

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HOUGHTON-ON-THE-HILL PARISH COUNCIL,
HELD IN THE METHODIST CHURCH SCHOOLROOM,
MAIN STREET, HOUGHTON-ON-THE-HILL,
WEDNESDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER 2009, AT 8:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Cllr. Mr. M. Stevenson (Chairman)
Cllr. Mr. P. Duke
Cllr. Mr. W. Scott
Cllr. Mrs. A. Sleath
Cllr. Mrs. S. Swann
Ms. A. M. Davies (Clerk)

3 members of the public including Mrs. Francesca Wall-Bray, Houghton Tree Warden

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies from Cllr. Mrs. Eileen Bent and Vice Chairman Mrs. Ann Sharman had been received accepted.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Declarations of interest were to be made when agenda items were being discussed and recorded accordingly.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THE 1st JULY 2009

The Minutes of the Meeting of the 1st July 2009 were confirmed and signed.

4. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CHAIRMAN ON PROGRESS OF DEBATED ISSUES

The Chairman's report was presented primarily as an update for the Councillors' benefit. Issue arising out of this report that requires a decision from the Parish Council will be raised as agenda items as necessary (See Appendix 1, Chairman's Report to the Parish Council 02/09/09).

5. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Houghton Field Association audited accounts 2008/09 - noted.

2. Field Association Sports and Social Club audited accounts 2008/09 - noted.

The clerk, as the Council's Responsible Financial Officer, advised the Council to withhold the release of the 2008/09 grant to Houghton Field Association, as the submitted accounts do not give clear indication, as stipulated in Clause 2 the Parish Council's Policy on Grants, that the 2007/08 grant of £2,300.00 was expended on maintenance.

- ***It was RESOLVED that payment of the 2008/09 grant to Houghton Field Association be withheld pending the receipt of an analysis of HFA expenditure for 2008/09 giving clear indication, in accordance with Clause 2 of the PC Policy on Grants, that the Parish Council grant 2007/08 of £2,300.00 was expended on maintenance.***

The clerk was instructed to inform Houghton Field Association accordingly

3. Houghton Village Hall, application for PC annual grant 2010/11 - noted.

4. Houghton Field Association, application for PC annual grant 2010/11 - noted.

5. Houghton Field Association on behalf of "Park Life", application for PC grant 2010/11 towards new playground - noted. ("Park Life" is an HFA sub-committee with a member on the HFA Committee)

6. St. Catharine's Church application for PC grant 2010/11 towards restoration of significant historic building - noted.

7. Houghton Methodist Church, application for PC grant 2010/11 towards maintenance of schoolroom/community room - noted.

All councillors had been circulated with copies of the currently received application letters.

The deadline for PC grant applications is 1st October. Consequently Council agreed that consideration of grant applications, and subsequently Precept 2010/11, would be inadvisable before 1st October.

Council agreed that, in accordance with the Parish Council's Policy on Grants, the receipt of all grant applications currently submitted be acknowledged and the respective applicants assured that, in due course and at the appropriate time, full Council will consider each application on its own merit. The clerk was instructed to inform the applicants accordingly.

8. Letter from LNWA thanking the PC for the donation 01/07/09 - noted.

9. LRALC August News Letter - noted

10. Letter from EMRA – invitation to EXPO 2009, Thurs.8th Oct. Walkers Stadium.

Theme: "Greening the Economy" - noted

6. FINANCIAL MATTERS

Accounts presented for payment:

Clement Keys, external audit fee	£ 155.25
S. Clark, bus shelter cleaning (5 x £6.50)	£ 32.50
Houghton Methodist Church, Community Room maintenance Grant 2009/10	£ 400.00
The Old Black Horse, 1 day's victuals for volunteer tree maintenance team	£ 33.75

- ***It was RESOLVED that all accounts presented for payment 02/09/09 be paid in full.***

The Chairman temporarily adjourned the meeting to enable Mrs. Francesca Wall-Bray, Houghton Tree Warden, to give a verbal report on the progress of the Tree Maintenance Programme.

