

## HORHAM AND ATHELINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held Wednesday 21 September 2016 in the Old School 7.30pm

1. APOLOGIES – Cllrs: Pip Florance, Keith Hawes. District Councillor Mrs Elizabeth Gibson-Harries  
PRESENT – Cllrs: Hav Wilkins (chairman) Christine Cooper, Lawrence Weaver, Celia Morphett,  
Jill Peters.

2. REPORTS – No reports were made available from our district or county councillor.

3. MINUTES of meeting held 20 July 2015 were signed by the Chairman

4. MATTERS ARISING – Tidying the village – Mrs Gibson-Harries had offered to deliver leaflets asking householders to inspect their hedges/verges – she was unable to be contacted and Cllr Cooper composed and printed a leaflet -these were kindly delivered to each household by Bernard Ryan.

5. CORRESPONDENCE –

SALC Mid Suffolk North meeting Thurs 22 September Eye Town Hall. No one was available to attend.  
SALC Under Localism act 2011, Government plans to make an annual decision of whether to introduce automatic precept referendums where they deem precept increases to be ‘excessive’ for local councils. Government is able to decide what the threshold will be for triggering referendums and to which councils this will be applied. Government has threatened to apply them to local councils but, to date has not done so. This could change with plans outlined in *2017/18 Local Government Finance Settlement: Technical Consultation Paper* published this month. This would mean a possible cap on the amount of precept we raise on Mid Suffolk.

Road Closure B1117 between New Street Stradbroke and Thorpe Hall lane Horham was closed overnight (7pm - 5am) for repairs from 15 – 18 September. Surface dressing will take place at a later date.

UK Power Networks – from 6 September 2016 a new national phone no 105 will be launched by electricity network operation for customers to call to report or get information about a power cut in their area.

Suffolk Constabulary – Sept 16 Safer Neighbourhood Team Report – Covering the Wards of Eye, Fressingfield, Hoxne, Palgrave, Stradbroke, Laxfield, Wetheringsett & Worlingworth. 187 incidents received 89 investigations recorded. No incidents recorded in Horham or Athelington.

Hedgerow The clerk received a complaint from Mr D Colnet, Grove Farm, Athelington, with regard planning application 3397/16 to remove hedgerow to make 2 small fields farmable. Mr Colnet claims this is an historic hedge and is unhappy with the application as the hedge supports diverse wildlife and he would like to see it retained. When the Parish Council decided on this application we were not aware of this. Similarly the District Council did not know until they had been alerted to the situation.

6. FUTURE OF WEBSITE PROVISION (ONESUFFOLK) – From 1 November SCC will cease to offer this service and Community Action Suffolk will become the new provider. If the PC wishes to continue with onesuffolk service there will be an annual charge of £50 excluding VAT. After discussion it was agreed to stay with onesuffolk and reply accordingly.

7. TELEPHONE KIOSK –The costs have as yet to be finalised and a meeting will be arranged possibility towards the end of October to consider the next step.

8. HIGHWAYS. Hedges - the laurel hedge bordering the Rectory from the Church gate round the shop corner is overgrown restricting visibility for motorist and pedestrians. Contact SCC.

Cllr Weaver commented that he had noticed vehicles half parked on the footway in front of the Church, causing pedestrians to walk in the road.

9. PLANNING – Between meetings

Application 3397/16 - Removal of a hedgerow to make 2 small fields farmable. To enable drainage of a larger area to take place. To enable access on farm side of fields. Meadow Farm Athelington. **PC support**

Application 3644/16 – Erection of new carport, garage, log store and games room. (Previously approved under planning permission 2272/13. Rose Farm, Athelington Road, Horham. **PC support**

10. FINANCE – Second precept payment of £650 has been received from MSDC. Recycling claim Payments– The following payments were approved and paid – proposed by Cllr Christine Cooper seconded Cllr Lawrence Weaver

Hav Wilkins –fuel for mower £11.02

Bank balances held - current a/c £1814.16 Business Premium a/c £101.62 – NSI £875.80

11. ACCOUNTS – The Annual Return and audit has been completed and signed off for 2015/16. There were no issues arising from either the external or internal auditor.

12. PENSION REGULATOR – Automatic enrolment declaration has been completed.

13. MATTERS Raised BY COUNCILLORS – Community Council Fence Cllr Morphett said she had noticed the perimeter fencing surrounding the Community Council meadow is in bad repair. The Chairman replied that the VHT were aware of this and plans for repairs were in place.

S106 Funds Cllr Cooper said she was in a position to apply for Grant Aid from S106 funds towards a ramp and replacement door for the Old School. A supporting letter from PC was necessary for the application.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING confirmed for Wednesday 23 November 2016

As there was no further business the meeting closed 9.00pm