



Heybridge Parish Council

Minutes of the **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on **THURSDAY 17th NOVEMBER 2016** in the Claydon Room, Plantation Hall, Colchester Road, Heybridge.

PRESENT

Chairman: Michael Edwards

Vice-Chairman: Prof. Lew Schnurr

Councillors: Simon Burwood Richard Perry Gary Young
Ashley Jones Trevor Cable Keith Lawson
Tina Gentry (arrived late)

Officers: Laurie Wiebe

Members of Public: 2

District Councillors: None

Police: None

Other Representatives: The President, treasurer and secretary of Maldon Blackwater Rotary Club.

In the Chair: Michael Edwards

The meeting started at 7:00pm.

It was noted that the meeting would not be recorded.

16/286 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Perry passed the apologies for Cllr Thurgood and Cllr Rablin. The Chairman reminded Members that apologies had to be sent to the Clerk.

Dist. Cllr Harker and Dist. Cllr Lewis passed their apologies.

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the apologies.

16/287 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed Cllrs Cable and Jones.

The Chairman attended the Maldon Town Council's Civic Service on 23rd October 2016 and will be attending the Maldon District Council's Civic Carol Service in Burnham-on-Crouch on 19th December 2016.

The Chairman received a letter from the Chairman of the Local Council Award Panel congratulating the Parish Council on having been awarded Foundation status. It was noted that only 22 other Councils in Essex have achieved the award. The Foundation Award allows the Parish Council to benchmark their performance as well as challenging to consider continuing development and improvement. The next step is the Quality Award which involves good governance, role in community, and further improvement through the management and development of staff and Members. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for carrying out all the necessary work to achieve the award.

It was noted that there had been an excellent turnout for Remembrance Sunday Service. The Chairman thanked Heybridge Neighbourhood Group, Maldon and Blackwater Rotary Club and various friends for helping during the day. The Chairman thanked the uniformed organisations and Canon Dr Michael Blyth for the excellent service.

16/288 **Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th October 2016 were received.

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 20th October 2016 be approved and confirmed.

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 3rd November 2016 were received.

The minutes of the Environment and Resources Committee held on 24th October 2016 were received.

16/289 **Declarations of Discloseable Pecuniary Interests, Other Registerable Pecuniary Interests, Registerable Non-Pecuniary Interests**

There were none.

16/290 **Public Participation Session**

The President of the Maldon Blackwater Rotary Club informed Members of the Christmas Sleigh scheduled fundraising events. It was noted that the funds raised support a charity providing toilets in developing countries especially for women. The Rotary Club also have approached Heybridge Primary School to supply dictionaries to all pupils but this has not been fully supported by the governing body. The Rotary Club will be looking at working with the Primary School PTFA. The Rotary Club would like to work together with the Parish Council because of the common goal to build community spirit.

The Christmas Sleigh events will take place:-

- 7th December 2016 between 6pm and 8pm along Hall Road.
It was noted that volunteers were needed;
- 12th December 2016 between 3pm and 7pm the sleigh would be located in the Tesco lobby;

- 17th December 2016 the sleigh will be in Heybridge Basin taking part in a charity event;
- 21st December 2016 between 6pm and 8pm along Wood Road;
- 22nd December 2016 the sleigh will be in Tesco lobby.

Mr Patrick Higham informed Members that the street lights along Goldhanger Road were still not working.

16/291 District Councillors' and Emergency Services Report

A report was received from Dist Cllr Bryan Harker:-

- The street lights along Goldhanger Road between Wharf Road and Osea Leisure Park were still not working. Dist Cllr Bryan Harker has chased Highways and National Power several times. Highways has accepted that the lights have not worked since April 2016;
- Highways are continuing to monitor the speed along Lawling Avenue and are looking at reducing the speed to 20mph. The estimated costs are £15,000;
- Gateway signs have been recommended for the Parish Boundary along Goldhanger Road, Broad Street Green Road, Heybridge Approach, and Langford Road. The estimated costs are £30,000;
- The '40' speed sign located along Goldhanger Road near Basin Road has been fixed by Highways.

16/292 Report from the Clerk

A report was received by Members.

The Clerk attended the SLCC National Conference between 13th and 15th October 2016.

It was noted that the Council had received the Foundation Award under the Local Council Award Scheme. It was noted that the accreditation panel would be meeting in December to consider the Council's application for Quality Award status. It was noted that a small event should be held to mark the occasion.

It was **RESOLVED** that a Local Council Award Scheme event be held prior to the start of the Parish Council meeting to be held on 16th February 2017.

Members considered:

- i) Agreeing the draft schedule of meetings for 2017/2018;
- ii) Listing the War Memorial with Historic England;
- iii) Proactively embracing multiculturalism and diversity. It was noted that events could be further investigated including cultural celebrations, food markets as well as work with different cultural organisations, cultural community associations and local cultural support groups;

- iv) Appointing one Member with a legal background to work with the Clerk to review governance practices prior to the Annual Statutory Parish Council meeting. After no Members volunteered, Cllr Prof Schnurr offered to help as he had a legal background.

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- i) The draft schedule of meetings for 2017/2018 be agreed;
- ii) The War Memorial be listed with Historic England;
- iii) The Council supports multiculturalism and diversity in principle and to further investigate different options;
- iv) Cllr Prof Schnurr be appointed to carry out the governance review with the Clerk.

There was an interruption by a member of public. The Chairman informed the member of public that the public participation session had closed. There continued to be a disruption by the member of public. Cllr Prof Schnurr called point of order. The Chairman asked the member of public to leave the meeting twice. Further interruption occurred at which point the Chairman closed the meeting.

The meeting closed at 7:30pm.

Chairman
15 December 2016