



# Heybridge Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** held on **THURSDAY 21<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2016** in The Main Hall, Plantation Hall, Colchester Road, Heybridge.

## PRESENT

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

**Councillors:** Tina Gentry                      Dr. Michael Blyth                      Gary Young  
Richard Perry                      Keith Moodey                      Keith Lawson  
Stephen Jennings                      Simon Burwood

**Officer:** Laurie Wiebe

**Public:** Members of Public = 4

**Representatives:** Maldon District Council – Karen Buttress  
Maldon District Councillor – Ian Dobson  
Farleigh Hospice – Maz Keenan  
Heybridge Residents Association – Don Benson  
Heybridge Basin Conservation Society – Dave Brock  
RCCE Community Agents – Jan Hawkins

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

Before the start of the meeting, everyone was upstanding to mark the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

**15/511      Introduction and Welcome**  
Cllr. Prof Schnurr welcomed everyone.

Apologies were received from Cllrs. M Edwards and Z Edwards, and Dist. Cllr Bryan Harker.

**RESOLVED** that the apologies be accepted.

**15/512      Minutes**

The minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015 were received.

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015 be approved and signed by the Chairman.

**15/513 Annual Report and Statement of Parish Council accounts for year ending 31 March 2016.**

Members received the annual report for the year 2015/2016 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.

It was noted that the statement of Parish Council accounts were not complete and would need to be ratified in May 2016.

**15/514 District Councillors' Reports**

District Cllr Dobson apologised for not being able to attend Parish Council meetings as frequently as he had hoped. District Cllr Dobson reported on current developments that had an effect on Heybridge including works to roads, broadband services, Wagtail Drive flood alleviation, District Council budget cuts, changes in the Tourism Information Centre, pending changes to Bentalls Shopping Centre, and controversial planning applications. District Cllr Dobson noted he was particularly concerned about the services being offered for the vulnerable, young and for mental health. District Cllr Dobson asked for increased communication directly with Parish Councillors.

Cllr Jennings asked Dist Cllr Dobson questions regarding the Holloway Road Planning Application.

There was a discussion regarding the lack of public conveniences in Daisy Meadow Car Park. Dist. Cllr Dobson supports public toilets in the Car Park and would report back to the other ward District Councillors.

**15/515 Presentations**

Presentations were received from:

- i) Karen Buttress – Maldon District Council Community Resilience Officer
  - Training available for rest centres, recognising people vulnerable to radicalism, and emergency planning;
  - Offered to help with Neighbourhood Planning
- ii) Jan Hawkins – RCCE Community Agents
  - Primarily offer support to the over 65 year olds
  - Covers Maldon, Heybridge, and north Maldon district
  - Receive on average 500 referrals per month through GP's, social care, Parish Council and other groups;

- Main concerns are loneliness and benefit system.
- iii) Maz Keenan – Farleigh Hospice Community Fundraiser
- Reported on increase in care at home;
  - Explained that Farleigh provide care for the whole family including counselling services;
  - Outlined how efforts were being made to improve services being offered to the community;
  - Mentioned that referrals do not have to be from professional bodies such as GP's;
  - Explained that new commercial director has been appointed;
  - Offered tours of Heybridge day centre and Chelmsford IPU facility.
- iv) Dave Brock – Heybridge Basin Conservation Society
- Reminded all that the Society was established 49 years ago and each Basin villager is a member;
  - Observed that the Basin Village Design Statement needs to be updated;
  - Outlined problems with vehicles parking at the end of Basin Road near the Jolly Sailor and access problems for emergency vehicles;
  - Commented that the entrance to Daisy Meadow Car Park needs to be repainted with double white lines
  - Noted that the Conservation Society objected to the fishing lakes at Hall Road planning application
  - Noted that in the past the Society have retained professional planning consultants which were funded by the residents.
  - Dist Cllr Dobson inquired as to the derelict boats in Heybridge Creek. Mr Brock advised that the boats should be left alone.

15/516

**Should Heybridge Parish Council become a Town Council?**

There was a general discussion whether the Parish Council should become a Town Council.

Cllr Perry supported the change because people perceive a mayor as being a position of prestige and popularity whereas a chairman has less status.

Cllr Prof Schnurr suggested that a parish workshop could be organised to help explain the differences. It was agreed that the workshop be organised in summer.

Cllr Dr Blyth supported the change because of the historical parochial parish perception of a village and indicated it was time to think outside the box as perception does not keep up with changes given that the population of Heybridge is 10,000.

**15/517      Neighbourhood Plan update**

Cllr Prof Schnurr reported that the questionnaire was being posted to each household within the Parish. The results of the questionnaire would be analysed for what development would be appropriate.

**15/518      Open Forum Session**

Mrs Lake of Stock Terrace addressed the meeting regarding the poor condition of Stock Terrace. Mrs Lake also expressed concern of the abandoned vehicle that has been left outside the bungalow for the past 8+ years. The bungalow homeowner has also left boulders which obstruct access for other residents using the road. A petition has been signed by 60 people to have something done about the vehicle and boulders.

Cllr Prof Schnurr thanked Mrs Lake and offered to raise these issues with the appropriate authority on behalf of the Parish Council. Dist Cllr Dobson also offered to help.

Mr Rosenburg of Chestnut Avenue addressed the meeting regarding vehicles driving onto the green space at the end of Chestnut Avenue. It was noted that Dist Cllr Lewis was contacting MOAT regarding this issue.

Mr. Benson noted that Heybridge Residents Association supported the development of a Neighbourhood Plan and offered to help the Parish Council where appropriate.

No other comments were made by the public.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the Annual Parish Meeting.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8:35pm.

CHAIRMAN