



# Hedgerley Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017

In the Memorial Hall, Hedgerley

Chairman indicated emergency exits

Apologies for absence – Cllr. Maurice Ridgeley, Cllr. Brenda Gibbs BCC

1. To approve the draft Minutes of Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017 which had been publicised on the noticeboards previously

## *Item 8 brought forward*

8. *The Green*, incursion by travellers and action taken

Travellers moved onto the Green at the end of May. Eviction was processed quickly and after four days the travellers left. Immediately after their leaving, many local residents appeared on the Green and helped with the clear up. At that time many residents were concerned about what the Council were going to do about preventing another visit and how soon this could happen.

The decision made ex-Council as it was felt that time was of the essence. Also it was felt that although travellers had not visited previously, that now the Green was 'on the map' action was needed (especially as the number of potential sites is reducing as other landowners take similar steps).

The Council considered several solutions, some suggested by residents, to prevent vehicular incursions onto the Green, including planting trees, ditch and/or bank, and posts. Posts were considered to be the best option considering speed of implementation, effectiveness, aesthetics and cost. A further decision was to sink the posts into compacted soil rather than concrete, so that there was some give in case of accidental impact, and because oak can rot if set in concrete. Also, in considering the effectiveness of posts, it was thought that perhaps if someone was really determined that they could overcome the posts, however in doing so they would be committing criminal damage, and could immediately be dealt with by the Police. In choosing a contractor the Council had to balance the urgency, cost and effectiveness of solution. As time was of the essence and to reduce risk it was decided to use Ben Harris, and to cover the cost out of the Council's Contingency fund. Materials : £2588.00 Labour: 2330.00. This was considered reasonable especially when compared to the pond posts. After consulting with Bucks Association of Local Councils, the Parish Council was advised that the project be split in two (materials and labour) and that we could proceed because each element was below the £3,500 tender threshold.

The work has almost been completed, but several residents who attended the meeting, questioned the cost, quality and effectiveness of the posts, and lack of consultation with residents (for which the Chairman apologised). There was a degree of heated discussion. It was agreed that a site visit be arranged in order to clarify and, if need be remedy the situation.

2. *County Councillor* – not present apologies sent
3. *District Councillor* – ML said that she had nothing to report at this time
4. *County Council Matters* – none at this time
5. *Clerk's information items*  
Best Kept Village – had not heard whether the Judges had been yet.  
Hedgerley Village sign – Clerk is waiting to hear back from John Thackeray regarding the area by the bus stop.

6. Finance –

- Finance report – to note report – report was noted, cheques signed
- To sign the Annual Return – Annual Return was signed

7. Planning -

To note report – report was noted

9. Property

Information board for the Community Orchard

In progress.

10. MVAS – to review data from Parish Lane

'NC will be circulating the data collected from the MVAS whilst on Hedgerley Lane at the next meeting. MVAS will now be put in its new position near Top Farm, Parish Lane.

11. Youth Club Hut – Update

Still waiting to hear from the Solicitor.

12. Slade Farm – Update

Appeal by RJD Ltd. Aecom had produced a document on behalf of HPC which had been submitted within the time frame. We await to hear the result.

13. Neighbourhood Plan – Update – nothing to report at this time

14. Meetings

To report on – Corp. of London annual lunch/visit to Burnham Beeches NC attended. The Lord Mayor of London gave a speech; visitors were shown round some of the work which had been done and ended with a lunch at Dorney Wood.

To attend – nothing at this time

15. Date of next meeting – Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017, Memorial Hall 8.15pm

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Please note, Councillors, only items on the agenda may be discussed.

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*Democratic period*

*Angela Webb was concerned that the planters by the shops had not been attended to. She offered to do it. Concern was raised about the drain at the bottom of Stevenson Road. Clerk informed the meeting that our LAT had arranged for jetting and sucking out of the drains and it was due to be done shortly.*