

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HOUGHTON-ON-THE-HILL PARISH
COUNCIL HELD IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, VILLAGE HALL, MAIN
STREET, HOUGHTON-ON-THE-HILL ON TUESDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2006
AT 8:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Cllr. Mr M. Stevenson (Chairman)
Cllr. Mrs A. Sharman
Cllr. Mr S. Blackwell
Cllr. Mrs A. Sleath
Cllr. Mrs A. Nunan
Dr. D. Campbell (Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES

No apologies had been received

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr. Mrs A. Sharman declared her interest in respect of a planning application for 46 Main Street.

Other declarations of interest were to be made when agenda items were being discussed. They will then be recorded accordingly.

3. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THE 5th JULY 2006

The Minutes of the Meeting of the 5th July were confirmed, and signed.

4. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM CLLR STEVENSON ON
PROGRESS ON MINOR ITEMS ALREADY DISCUSSED

Following the summer recess of the Parish Council, the Chairman read out a short report detailing the progress of minor matters for the benefit of the Council. There was some short discussion on each topic. However, as all the items had already been discussed and agreed upon, the report was for information only.

5. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CLERK ON THE RESPONSES
FROM THE CHARITY COMMISSIONERS AND TO AGREE THE
NEXT ACTION

The Clerk gave a short report on the activities following the submission of the Charity Commissioners letter and the response the Council had received.

The Chairman then asked for a decision on what the Council wanted to do as the next step. After some small discussion, no suggestion was made as so it was proposed by the Chairman that the situation be studied further and so it was:

RESOLVED that the Sub-committee on this topic should meet and a letter of reply to the Charity Commission be prepared and sent. This was to be done in the next week or so – before the Field Association AGM.

6. TO RECEIVE A FINANCIAL REPORT FROM THE CLERK AND TO AGREE TO PAYMENT OF INVOICES AND DECIDE WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE PROJECTED UNDER SPEND OF THE COUNCIL THIS FINANCIAL YEAR.

The Clerk presented a report to the Council on the findings of the internal audit, drawing attention to matters such as the underspend, risk assessment, and the size of the Council's reserves.

The Clerk presented cheques for signature, to pay for the work done on the Churchyard, internal audit and window cleaning. These were signed in accordance with the Council's standing orders.

The Clerk presented an authorisation letter for signature to the Council so that he might control the Council's bank accounts. This was also signed.

The discussion on how the underspend may be minimised and the reserves reduced began but there was no consensus and no decision was made.

7. TO RECEIVE A PROGRESS REPORT FROM CLLR MRS A. NUNAN ON THE SITUATION OF THE ALLOTMENTS AND GARDEN CLUB AND TO AGREE THE NEXT ACTION OF THE PARISH COUNCIL.

Cllr Mrs A. Sleath declared her interest in this item, therefore under the Council's Standing Orders was required to remain silent and was ineligible to vote on this topic.

Cllr. Mr S. Blackwell declared his interest in this item and so under the Council's Standing Orders was required to remain silent and was ineligible to vote on this topic.

Cllr Mrs A. Nunan gave a short verbal report on the current situation with respect to a fence on the boundary between Smart's land and the allotment gardens. There was then a short discussion on what options the Council had in strengthening the fencing arrangements. There was no clear consensus on what should be done and no decision was made.

The Council, in order to come to some decision, asked Cllr Mrs A. Nunan and Cllr Mr Ray Davis to meet and discuss options and then present the Council with some firm proposals before the next meeting.

8. VERBAL REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

- School Governors – nothing to report
- Village Charities - nothing to report
- Village Hall - There was a meeting on the 30th August to discuss domestic matters.
- LRAPLC - nothing to report
- Field Association – AGM is set for the 25th September
- Billesdon Community Forum – nothing to report

9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING AND CLOSE

The Chairman recorded suggestions for the agenda for the next meeting.

There being no further business to transact the meeting was closed at 21:50 pm.

SIGNED.....

CHAIRMAN

DATE.....