 the planning applications received by the council are as follows;

06/06842- rear of Hill Cottage, construction of dormer style bungalow-has been permitted

06/07373- Land at Stoneleigh Court, retrospective alterations to previous permission 04/02695- has been permitted

07/08058-10 Elm Court, rear extension-has been permitted permitted

07/08449, Rickyard House, Bradley Lane- dormer windows to existing loft room-pending decision

07/08568- 7 Elm Court, en-suite extension-pending consideration

Barn Bank Manor.

A letter from the Development Control Manager promising enforcement action had been circulated with the minutes. It was reported to the meeting that the razor wire on the fence had now been replaced with large metal spikes. To be reported to the planning department.

### **9/Correspondence received;**

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting was circulated to those present. If any councillor wants to see any of the correspondence they are to contact the clerk. Also a request had been received from St Lawrence's Church for further grant aid. As this had been received too late to include on this agenda it was agreed to discuss at the next meeting.

### **10/ Road, Highway & Footpath matters;**

- Footpath No 11; the bridge over the stream at the Drimbles, the County Council have promised to replace the damaged bridge with a tubular steel one. When is not know as it will depend on priorities and funds. There was concern expressed about the amount of tree and other debris in the stream following the recent flooding. It was agreed to ask Jo & Co to clear.
- New Highway Maintenance procedures; at the recent clerks training day a presentation was given by David Wilson, Deputy Corporate Director of Staffordshire Highways. He accepted that the Highways were not viewed too favourably in some quarters but the proposed changes should improve this perception. It is intended to create community gangs who will target each parish during a financial year and carry out work as specified. Prior to visiting a parish the clerk will be contacted and a list provided of work to be carried out and an opportunity given to request additional highway work. The eventual work will be prioritised and costed before it is carried out. He also mentioned speed restrictions. The County Council are purchasing free standing vehicle speed warning signs that will be moved around the parishes dependant on priority. They will be in position for 2/3 weeks and apart from warning of speed will gather data that can be used when deciding on future speed limits. It is not policy to encourage parishes to provide their own speed monitors as the County Council need to have an overview of the whole project and a proliferation of devices would dilute their effect. There is also a problem with fixing any device or other such item, i.e. a waste bin to a lamppost, the maintenance contractors will not allow it.

### **11/ Items for consideration at the next meeting;**

St Lawrence church; consider grant request.

Agree annual membership payment for S P C A

Accept new code of conduct, a copy will be sent to each councillor with the next agenda.

**12/ Next meeting is scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> September 2007.**