

**HIGHER KINNERTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE BLUE ROOM, KINNERTON VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY
10th MARCH 2016 COMMENCING AT 6.30 P.M.**

PRESENT: Cllr. R. Springett (Chairman), Cllr. G Evans, Cllr. Allport, Cllr. A. Jones, Cllr. P. Lightfoot, Cllr. C. Upton, Liz Corner (Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE: Steve Jones, Head of Street Scene, FCC for community transport, traffic calming and parking restrictions review.

15.143 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. J. Dyson, Cllr. S. Jessop & Cllr. P. Jones due to alternative commitments.

15.144 COMMUNITY TRANSPORT, TRAFFIC CALMING AND PARKING RESTRICTIONS REVIEW

In relation to community transport, Steve Jones advised due to budget cuts FCC were seeking to make savings in providing community transport by reducing bus subsidies from £1.5 million to £300-£400k over 3 years. This reduction would affect non-commercial routes which would instead be supplemented where possible by community transport networks providing links to core bus routes. FCC were seeking to work collaboratively with Town and Community Council in establishing the community transport schemes. FCC would be inviting Town and Community Councils and other relevant parties to attend a workshop in April 2016 to identify an area in which a pilot scheme could be launched with effect from summer 2016.

Steve Jones noted the only route servicing Kinnerton affected by the reduction in bus subsidies was the X9. He agreed to send HKCC further information regarding bus subsidies and advised it would assist if HKCC could ascertain the level of demand amongst residents for bus services and preferred destinations. There was a general consensus that improved links to Broughton would be beneficial. Steve Jones concurred that reduced levels of service may have the effect of rendering services worthless for residents although advised there was no scope for increasing service levels on non-commercial routes.

In relation to traffic calming Steve Jones advised a full review of the scheme had been undertaken and robust consultation had been carried out prior to installing the traffic calming scheme. Given the WAG had identified Main Road a route which would benefit from traffic calming and provided funding for the scheme, FCC would not proceed to remove the scheme despite opposition from a number of residents. Members proceeded to discuss the details of the traffic calming assessment sent to HKCC via email on 9th March. In relation to the pre and post scheme average traffic speeds, members expressed concern that the figures appeared to be inaccurate. Steve Jones agreed to verify where along Main Road the survey had been conducted and to undertake an additional survey to demonstrate whether the figures were accurate. Steve Jones further agreed to provide details of a revised traffic calming scheme with a number of speed cushions being removed and additional full width tables being installed although he advised any revised scheme would be subject to consultation with the emergency services and funding would not be provided by FCC.

As regards HKCC's proposals for parking restrictions within the vicinity of the school, Steve Jones advised the request would be ranked within a list of such applications received County wide and depending on where the application had been ranked, funding may be available for the scheme. Steve Jones agreed to send HKCC details of the list and further advised a decision would be reached within the next three months.

Steve Jones left the meeting at 7.30pm.

ACTIONS

FCC	To provide HKCC with further details regarding bus subsidies, to provide alternative design for traffic calming scheme and to send details of the list of applications relating to parking and speed restrictions.
HKCC	To establish demand for bus services

15.145 POLICE REPORT – the Clerk had not received a report in advance of the meeting and agreed to chase the matter with PCSO Mat Gordon.

15.146 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No initial declarations of interest received

15.147 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11th FEBRUARY 2016

The minutes were proposed by Cllr. Evans and seconded by Cllr. Springett as a true record. All agreed.

15.148 UPDATES FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

15.131 – Cllr. Jessop had sent Mike Eastwood drawings depicting the drainage within the vicinity of Cannon Way and Bennetts Lane.

15.131 – Cllr. Jessop had drafted a relevant article in the newsletter regarding FCC's zero policy in relation to littering and dog fouling.

15.134 – Cllr. Jessop had provided details via email regarding suggestions for expenditure of S106 monies.

15.134 – Cllr. Evans had established availability of the Swan for a March open meeting.

15.134 – The Clerk had verified the insurance policy covered HKCC property stored by Cllr. Springett.

15.134 – The Clerk had contacted Hope Community Council regarding possible dates for a meeting with HKCC and awaited a response.

15.137 – The Clerk had verified referral of the Elan Homes application to Planning Committee would take place in April.

15.137 – the initial meeting for the Village Day had taken place and arrangements were underway.

15.138 – Cllr. Jessop had drafted a newsletter article regarding the Community Orchard. Cllr. A Jones advised 3 additional trees were available which members agreed would be planted in the park.

15.140 – Cllr. Lightfoot had obtained replacement recycling sacks which were being stored at the Post Office. It was agreed that a newsletter article would confirm the sacks were available to those who were unable to obtain them from recycling centres.

