

Heath Hayes & Wimblebury Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 7th February 2018.
Heath Hayes Library, Hednesford Road, Heath Hayes.

Present:

Cllrs J. Bernard (Chair), D. Baker, A. Bernard, L. Bullock, A. Dean, M. Dean,
D. Marsden.

In Attendance:

County Councillors P. Hewitt, J. McMahon.
Cannock Councillors D. Snape, M. Sutherland.
PCSOs Megan McAndrew and Claire Reeves.
Four residents. Including C. Woods. D. Cooper. S. Thompson.
Clerk, Mr R. Smythe.

Chair's Announcements and Public Participation.

Mrs Thompson reported about the ongoing problem at the recycling facility at Tesco, Heath Way. The following points were made:

- Clothes were regularly being dumped on the floor and not in the bins and this was encouraging other forms of litter and vermin.
- The bins should be checked and emptied regularly.
- Warning signs and a CCTV camera would deter littering.
- There were reports of clothes being stolen from the bins.

It was agreed to write to Tesco and Environmental Health for technical and legal advice.

Mrs Thompson raised the ongoing problem with fly-tipping in Newlands Lane, Heath Hayes. The Council was aware of the long-term problems at this location and agreed to work with Norton Canes Parish Council where appropriate on a joint approach to the problem on our border roads. County Councillor P. Hewitt said he would look at what was allowed to be recycled at the Poplars Site and report back.

Mrs Thompson complained about the smell from the Poplars Tip. The Council agreed it was unacceptable and agreed to write to Biffa. The Council encouraged reports of smells to be reported so that they could be recorded and investigated

.....Chair

The Council discussed the continued problems with school traffic in the area and it was reported that the Chair and Clerk hoped to meet with the Heads of the three primary school as soon as possible and this issue would be amongst those raised.

County Councillor J. McMahon reported that the lease for Cannel Mount and the grant for the defibrillators had both been agreed. (See also Item 14).

PCSOs McAndrew and Reeves reported on events on the area. They were thanked for their attendance and report. (Appendix B).

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

The meeting began at 8.10pm. Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs. V. Baker, J. Cooper, D. Morris, D. Todd and G. Wiggin.

Apologies were also received from County Cllr B. Jones.

RESOLVED: TO ACCEPT THE APOLOGIES.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations on Agenda Items.

Cllr A. Bernard declared an interest regarding Heath Hayes Cabin. The interest was solely as a member of a group that used the Cabin and was non-prejudicial.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

3. To Approve the Minutes of the Meetings held on 3rd January 2018 and consideration of any matters arising not on the agenda.

Approval of the minutes was proposed, seconded and agreed. There were no matters raised.

RESOLVED: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.

4. Planning.

4.1 Applications dealt with by the Planning Committee.

- **18/023 – 1 NEWLANDS LANE, HEATH HAYES** – Single storey side extension and two storey rear extension. No objection.

4.2 Decisions reported by Cannock Chase Council.

The Council noted the approval of the following application:

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

RESOLVED: NOTED.

5. Consideration of noting and agreeing the Clerk’s Reports.

5.1 Heath Hayes Cabin. Report agreed. Please also see Item 11.

5.2 Hayes Green Community Centre. Report agreed.

5.3 Council.

- Heath Hayes Library. It was reported that there are now 18 trained volunteers, with 11 attending regularly.
- It was agreed to pay £1,904.85 (including £283.40) VAT for the Christmas Lights. There would be a further bill for the electricity used in due course. The Council agreed to a one-off payment of £200 to Mrs L. Bowman for her work in setting up the arrangements following the takeover from Cannock Council.
- It was agreed to send a card to Mrs Becky Graham who was leaving her position as Head of Heath Hayes Academy to thank her for her work and to wish her every success in her new post.

5.4 Annual Awards. Report agreed.

The reports were noted and accepted.

RESOLVED: AGREED.

6. Report of Meetings.

6.1 A new group meeting called “Times Past” had started meeting on a fortnightly basis at Heath Hayes Library and the second event had been held on 5th February. The group discusses historical issues in the area and about 20 attended, an increase on the first event. It was hoped that this group would continue to prosper. The next meeting due on 19th February.

6.2 WW1 Commemorative Events. Please see Item 15.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

.....Chair

7. Current Traffic Matters.

The Council discussed a proposal to suggest that the service road at the rear of Heath Hayes Library should be made one way to make the road safer and to assist the passage of large delivery vehicles. It was agreed to support the proposal and to approach County Council Highways for their comments.

RESOLVED: TO CONTACT COUNTY HIGHWAYS.

8. Dementia Action Alliance. Update on current position and future action.

8.1 The Council had submitted a registration application to Cannock Chase DAA.

8.2 It was reported that there would be a training session at Norton Canes Library between 11.30am to 12.15pm on Saturday 26th May.

8.3 It was hoped that there might be an additional training session at Heath Hayes Library before mid-March.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

9. Consideration of agreeing to a request to take over the maintenance of a bench at Heath Hayes Library after it has been installed for 10 years.