Having thanked Mrs. Francesca Wall-Bray for her report, the Chairman re-opened the formal PC Meeting.

7. TREE MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME & PHASE 3 OF THE VILLAGE TREE PLANTING SCHEME

No new issues were presented for Council consideration or decision.

Mrs. Francesca Wall-Bray, Houghton Tree Warden, even if possibly not available for the Councillors' Village Walk, has agreed to present a written report of proposals for Phase 3 of the Village Tree Planting Scheme for distribution to all Councillors in time for the Councillors' Village Walk.

8. COUNCILLORS' VILLAGE WALK

The date, time and meeting location of the Councillors' Village Walk was confirmed as Saturday 26th September 2009, at 9:00am in front of the Village Co-op, Main Street.

Mrs. Francesca Wall-Bray, Houghton Tree Warden, was invited to attend but is currently uncertain of her availability on the 26th September.

9. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Clerk reported:

1. Planning Applications PERMITTED:

1. Planning Application 08/00935A/REM

Proposal: Erection of two storey detached dwelling and detached garage (reserved matters of 07/01050/OUT)

Location: 8/8A St. Catharine's Way, Houghton on the Hill, Leics. LE7 9HE

Planning Application 08/00935A/REM permitted 21st July 2009.

2. Planning Application 09/00599/FUL

Proposal: Erection of single storey rear extension

Location: 6, Ingarsby Close, Houghton on the Hill, Leics. LE7 9JN

Planning Application 09/00599/FUL permitted 21st July 2009.

3. Planning Application 09/00644/FUL

Applicant: HiCare Group Properties Ltd.
 Proposal: Erection of agricultural livestock and storage building (retrospective)
 Location: Land OS 4015 & Part 5530 Uppingham Road, Houghton on the Hill, Leics.
 Planning Application 09/00644/FUL (retrospective) permitted 29th July 2009.

4. Planning Application 09/00707/FUL

Proposal: Change of use of existing leisure suite to an annex for ancillary accommodation
 Location: Grosvenor House, Uppingham Road, Houghton on the Hill, Leics. LE7 9HQ
 Planning Application 09/00707/FUL permitted 7th August 2009.

2. Planning Appeals IN PROGRESS

1. Planning Appeal APP/F2415/E/09/2105419/NWF

Application 09/00194/CON, Refused 9th April 2009, demolition of front wall and outbuilding (revised scheme of 08/00993/CON)

Appellant: Mr. Ray Davis
 Location: Land Rear of 49 And 51 Main Street, Houghton on the Hill Leics. LE7 9GE
 The Secretary of State has instructed one of his inspectors to hold an Informal Hearing into the appeal at the Council Offices, Adam & Eve Street, Market Harborough, commencing at 10:00a.m. on 8th September 2009

2. Planning Appeal APP/F2415/A/09/2105418/NWF

Application 09/00193/FUL, Refused 9th April 2009, erection of 4 detached dwellings and triple garage including demolition of front wall and outbuilding (revised scheme of 08/00992/FUL)

Appellant: Mr. Ray Davis
 Location: Land Rear of 49 And 51 Main Street, Houghton on the Hill Leics. LE7 9GE
 The Secretary of State has instructed one of his inspectors to hold an Informal Hearing into the appeal at the Council Offices, Adam & Eve Street, Market Harborough, commencing at 10:00a.m. on 8th September 2009

3. Planning Application TO BE CONSIDERED BY PC:

1. Planning Application 09/00815/FUL

Proposal: Erection of single storey side extension
 Location: 17 Deane Gate Drive, Houghton on the Hill, Leics. LE7 9HA
 Date received by PC: 03/08/2009
 End of Consultation: 25/08/2009 (HDC has granted a date extension)
 Having considered the plans, Council had no comment to make on this application. The clerk was instructed to inform HDC Development Control Team accordingly.