ACTIONS

Clerk	To draft newsletter article regarding recycling sacks in Post Office.
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15.149 CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) Clerks and Council's Direct Magazine received
- 2) Letter from FCC re Best Kept Communities Network Group which Cllr. Springett and Cllr. Allport had joined on behalf of HKCC
- 3) Email from FCC re suspension of Right to Buy – it was resolved that the Clerk would make enquiries with FCC regarding any potential for the garages site off Park Avenue being converted into affordable homes.
- 4) Lloyds TSB Bank Statements received, checked and filed

ACTIONS

Clerk	To liaise with FCC regarding potential for garage site off Park Avenue to be converted into affordable homes.
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15.150 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

- 1) Society Local Council Clerks (membership) - £103.00 - cheque number 001421 proposed by Cllr. Evans and seconded by Cllr. Springett. All agreed.
- 2) RJH Print Services (March newsletter) - £180.00 - cheque number 001422 proposed by Cllr. Evans and seconded by Cllr. Springett. All agreed.
- 3) T. Hough (face painter for village day) - £140.00 - cheque number 001423 proposed by Cllr. Evans and seconded by Cllr. Springett. All agreed.
- 4) E A Corner (expenses) - £58.37 - cheque number 001424 proposed by Cllr. Evans and seconded by Cllr. Springett. All agreed.
- 5) E A Corner (overtime) - £111.85 - cheque number 001425 proposed by Cllr. Evans and seconded by Cllr. Springett. All agreed.

15.151 TO RECEIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community – The Open Meeting would be held at the Swan on Monday 15th March commencing at 7.30 pm. Cllr. Evans appraised members of the topics to be covered during this presentation.

Preparations for the Village Event on 11th June had commenced with various activities booked. It was agreed to make use of the table tennis table currently stored at the Scout Hut and Cllr. Lightfoot agreed to provide table football.

The Clerk updated members regarding the S106 options including the MUGA options which had been prepared by Cllr. Jessop. In relation to the MUGA resurfacing, HKCC had budgeted for £5000 on the basis that FCC would match fund the equivalent amount. FCC had identified two potential contractors.

Following robust consideration it was resolved that HKCC would request that the works be carried out by the second contractor with the additional cost of £3330 being financed via the S106 fund.

Following a meeting with FCC on 12th February, the potential designation of the Old Railway Line as a public right of way had been discussed although a further site meeting had been arranged to review the preferred designation as either a bridle way or a footpath with HKCC expressing a preference for designation as a footpath. Members noted that should the Old Railway Line be designated as a right of way there may be limited benefit for HKCC in securing a leasehold interest in the land with associated maintenance responsibilities. Cllr. A. Jones advised she was in the process of arranging a survey of the Old Railway Line to be conducted to establish whether newts were present.

The Clerk advised the one objection to the Bennetts Lane Corner improvements had been addressed and she would therefore proceed with the planning application for removal of the hedges and installation of additional fencing. Cllr. Upton offered to assist with providing the necessary drawings if required.

The Clerk advised various allotment holders had given up their plots with effect from April 2016 and therefore a number of new allotment holders had taken over the plots.

Commerce – Review of Asset Register

The Asset Register had been circulated to members previously with the agenda. Members RESOLVED to approve and adopt the Asset Register for 2016/17.

Cllr. Springett advised the Clerk had worked a number of additional hours in preparing and submitting HKCC's objection to the Elan Homes planning application. Based on the record of hours worked in January and February members unanimously resolved to approve a payment of overtime in the sum of £111.85.

Communication – members noted that with Cllr. Jessop being unable to produce the April newsletter, HKCC were exposed to the risk of not having access to the necessary software to produce the newsletter. Members resolved to purchase Microsoft Publisher for the HKCC laptop to enable other members to assist. Cllr. Lightfoot agreed to assist with producing the April newsletter.

The website spam problems persisted. Cllr. Evans agreed to obtain a quote from PD Input for an overhaul of the website and on-going maintenance and Cllr. A. Jones agreed to obtain a quote of the same from providers of her employer's website.

ACTIONS

Clerk	To proceed with submitting Planning Application for Bennetts Lane Corner improvements
Cllr. Evans and Cllr. A Jones	To obtain quotes for an overhaul of the website and on-going maintenance
Cllr. Upton and Cllr. Allport	To proceed with purchase of Microsoft Publisher for HKCC website
Cllr. Lightfoot	To assist with preparation of April newsletter

15.152- CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

No further matters to report.

15.153 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk advised members of the proposed arrangements for the internal audit plan for 2015/2016. Members resolved to appoint JDH Business Services Ltd as HKCC's internal auditor for 2015/2016.

The Clerk had spoken with Mike Eastwood of Street Scene Services who had advised the issues raised at the previous meeting had been addressed with the exception of the contractor site visit for the permanent VAS sign. The Clerk agreed to request the contractor's details to enable HKCC to set up a site meeting.

ACTIONS

Clerk	To contact FCC regarding permanent VAS sign site meeting
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15.154 REPORTS FROM MEMBERS

No further matters to report.

15.155 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Allport advised since James Bann had moved HKCC would need to make alternative arrangements for the allotment maintenance. The Clerk agreed to contact Les Cannon of Sandy Lane Farm in the first instance. Cllr. Springett advised he would assist if necessary.

ACTIONS

Clerk	To contact Les Cannon regarding allotment maintenance
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15.156 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting to be held on Thursday 14th April commencing at 6.45 pm. The meeting was declared closed at 8.45 pm.