

**MINUTES OF HARDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD 11th JUNE 2009 AT 7.30PM IN HARDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Present

Councillors – Michael Andrews, Chairman, Alan Sykes, Vice Chairman, John Bagnall, Kay Kirkham, Hannah Cummins, Colin Booth, Sue Whitehead
4 members of the public
Clerk - Jessica Mathews

1. Apologies

None

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Andrews, Sykes and Kirkham declared an interest for item 9 as the secretary, treasurer and member of the Village Society respectively.

3. Public Question Time

Two residents of Stone Terrace informed the council of some trouble they have experienced with campers on the land behind their properties including very loud music and shouting until the early hours; drinking; litter; inappropriate sanitation; and damage to trees issued with preservation orders.

The residents have complained to the Police, the Environmental Health, Tree Preservation and the owner of the land.

They felt that the Council did not need to do anything presently but wanted them to be aware of the situation.

4. To confirm minutes of meetings held 14th May 2009

Resolved. The minutes, of the meeting held on 14th May 2009, are a true and accurate record. Cllr Andrews signed a copy of them.

5. Medical Facilities

A response from the Chief Executive of the PCT said that due to limited resources there are no plans for a surgery in Harden. Cllr Sykes responded and raised the concerns mentioned in the questionnaire, in particular the poor appointment system.

Cllr Kirham reported that Cullingworth surgery has introduced a Saturday morning surgery for full time workers.

6. Parish Liaison Meeting

- Planning protocols for PCs are being reviewed, including introducing a procedure for when a PC is the sole objector
- The Govt is pressing for electronic planning to be in place for PCs by Sept '09
- Next meeting is on 15th July, and will be attended by Cllr Cummins and Cllr Booth

7. Village Flower Beds

Resolved. Cllr Andrews will purchase two signs (double sided 18" square £25-£30 each) to be displayed in the flowers beds acknowledging the PC.

8. Traffic Update

A very constructive meeting was held with the Simon D'Vali, BMDC Principal Engineer. Details as follows:

- A pedestrian refuge will be added to the road between the Congregational church and the shop as a pedestrian crossing is not feasible
- The village cannot be made a 20mph zone but if the proposal for all schools to have a 20mph zone in front of them becomes law then that will be endorsed
- Additional mobile flashing speed signs will be considered to be displayed entering the village from Bingley and from Wilsden.
- White and yellow lines discussed, additional yellow lines for the entrance to Ferrands Road
- Parking issues around the chip shop and Keighley Road were discussed.

The Chairman commented that he has so far been impressed with the helpfulness of BMDC employees.

9. Village Society

The Village Society currently exists in name only and is to meet on July 4th for an AGM type meeting to decide whether it is:

- a) Wound up and any monies it holds given away to another charitable body in Harden or
- b) retained as a vehicle for gaining funding for the village

Resolved. All members of the PC are in agreement that it would be in the best interest of Harden Village if the Society was retained.

It may be helpful in securing future funding for the Memorial Hall project. Cllr Andrews is happy to offer to be the Chairman, Cllr Kirkham the Secretary and Cllr Sykes the Treasurer.

10. Planning Meeting

Resolved. The minutes of the meeting held on 4th June 2009 were accepted and Cllr Kirkham signed them.

The Beckfoot Lane proposal goes to the Shipley Area Panel on 18th June. The PC has recommended it be refused.

The Caravan Park has resubmitted a proposal.

11. Harden Park

- A fence is broken on the watercourse that poses a danger to youngsters – Clerk will report to Parks Manager

- Cllr Booth has recently collected sacks full of bottles and litter – Clerk to report to Parks Manager
- Clerk to seek an update of the meeting Cllr Ellis is holding about the problems of night time drinking and noise in the park
- Clerk to approach the Youth Service for advice/ help in addressing the aforementioned problem
- Cllr Cummins to ask young people if they would be interested in meeting with the PC to discuss the issues
- Crime has risen 250% across the four villages and Cllr Booth urged the police mobile number to be passed onto those who are concerned about the park and any other incidents.
The mobile patrol number to ring is 07736 086704
Other incidents can be reported on 0845 6060606
In an Emergency dial 999
- Off Licenses in the area are being checked. Harden's has been passed.

12. Ireland Bridge

Due to the discovery of very rare bats the bridge will now be closed in January 2010 instead of July 2009. Any new details the PC receives will be posted on the notice board.

13. Payments for approval

Cllr Bagnall provided copies of the current cashbook.

Cllr Andrews closed the meeting at 9.30pm.

**The next Parish Council meeting will be held
on 9th July at 7.30pm in Harden Primary School.**