2. Planning Application 09/00907/FUL

Proposal: Installation of replacement flat roof and two glazed atrium lanterns.
 Location: 15A, Scotland Lane, Houghton on the Hill, Leics. LE7 9GH
 Date received by PC: 10/08/2009
 End of Consultation: 03/09/2009 (HDC has granted a date extension)
 Having considered the plans, Council had no comment to make on this application. The clerk was instructed to inform HDC Development Control Team accordingly.

10. EAST MIDLANDS REGIONAL PLAN: PARTIAL REVIEW – OPTIONS CONSULTATION

All Councillors had received a hard copy of the four options related to the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing Market Area and the invitation by East Midlands Regional Assembly to respond to these four options by Tuesday 6th October 2009.

The PC Planning Working Party, comprised of four available Councillors, (Cllr. Mrs. Eileen Bent, Cllr. Mr. Peter Duke, Vice Chairman Cllr. Mrs. Ann Sharman and headed by Cllr. Mr. William Scott) considered the four options at their meeting 04/08/09.

Cllr. Mr. William Scott presented the PC Planning Working Party's report to full Council and distributed written copies of the report to all Councillors and the clerk.

The Planning Working Party had referred to full Council's comments, submitted 02/07/2009 in response the HDC Local Development Framework Core Spatial Strategy Alternative Options Paper, and concluded that these, with some additional comments, should be submitted in support and justification for choosing Option 2 as having the most potential to best meet the needs of Leicester and Leicestershire HMA from 2021.

The report having been presented, the Council deliberated and confirmed the Planning Working Party's recommended response to the East Midlands Regional Plan: Partial Review – Options Consultation.

The clerk was instructed to submit the Council's confirmed response to the East Midlands Regional Assembly. A copy of the Council's submitted response is to be filed with Council's records.

11. CONFIRMATION OF REMEMBRANCE DAY SUNDAY PROCEDURES

Cllr. Mr. Peter Duke offered to co-ordinate Remembrance Day Sunday events and was duly appointed Cllr. Co-ordinator of Remembrance Day Sunday events.

Chairman Cllr. Mr. Mort Stevenson and Cllr. Mr. William Scott offered their assistance.

The clerk agreed to purchase the Royal British Legion Wreath.

Cllr. Mrs. Susan Swann agreed to book the Village Hall for Remembrance Day Sunday, 08/11/08.

Cllr. Mrs. Ann Sleath agreed to be responsible for the purchase of Remembrance Day flowers and the subsequent placement of these flowers on the War Memorial in time for 11:00am, 11/11/09.

Council agreed that Councillors available on the 11/11/09 would attend the village event and that an available Councillor would read out the usual Remembrance Day eulogy.

- *It was RESOLVED that a maximum of £25.00 expenditure on Remembrance Day Sunday flowers be approved and be coded to S.137.*
- *It was RESOLVED that total expenditure incurred for Remembrance Day Sunday, estimated at £60.00, be coded to S.137.*

12. HOUGHTON ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

No new issues were presented for Council consideration or decision.

13. VERBAL REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES IN RESPECT OF:

- **School Governors**
- **Village Charities**
- **Village Hall**

Cllr. Mrs. Sue Swann gave detailed verbal reports on the Village Hall Committee Meetings 11/05/09 and 10/08/09 and also distributed written reports on the VHC Meetings to all Councillors and the clerk. Both reports are to be filed with Council's records. The next meeting of the VHC is scheduled for Monday 16th November 2009.

- **Gardeners' Club**

In the absence of Vice Chairman Cllr. Mrs. Ann Sharman, the clerk reported that a Houghton Gardeners' Club Committee Meeting had been held 22/08/09, on the allotments, during the course of the HGC "Blitz Day". The minutes of the HGC Committee Meeting 22/08/09 are filed with Council's records.

