

November 2007

*HYDE LEA PARISH COUNCIL.*

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2007 at Hyde Lea Village Hall. Meeting convened at 19.30 hrs.**

**Those present; Parish Councillors-**

**Mr J Eaves [chairman] Ms A Makin Mr W Mason Mr C Bayford**

**Mr M Winnington, County/Borough Councillor {from item 6}**

**Clerk Mr D Jones & one member of the public for item 3**

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

**2/ Apologies;** were received from Mr R Sutherland [Borough Councillor]

**3/ Matters raised by the general public;**

A concerned resident attended the meeting to point out problems that had occurred with Footpath 11 since the grammar school had started ground works on their new playing fields.

The footpath has been closed and the diversion is not user friendly. There appear to have been trees felled and hedgerows removed. These facts were confirmed by the councillors who also use the footpath.

Clerk to establish;

- Was the County Council given notice of the closure and why the parish council was not informed? A temporary notice of closure had been displayed but neither residents nor parish had any warning.
- Do the terms of the planning approval[06/0613/COU] permitted last year for the change of use from agricultural to playing fields allow for the removal of hedge rows and felling of trees? Borough Council Planning to be asked to clarify.

**4/ Confirmation of the minutes of the Parish council meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2007**

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

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

There were no matters arising.

**6/ Website;**

The clerk reported to the meeting that the website was operational and had been so since the beginning of October. It was decided to see how it progresses in its current format before possibly adding additional items, i.e. footpath surveys.

**7/ Financial Matters;**

It was agreed to pay the following invoices;

1. Clerk's salary & expenses-----£406.19  
E Roy [website contract] paid in advance of the meeting-£435.00  
Insurance [annual renewal] -----£305.55
2. St Lawrence Church- a letter had been received from Mr Farnworth, church warden, asking that the grant request be put on hold for now.

3. Annual review of clerk's salary; the councillors agreed to revise the clerk's salary to Scale Point 20 , with effect from 01/04/07.
4. Completion of Annual Audit. The clerk reported that the District Auditor had accepted the Annual return. The statutory notice had been displayed to that effect on the village notice board.

**8/ Planning matters;** a list of current applications is attached to these minutes.

Other matters of discussed -

- Barn Bank Manor; to date no information has been gleaned from the Borough Council Legal Department about the ongoing action, following the court case. If no progress, Councillor Winnington asked to be kept informed.
- Green lane; the storage of vehicles is being monitored by the Planning officer. Clerk to inform Councillor Winnington if no progress is being made.
- Thaxted; this was objected to by the Parish Council and is being called in by the Planning Committee,
- Plans for major rebuilding at Billington Farm were examined by the meeting, they could see no objections.
- Application 07/ 09200/FUL relating to 7 Elm Court was also examined, no objections raised.

**9/ Correspondence received;**

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting was distributed to the councillors. If anyone wants any particular item please contact the clerk. In addition a brief email was received from Constable Andy Heritage regarding incidents in the Hyde Lea area. Councillors asked if he or his colleague could be invited to one of the meetings in 2008.

There was also advice from the Borough Council about a meeting for Parish Councils in the early 2008 to discuss the policy of house building in the borough for the next 20 years.

**10/ Road, Highway & Footpath matters.**

- Letter & plan from Stafford Grammar School relating to their proposals for the land recently purchased/leased- a copy was attached to the agenda. This item was discussed with the member of the public at Item 3
- Annual footpath survey; it was agreed that Councillors Mason & Makin would deal with the North West sector and that Councillors Eaves & Bayford would deal with the South West.
- Water on Hyde Lea Bank; has been looked at by Severn Trent, who are satisfied that it is not a mains leak and as it is coming from an adjacent property it is the responsibility of the householder. Concern was expressed that it might be a leak from a septic tank and therefore sewage. Clerk to contact Environmental Health.
- Leaves on Hyde Lea Bank and also in bus shelter; Streetscene to be advised.

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

Precept for 2008/9

**12 /Next meeting is on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2008-**

**Prior to closing the meeting Councillor Eaves advised the councillors that Dave Allan had resigned from the council effective 12/11/07. The meeting reluctantly accepted his resignation. Clerk to write to Mr D Allan and also advise the Borough Council of the vacancy.**