

March 2008

HYDE LEA PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th March 2008 at Hyde Lea Village hall.

Those present;

**Parish Councillors; Mr J Eaves [chair] Mr W Mason [deputy-chair]
 Mr C Bayford Ms A Makin Mr R Edwards.**

Borough Councillor; Mr R Sutherland

Clerk; Mr D Jones

One member of the public.

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

2/ Apologies were received from Councillor Winnington.

3/ Guest Speaker; Carl Humphries newly appointed Inspector at Stone LPU.

He started by giving a brief summary of his career in the police force since joining in 1980. He outlined the area covered by Stone LPU, which is most of the rural areas west of Stafford Borough up to the Shropshire border. He also explained the new Chief Constables agenda of trust & confidence. The force is concentrating on the detection of crime but officers are allowed to use their discretion on certain areas. One quality initiative is how the victims of crime relate with and their perception of the police in their dealing with and understanding of problems. He feels that Stone LPU have a great deal of public support. Another new initiative which will be launched shortly is a drive to reduce road traffic casualties.

He discussed the Hyde Lea police report that had been produced by PC Heritage from Gnosall [copy with these minutes]

A number of questions were raised by the meeting;

- Billington Fruit farm; consistently leave mud on the road on Derrington Lane from the A518 to the village. Councillor Sutherland explained that he had recently spoken to the County Council about this ongoing problem and they had promised to write and warn the farmer. In extreme case the County Council can clean the road and charge the farmer, but this is not enforceable. If the problem persists the advice was to contact the police for help but keep all copies of correspondence as potential evidence.
- Fly tipping; not a major problem throughout the parish but occurs in certain place. The advice was to take registration details of the offending vehicle and also place & time of offence. Report details to Borough Council who can prosecute or ask for police involvement. Streetscene will clean up fly tipping. Suggest the advice on the action to be taken by the public is publicised on the notice board or in local parish magazine.
- Miniature bikes and other anti social behaviour on footpaths; This is monitored closely and the police will take action on bikes being reported as being ridden dangerously on footpaths.
- Problems with speeding vehicles through the village; As the Parish Councils request for their own Vehicle Activated Sign has been repeatedly turned down by the County Council, the suggestion was to consider setting up a local Speedwatch action group as in other villages.

4/ Matters raised by the general public;

No matters were raised by the member of the public present.

5/ Confirm minutes of the Parish council meeting held on 9th January 2008

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;

- Civic Amenity Visits; 2008 programme not yet agreed by The Borough Council.
- Precept; Borough council advised of parish requirements.
- Water leaking onto Hyde Lea bank; problem has been resolved.
- Various highway issues; John Sly was written to but no reply as yet.

7/ Use of electronic mail;

The councillors agreed to receive all future agendas and meeting minutes electronically. The Clerk also promised to use the system for news updates.

8/ Financial Matters;

- It was agreed to pay the following invoices;

Clerk's salary & expenses -	£426.65
Stafford B C [Civic amenity visit-November 2007]-	£66.00
SPCA [annual membership]-	£138.00

The councillors agreed to pay the SPCA membership only and not the additional cost towards the Area Committee meeting.

- Clerk's computer; the meeting agreed with the second proposal, to share the cost of the purchase of a laptop with Seighford Parish council for use by the clerk.
- Councillor Makin agreed to be an additional signatory on council cheques.

9/ Planning matters;

The following planning issues were discussed.

- Barn Bank Manor; enforcement action is still current; the latest court appearance has been postponed due to Mr Cope being on holiday.
- Green Lane; the Planning Enforcement section are dealing with the apparent illegal storage of vehicles on the site. Clerk asked for an update prior to the meeting but has heard nothing.
- Thaxted.; application[07/08989/OUT] for outline permission of a new construction in front of the existing house is still under consideration. This was objected to by the Parish council.
- Grammar School; the planning application [08/09695/FUL] for floodlighting was objected to by the Parish council and has been "called in" by Councillor Sutherland following objections from a neighbouring ward.

10/ Correspondence received;

A list of all correspondence received since the last meeting was produced. Councillors were asked to contact the Clerk if they wanted to peruse a particular item.

11/ Road, Highway & Footpath matters.

- Annual footpath survey; a copy had been circulated with the agenda. The councillors agreed to ask for the various works to be carried out and that the issue of the caravans at Billington farm obstructing the footpath to be taken up with the County Council.
- Letter from Grammar School regarding footpath work; a copy had been attached do the agenda for information. This, and the possible future work, was discussed especially in the light of the objection to the flood lighting application.
- Local Development Framework; a copy of parish response had been circulated with the agenda. Minutes of the meeting on 12th February at the Civic Centre were distributed to the councillors. At present no development is envisaged in the Hyde Lea parish area but circumstances could change in future.
- M6; the question was asked about the current status of the M6 Forum. Clerk to contact Dave Allen and find out.
- CLARENCE; the meeting was appraised of the CLARENCE fault reporting telephone number , which is **0800 23 23 23**

12/ Items for consideration at the next meeting;

Grants to local charities.

13 /Next meeting is on 14th May 2008- this is the annual parish meeting & AGM