It was reported that Mr R. Pitcher had expressed a wish to pay for the installation and maintenance of a memorial bench at Heath Hayes Library in honour of his late wife.

The Council supported the proposal and agreed to help with the administration and to take on the maintenance after the 10 year period.

If Mr Pitcher wanted the Council to act in this, he would be invited to make a payment in advance to cover the costs and an estimated £100 for maintenance and the Council would liaise with the contractors and the County Council.

RESOLVED: TO ASSIST WITH THE ARRANGEMENTS.

10. Newsletter – Consideration of draft publication.

A draft copy of the newsletter was circulated and the Council agreed to publish the newsletter based on the draft copy.

RESOLVED: TO PUBLISH AND CIRCULATE THE NEWSLETTER.

11. Heath Hayes Cabin. Consideration of initial structural report and consideration of future action.

The Cabin was on land leased annually from Cannock Chase Council and under a temporary planning permission, both due for renewal in September. As the Cabin had been in situ for 15 years and was thought to have been 20 years old when it was installed, the comments from a recent inspection were considered in relation to the future of the Cabin. It was thought that with the ongoing and probably increasing maintenance costs and the cost of removal under contractual obligations, that it was no longer financially viable to maintain the Cabin when the costs and the use were considered.

The Council had confirmed that it could not sell nor sub-let and the only option was removal.

It was agreed to obtain quotes from suitable persons or companies to remove the Cabin and to liaise with the existing hirers and to help them relocate.

RESOLVED: TO GET QUOTES.

12. Council Projects. Defibrillators – Update on the current position and consideration of future action.

12.1 Defibrillators.

- Units 1 and 2 had been checked and were in order.
- The County Council had confirmed in writing that a grant of £2,000 from County Councillor J. McMahon had been approved. This was to provide a defibrillator at the Community Life Church and at a location to be confirmed in Wimblebury. The Clerk was asked to make the appropriate arrangements. County Councillor McMahon was thanked for his very kind donation.

12.2 Land adjacent to Chapel Street, Heath Hayes.

It was agreed to write to the County Council to ask for an update on their plans for the land and if the Parish Council could buy any land to build a community centre.

12.3 Arrangements for APM, AGM. As agreed.

12.4 Awards for Citizen, Young Person and Business of the Year. As agreed.

12.5 Bus Services in the area. No developments.

12.6 Heath Hayes Playing Fields.

It was reported that some work will be undertake on tree coppicing and management on the area to the east of the park and the flower bed is to be reinstated.

RESOLVED: TO CONTINUE WITH THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TWO DEFIBRILLATORS. TO WRITE TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL. OTHER POINTS NOTED.

13. Consideration of invitation to comment on local issues of public concern regarding local policing to be sent to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Council agreed to participate and to circulate the comments.

RESOLVED: TO COMMENT TO THE P&CC.

14. Cannel Mount.

It was reported that the County Council had agreed a 100 year lease and it was hoped that the documents to process the transfer of the land would soon be received.

RESOLVED: LEASE DOCUMENTS AWAITED.

15. Consideration of support for Great War Commemorative Event at St John’s Church.

It was reported that Cllrs J. Bernard, A. Dean and D. Todd had met with Rev. Glynne Watkin on 5th February to discuss the centenary. The Clerk was also present.

The following were agreed and reported to the Council for information:

- To not have one big event because of cost and concentrating effort and focus on an event that may not be well attended.
- To have a series of manageable events from June to November.
- To use St John’s, Library, Cons Club – building based in case of weather issues.
- To involve and invite local schools. To ascertain if they have they any plans?
- Schools Centenary Concert. Individual schools or a joint event.

- Remembrance Sunday on 11th November – Buffet at the Cons Club?
- To consider sponsoring or funding events such as a Film Night, Museum of Cannock Chase, acting or performance groups.
- To meet again in four weeks (5th March) and report back to the Council.

RESOLVED: TO CONSIDER THE MATTER FURTHER.

16. To note the Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence.

The list of incoming post and outgoing post, numbered 1 to 28/18 was noted.

RESOLVED: NOTED.

17. Accounts for Payment.

Authorisation of the payments totalling £4,496.24 as listed in Appendix A was proposed by Cllr A. Dean, seconded by Cllr D. Baker and agreed.

RESOLVED: TO AUTHORISE THE PAYMENTS LISTED IN APPENDIX A.

18. Items for Information and Future Agendas.

18.1 Councillors were invited to forward agenda items to the Clerk by 26th February.

18.2 It was agreed to write to the County Council regarding the future of Heath Hayes Library, to ask if the Parish Council could buy the building or to have a long-term lease.

19. Date of Next Meeting.

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Wednesday 7th March 2018. Cllr J. Bernard declared the meeting closed at 9.22pm and thanked those present for their attendance.

RESOLVED: TO NEXT MEET ON 7th MARCH.

.....Chair