- **LRALC**
- **Field Association**

Cllr. Mr. William Scott reported that the Houghton Field Association AGM is scheduled for, Monday 07/09/09, Houghton Pavilion at 7:00pm. The HFA Quarterly Meeting is to be held immediately after the AGM.

- **Rural East “Have Your Say”**

Cllr. Mrs. Ann Sleath reported that the next Rural East “Have Your Say” Meeting is scheduled for Monday 14th September 2009 - Coplow Centre, Billesdon

- **HDC Planning**
- **CASCET**

In the absence of Cllr. Mrs. Eileen Bent, the clerk reported that the minutes of CASCET Meetings 24/06/09 & 22/07/09 are filed with Council’s records.

The clerk also confirmed that a CASCET Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday 26th August 2009 - Great Glen Parish Office, 7:30pm. When received, the minutes of the CASCET Meeting 26/08/09 will be filed with Council’s records.

Up to date information can be accessed at: www.stopthecoopecotown.org

At the Council’s request, the Chairman is to write a formal letter of appreciation thanking Cllr. Mrs. Eileen Bent for her tireless efforts, hard work and relentless commitment on behalf of the village as both a Parish Councillor and a member of the CASCET Committee.

There being no further business to transact the meeting was closed at 9:20 pm.

SIGNED.....
CHAIRMAN

DATE.....

Appendix 1

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE PARISH COUNCIL 02/09/09

Eco Town.

Although many people, local councils, other organisations and experts are delighted that the proposed Pennbury ecotown has not received Government approval, nor is it to receive future Government financial support, the greatly valued work of CASCET is not yet finished.

The Co-op owned land still remains under threat of development.

Consequently, CASCET will continue its work and efforts to convince the Co-operative Group to drop its eco-town proposals completely.

The latest CASCET Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday 26th August 2009 - Great Glen Parish Office, 7:30pm.

East Midlands Regional Plan: Partial Review – Options Consultation

The Regional Plan is the Regional Spatial Strategy for the East Midlands. It sets out a broad, long-term development strategy for the region.

A hard copy of the complete East Midlands Regional Plan: Partial Review – Options Consultation was circulated to all Councillors in last month's "black bag".

In addition, all Councillors have received a hard copy of the four options related to the Leicester and Leicestershire Housing Market Area and the invitation by East Midlands Regional Assembly to respond to these four options by Tuesday 6th October 2009.

One of the options being examined is whether the development of a large freestanding settlement in Leicestershire could accommodate some of the necessary housing.

The PC Planning Working Party, comprised of four available Councillors, (Cllr. Mrs. Eileen Bent, Cllr. Mr. Peter Duke, Vice Chairman Cllr. Mrs. Ann Sharman and headed by Cllr. Mr. William Scott) considered the four options at their meeting 04/08/09. The PC Planning Working Party will report to full Council under Agenda Item 10, East Midlands Regional Plan: Partial Review – Options Consultation.

The report having been presented, the Council will deliberate and confirm the PC response to the East Midlands Regional Plan: Partial Review – Options Consultation.

Grant Applications

The Parish Council is currently in receipt of applications for PC grants from:

Houghton Village Hall - PC annual grant 2010/11

Houghton Field Association - PC annual grant 2010/11

Houghton Field Association on behalf of "Park Life" - PC grant 2010/11 towards new playground
"Park Life" is an HFA sub-committee with a member on the HFA Committee

St. Catharine's Church - PC grant 2010/11 towards restoration of a significant historic building

Houghton Methodist Church - PC grant 2010/11 towards maintenance of school/community room

All councillors have been circulated with copies of the currently received application letters.

The deadline for PC grant applications is 1st October. Consequently, Council consideration of grant applications, and subsequently Precept 2010/11, would be inadvisable before 1st October.

Receipt of all applications will be noted under Agenda Item 5. "Correspondence".

In accordance with the Parish Council's Policy on Grants, the receipt of all grant application will be acknowledged and the respective applicants assured that, in due course and at the appropriate time, full Council will consider each application on its own merit.