

January 2008

## **HYDE LEA PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January 2008 at Hyde Lea Village Hall.**

**Those present; Parish Councillors;            Mr J Eaves [Chair]        Mr W Mason [Deputy-chair]**  
**Ms A Makin        Mr R Edwards                Mr C Bayford**

**Borough/ County Councillor Mr M Winnington from item 6**

**Clerk; Mr D Jones and Mr B Astbury for item 4**

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

**2/ Election of new vice chair;**

The meeting unanimously agreed that Councillor W Mason be the new Deputy Chairman.

**2a/ Co-option of new councillor;**

Mr R J Edwards was co-opted as the new member of the council to fill the existing vacancy.

**3/ Apologies were received from Borough Councillor R Sutherland**

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

The Bursar of Stafford Grammar School Mr Astbury addressed the meeting regarding the footpath issues. He explained that the school had no aggressive agenda regarding the footpaths; in fact the Ramblers were well represented on the Board of Trustees. The tree that had been removed had in fact fallen down as it was rotten. There were a number of other trees that required attention and they were waiting for permission from the Borough Council for the work to begin. A hedge had also been removed, the Borough Council contacted before the work had started. The footpath will be reinstated when the work on the playing field has finished. As the path went directly across the field they had considered closing it when the field was in use on health & safety grounds with an alternative path around the perimeter of the field. However the meeting did not think this feasible and could cause them a great deal of potential trouble. They have installed new kissing gates, but did not intend to install disabled access from the M6 end as this would enable motorbikes to invade the area, a problem they have managed to eradicate. He discussed at length various future plans including the leasing of additional land to prevent any other usage in the proximately to their sports field. The meeting thanked him for coming and had found his explanation very helpful. Both sides hoped to cooperate in future.

**5/ Confirm minutes of the Parish council meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2007**

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

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

P C Andy Heritage had been invited but could not attend as it was his rest day

#### **7/ Civic Amenity Visits-2008 programme;**

The meeting agreed that these were still required and on the same basis as last year. Clerk to liaise with Borough Council.

#### **8/ Financial Matters;**

- Payment of the following invoices was agreed;  
  
Clerk's salary & expenses - £475.87  
Audit commission- £141.00  
Trent Grounds maintenance- £106.10
- Precept- amount required for 2008/9; the meeting agreed to set a precept of £3600, an amount unchanged from 2007/8, which in fact amounts to a reduction. It was also agreed to request the full concurrent allowance of £563.
- Signatory to cheques; Councillor Makin agreed to be an additional signatory

#### **9/ Planning matters;**

A list of all applications received in 2007 and their current status is attached to these minutes for reference. Barn Bank Manor; the owner has not yet complied with the court ruling and is being fined on a daily basis. Green Lane; the land is still being used for vehicle storage and no response has been received from the Planning Enforcement Officer to our enquires.

Councillor Winnington promised to pursue both these cases on the Parish Councils behalf and establish what the actual position is.

Stafford Borough Local Development Framework- a meeting will be held on 12<sup>th</sup> February to discuss the future plans.

#### **10/ Correspondence received;**

A list of all correspondence received was distributed at the meeting. Councillors were asked to contact the clerk if they wished to peruse any particular item.

#### **11/ Road, Highway & Footpath matters.**

- Water leaking onto Hyde Lea Bank; has been tested for possible sewage contamination but the result was negative. Severn Trent is not interested as the leak is on a private property and not one of their mains. The meeting decided that an informal approach to the owner should be made. Councillor Mason offered.
- VAS signs; has been vetoed by the County Council, a further approach to be made.
- Finger posts on Green lane; no progress
- Lights on Hyde Lea bank not working; to be reported but the number of the lamp post is needed.
- Tarmac lifted on Ridgeway Close; apparently caused by a road sweeper.

The meeting felt that a site meeting with John Sly of County Highways would be beneficial to all parties; Councillor Winnington also expressed an interest in attending such a meeting. Clerk to arrange.

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

*Annual footpath survey*

*clerks computer*

*Inspector Wain from Stone Police to be invited*

**13 /Next meeting is on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2008- 19.30hrs in the Village hall**