



# Heybridge Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** held on **THURSDAY 20<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2017** in The Main Hall, Plantation Hall, Colchester Road, Heybridge.

## PRESENT

**Vice-Chairman:** Councillor Prof. Lew Schnurr

**Councillors:** Gary Young                      Richard Perry                      Keith Lawson  
Simon Burwood                      Ashley Jones                      Trevor Cable  
Sofia Bishop                      Natalie Lewis                      Bernard Hall

**Officer:** Laurie Wiebe

**Public:** Members of Public = 18

**Representatives:** Maldon District Councillors – Bryan Harker, Miriam Lewis  
Heybridge Residents Association – Don Benson  
Heybridge Blackwater Rotary Club – Malcolm Holmes  
Maldon District Council Community Protection Officers (CPOs) –  
Adrian Rayner  
Heybridge Primary School PTFA – Mrs Sharon Hopkins

**In the Chair:** Cllr. Prof Lew Schnurr

**1**            **Introduction and Welcome**  
Cllr. Prof Schnurr welcomed everyone.

Apologies were received from Cllrs. M Edwards and T Gentry. Dist. Cllr Ian Dobson.

**RESOLVED** that the apologies be accepted.

**2**            **Minutes**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016 were received.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

**3 Annual Report and Statement of Parish Council accounts for year ending 31 March 2017.**

Members received the annual report for the year 2016/2017 and statement of Parish Council accounts for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

The Chairman's report included an overview of the Parish Council, Committees, and staff. There was also an overview on the role of the Council in planning, highways and environment. The responsibilities of the Council were set out for Plantation Hall, King George V Playing Field, amenity areas, bus shelters, rubbish and dog bins. The report also highlighted work of the Council within the community and associated public events.

**4 Cheque Presentation – Charity of the Year**

Cllr Gary Young, Chairman of the Events Committee, presented a cheque to Mrs Hopkins representing Heybridge Primary School PTFA for £1336.69.

Mrs Hoskins thanked the Parish Council for the support. The PTFA have earmarked the funds to provide much needed outdoor benches at the School. There will be a plaque to acknowledge that the funds were raised by the Parish Council. Mrs Hopkins expressed her gratitude and hoped that the PTFA can continue to build a partnership between the Council and the School.

**5 District Councillors' and County Councillor Reports**

Dist Cllr Lewis reported that:-

- the District Council have been working with local businesses and explained to residents the upcoming changes to allocation of business rates;
- the District Council have started to identify business improvement districts with an example of an area in Wickham Bishops;
- it was anticipated to receive a response from the Secretary of State regarding the Local Development Plan by end of summer 2017;
- the District Council has identified a 5 year land supply;
- the District Council are to offer chairmanship training to parish and town councils;
- the initiative from Essex County Council to strengthen communities with focus on issues such as isolation of elderly people and literacy of primary school children within the Maldon District;
- the District Council hopes to identify a centre of excellence for different forms of care to help encourage young people to remain within the District. The District Council has been meeting with different universities.

Dist Cllr Harker reported that:-

- after a year, the street lights along Goldhanger Road between Wharf Road and Chigborough were now working;
- there will not be a 20mph speed limit along Lawling Avenue;

- the planning application for relocating Heybridge Swifts is scheduled to be considered at Maldon District Council on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017;
- there have been an increase in the number of planning applications being delegated to officers for determination;
- internal and external audit of the District Council has been completed;
- the bus timetable has yet to be installed at the bus stop located opposite Bentalls shopping area;
- Dist Cllr Harker continues to express his disappointment with the District Council as to the unfinished business related to the reinstatement of the public toilets;
- the Glebe Road surface has been improved.

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### **Presentations**

Presentations were received from:

- i) Adrian Rayner – Maldon District Council Community Protection Officers (CPOs)

Mr Rayner explained that the CPOs deal with car parking (double yellow lines, car parks), street scene, CCTV, and dog issues. The CPOs have taken over closing the gates at Plantation Hall. In Daisy Meadow Car Park they dealt with a fly-tipping problem, two abandoned vehicles and moved on two caravans. They also have noticed an improvement in anti-social behaviour and Mr Rayner thanked the caretaking staff at Plantation Hall for working alongside the CPOs. The CPOs are aware of the dog fouling problem and will be re-launching Park Watch scheme. There are currently 40 residents signed up in Heybridge. The CPOs continue to ask the community to pass on the details of any dog fouling problem to them. The CPOs have recently undertaken training with Essex Police to use 'bodycams' and 'dashcams' as well as 'nightcams'. The CPOs have issued 42 fines this year.

- ii) Heybridge Blackwater Rotary Club – Malcolm Holmes

Mr Holmes gave a brief background of Rotary Club and explained it was about having fun and fundraising. The Rotary Club 'purple for polio' campaign raises funds to help eradicate polio internationally. For every £ or \$ raised, Bill Gates matches the funds by 3. The Heybridge Blackwater Rotary Club (HBRC) broke away from Maldon Rotary Club in 2010. The HBRC run the Santa Sleigh through Heybridge, holding a bingo event to raise money for the Heybridge Primary School PTFA, and help support Maldon Shed as well as young carers. The HBRC would like to work with other local groups.

Cllr Prof Schnurr noted that Dave Brock who was to represent Heybridge Basin Conservation Society was not able to attend.

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**Open Forum Session**

Ashley Jones of Goldhanger Road noted that there had been a problem with vehicles parking on the pavement along Goldhanger Road which prevented pedestrians, pushchairs and disabled access. Mr Jones called Essex County Council, Maldon District Council and the Police. Mr Rayner (CPOs) informed Mr Jones that only the Police can deal with vehicles parking on pavements.

Dist Cllr Harker noted that the Parish Council election expense was more than £16,000 for the year.

Mrs Doreen Carr, secretary of Heybridge Women's Institute (HWI) explained the background of HWI for 100 years and that they have been at the Waring Rooms for 100 years. Miriam Lewis and Brenda Harker also noted that they were one of only a few WI who meet in the afternoons. Miss Lewis and Mrs Harker proposed a motion that 'in keeping with Local Government view that a vote be put forward at next Parish Council meeting that a vote to restore village rate status to HWI.' A vote was held and 15 residents voted in favour, therefore the motion was carried.

Chris Simmonds of Dorset Road, Maldon asked the CPOs regarding dog fouling on public spaces including the playing field. Mr Rayner and Dist Cllr Lewis suggested that the telephone number for the CPOs be advertised.

Mrs Doreen Carr, Boulton Cottages, reported that the pavement along Stock Chase near the playing field was in a poor state.

No other comments were made by the public.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the Annual Parish Meeting.

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**Close**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:20pm.

CHAIRMAN