

Heath Hayes & Wimblebury Parish Council.

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting.
Held on Wednesday 3rd January 2018.
Heath Hayes Library, Hednesford Road, Heath Hayes.

Present;

Cllrs. J. Bernard (Chair), D. Baker, V. Baker, A. Bernard, L. Bullock, J. Cooper, A. Dean, M. Dean, D. Marsden, D. Todd, G. Wiggin.

In Attendance;

Cannock Chase District Councillors M. Buttery, D. Snape.
Staffordshire County Councillors B. Jones, P. Hewitt, J. McMahon.
Clerk, Mr R. Smythe.

Chair's Announcements and Public Participation.

County Cllr J. McMahon reported that the grant for the defibrillators was being processed and should be transferred in the near future.

County Cllr P. Hewitt reported that the road carriageway fault on Hayes Way near to Pheasant Way, Heath Hayes, had been repaired.

Cllr J. Bernard hoped everyone had a Happy New Year. He reported that developments regarding potential legal requirements for Parish Councils to appoint Data Protection Officers were being monitored.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

1. Apologies. Consideration of acceptance of written apologies received before the meeting.

The meeting began at 7.50pm. There were no apologies.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations on Agenda Items.

The following non-pecuniary interests were declared and noted.

Item 20 – Grant Applications. Cllrs A. Bernard and J. Bernard – KIWI Youth Club.
(Youth Leader and Spouse).

.....Chair

Cllr D. Todd – Heath Hayes and Area Senior Residents Support Group. (Member).
Cllr L. Bullock – Five Ways School. (Chair of Governors).

The above did not vote on the respective issues.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

3. To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th December 2017.

Approval of the minutes was proposed, seconded and agreed.

RESOLVED: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes.

There were no matters raised that were not already on the agenda.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

5. Planning:

5.1 Applications dealt with by the Planning Committee.

- **17/451 – 32 SALISBURY DRIVE, HEATH HAYES.** First floor extension.
- **17/455 – 2 GREEN MEADOWS, HEATH HAYES.** Garage conversion and first floor extension over converted garage.

There were no objections.

5.2 Decisions reported by Cannock Chase Council.

The Council noted the following decisions.

- **17/204 – 17 BANK STREET, HEATH HAYES.** Two storey rear extension and erection of detached summer room/shed to rear.
- **17/365 – 34 MEADOW WAY, HEATH HAYES.** First floor side extension.

5.3 Former Farm Garage, Hednesford Road. Consideration of any reply.

Cllr J. Bernard had met with the owners (Tudor Holdings) and it was reported that prior to sale or redevelopment; broken fencing youths were using to trespass will be sealed up and in the spring, the area would be tidied up and any overhanging bushes and trees cut down. Cllr Bernard agreed to check on this next month. It was agreed to highlight the worsening overhanging fencing at the next meeting with the owners.

RESOLVED: NOTED AND AGREED.

.....Chair

6. Clerk’s Report.

The Clerk’s Reports were noted and arrangements agreed.

6.1 Heath Hayes Cabin.

6.2 Hayes Green Community Centre.

6.3 Parish Council.

6.4 Grant Scheme.

6.5 Budget Report.

RESOLVED: AGREED.

7. Report of Meetings.

There were no reports.

8. Traffic and other matters affecting the area.

8.1 Parking around the primary schools.

The Council was aware of considerable public comment about this issue, especially around Gorsemoor School and it was reported that the existing restrictions there and at Five Ways, were routinely being ignored.

It was agreed to investigate options to have the existing restrictions enforced and to keep the matter on the agenda.

RESOLVED: TO MONITOR THE POSITION.

8.2 Mill Green Island renaming. Pending.

8.3 Hednesford Road speed tables. Repainting. Pending.

8.4 Hayes Way carriageway repair (Pheasant Way). Completed.

8.5 Cannock Road – Overgrown footpath. Pending.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

9. General Council Projects. Consideration of current position and future action.

9.1 Heath Hayes Park. No update.

.....Chair

9.2 **Bus Services in the area.** Consultation period finished and awaiting results.

9.3 **Heath Hayes Library.** Now has 18 volunteers. Two in training.

9.4 **Defibrillator project.** Checked and in order. Awaiting grant from County Cllr J. McMahon for the Community Life Church and Wimblebury. It was reported that there would be a three-week delay in getting the money transferred.

9.5 **Chapel Street, Heath Hayes.** No developments.

9.6 **Wimblebury Community Association.** It was agreed to ask Wimblebury Community Association for the last set of minutes and accounts. Cllr D. Todd reported that she had been told that she was a committee member and hoped to attend to the next meeting.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

10. Christmas Lights in the area. Update on 2017 and proposals for future action.

10.1 This Christmas, there had been seven decorations. Six post-mounted and one in a tree. There had been no unexpected expenditure and the bill for the project would come from the Deputy Clerk at Hednesford Town Council, who was managing the project for Norton Canes, Hednesford and this Council. The lights would be turned off on 5th January and stored in due course.

10.2 Cllr A. Bernard asked for any suggestions for additional lights to be forwarded for costing.

10.3 It was agreed to consider approaching the Mill Green Developers to ask if they would consider assisting with the funding of the lights.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

11. Cannel Mount. Current position and future action.

The Council was awaiting formal documents for signing.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

12. Dementia Awareness. Current position and future action.

It was agreed to register with the Dementia Action Alliance and it was hoped that there would be another training session by the beginning of March.

RESOLVED: TO REGISTER.
.....Chair

13. Newsletter. Consideration of content and publication of next issue.

It was agreed that the Council would consider a draft edition for publication. Articles would include Remembrance Events, grants awarded, precept, Cannel Mount, Hayes Green Centre, Heath Hayes Cabin, Council information and meeting dates.

RESOLVED: TO PREPARE A DRAFT NEWSLETTER.

14. The Great War Centenary. Consideration of supporting local events.

The matter was discussed at length and it was agreed to consider the matter further at future meetings. It was agreed to liaise with St John's Church and report to the Council. Cllrs J. Bernard, D. Todd and the Clerk to attend.

RESOLVED: TO CONSIDER THE MATTER FURTHER.

15. To note incoming and outgoing (307-319) correspondence.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

16. Accounts for Payment.

Authorisation of the payments listed in Appendix A totalling £1,280.37 was proposed by Cllr A. Dean, seconded by Cllr V. Baker and agreed.

RESOLVED: TO AUTHORISE THE LISTED PAYMENTS.

17. Items for Information or Future Agendas.

17.1 It was agreed to ask PCSO M. McAndrew for a written report regarding the New Year and to email it to the Councillors.

17.2 Councillors were invited to forward any issues by 29th January.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

18. Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next monthly meeting was Wednesday 7th February 2018. Cllr J. Bernard thanked those present for their attendance and later declared the meeting closed (after Item 21) at 8.43pm.

RESOLVED: TO NEXT MEET ON 7th FEBRUARY.

.....Chair

19. Exclusion of the Public and Press owing to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.

All members of the public present voluntarily left the meeting.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

20. To consider the awarding of grants, under the power of Section 137 of the 1972 Local Government Act.

This year, applications were invited by 30th November and considered at this meeting. The scheme was advertised in the newsletter, on the website and Facebook. Application forms are also sent to any others that request them.

Applicants provide financial information, to show their benefit to the area and to confirm the use of any previous grant. Information is sent out to the Council prior to the meeting and each application is considered on merit and benefit to the area.

Applications were considered for grants under Section 137, Local Government Act 1972. The following were agreed.

Recipients would be informed and that the cheques would be authorised at the April meeting and presented at the Annual Parish Meeting in May. Recipients are also invited to make a brief report on their activities in the area. Any not able to attend the meeting would have the cheques posted after that meeting. Grants were given on the basis that the cheques were presented for payment as soon as possible and to be used for the requested purpose and for that use to be confirmed.

- 20.1. 1st Heath Hayes Scouts. £200.**
- 20.2. 1st Heath Hayes Cubs. £200.**
- 20.3. 1st Heath Hayes Beavers. £200.**
- 20.4. 3rd Heath Hayes Guides. £200.**
- 20.5. 3rd Heath Hayes Brownies. £200.**
- 20.6. 4th Heath Hayes Brownies. £200.**
- 20.7. 2nd Valley District Seniors. £200.**
- 20.8. 1st Heath Hayes Brownies. £200.**
- 20.9. 1st Heath Hayes Rainbows. £200.**
- 20.10. KIWI Youth Club. £400.**

Proposed by Cllr L. Bullock and seconded by Cllr D. Todd and agreed.

- 20.11. Five Ways Primary School. £500 to improve library facilities.**

Proposed by Cllr D. Todd, seconded by Cllr J. Cooper and agreed.

.....Chair

20.12. Heath Hayes and Area Senior Residents Support Group. £500.

Proposed by Cllr L. Bullock, seconded by Cllr A. Dean and agreed.

20.13. St John's Church. £500.

Proposed by Cllr D. Todd, seconded by Cllr J. Cooper and agreed.

RESOLVED: TO MAKE THE GRANTS, TOTALLING £3,700 AS ABOVE.

21. Consideration of acceptance of budget and to set the precept for 2018/19.

The Council considered the precept and the consensus was to set the precept at the lowest level possible to enable the Council to remain financially viable taking into account the known and expected expenditure, as well as new areas of expenditure such as the development of Cannel Mount and the expansion of Christmas Lights. Please testing Great

The Council considered any likely variations in costs and possible effects of future events. Funds set aside for contingencies would assist with the cost of elections or any unforeseen expenditure with the Heath Hayes Cabin or Hayes Green Centre.

The financial requirements of the Heath Hayes Cabin and Hayes Green Community Centre were material. The future of Cabin was not known. The Centre had a projected loss of income from the main hirer of £12,000 and this may be mitigated, but to what degree was not known.

The Council had taken a great deal of care with examining all aspects of income and expenditure and looked at the needs of the area, and had decided to meet all criteria and keep the rate burden as low as possible.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to accept and adopt the budget proposals.

The amount the Parish Council precepted, would be divided by the Council Tax Base (4,005.18) to produce a Band D figure, commonly used as a comparator. Last year (2017/18), a precept of £66,512.49 resulted in a Band D charge of £16.66.

The Council discussed the matter at length and it was agreed that any increase in cost to the residents should be kept to a minimum. The Council was also aware that the grant element of the precept (£6,597.91), which the District Council had stopped handing over, was unlikely to be received again.

After much further discussion, the Council felt it necessary and reasonable to set the precept at £73,000, with an expected Band D of £18.23. This would be an increase of £6,487.51, Band D increase of £1.57 a year or 13p a month.

RESOLVED:

- **TO ACCEPT AND ADOPT THE BUDGET.**
- **TO SET THE PRECEPT AT £73,000.**

.....Chair