

Hartest Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting held in The Boxted & Hartest Institute at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 16 March 2004

Present: Cllrs Rachel Irvine (Chairman), James Long (Vice Chairman)
Saxon Gotts, Mary Gough, Robin Oaten, John Schofield.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Jo Pask (hospital treatment), (Mr James Long arriving late).

Attending: Mr David Morbey (Clerk to the Council), Mr Michael Schosland (Retiring Clerk),
County Councillor: Mr Richard Kemp, (District Councillor: Mr James Long)
PC McKenna, 1 member of the public

04/1 Minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2004

Corrections: 4f. insert **foot** before **paths**, change **composting** to **environmental**. 6. after **55%** add **of those that replied**. 9. after **The Parish** delete **Council**. 13. add new minute: **Miss Jo Pask reported that The Institute were no longer going to provide recycling facilities in their car park**. Following these correction the minutes were confirmed and signed as a correct record. Proposed by Cllr Schofield. **Carried**

04/2 Matters arising from the minutes

Babergh District Council Annual Community Achievement Awards Ceremony, at Stoke by Nayland on 25 February. The Chairman reported on the ceremony at which Jo Pask received an award for her work in fund raising for The Institute renovations. The evening had been terrific and Jo Pask "was great!"

04/3 County Councillor's report

Mr Richard Kemp reported that he had received many emails on the proposed charges for transport to Catholic schools. He had been assured by Cllr. Lewis that there would be full consultation and a review in September before implementation. The Regional Agenda is on the move, with the possibility of a Regional Assembly of 25-35 members with Suffolk County Council having about 4 members. This could have a great impact on the government of our region. Any decision on a Regional Assembly would be decided by referendum.

04/4 Police report

PC McKenna reported 3 crimes in the period compared with 0 last year. They were 2 minor thefts with the same person suspected for them both. A motorist made an unprovoked attack on a council worker at the road works on the B1066. PC McKenna urged people to take small simple sensible precautions to protect their property and to report even minor offences as a report on one crime may lead to it being solved when another crime is investigated. He asked the Council to consider reviving the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

04/5 Finance

a. balances	Current Account	£2266.71
	Capital Reserve Account	£3683.86
	Halifax Guaranteed Reserve	£4064.53

b. receipts since last meeting None

c. payments to be approved

cheque no. 357 Paul Woricker – litter bins	£ 300.00
358 SALC – new clerk training day	£ 20.00
359 M T Schosland – back-dated wages	£ 69.00
360 B&H Institute – hall hire	£ 28.00
361 Lubbock Fine – audit2002/2003	£ 141.00
362 M T Schosland wages & expenses	£ 223.02
363 D Morbey Clerk wages & expenses	£ 194.66
364 Paul Woricker – litter bins (balance)	£ 370.00
Total	£1345.68

Payments proposed by Cllr Gough **Carried**

d. financial summary Mr Schosland presented the financial statement as of 16 March 2004. It showed that after payments approved above the amount available in 2004/2005 for non budgeted items stood at £1,770.08. There is a further £819.34 reserved for environmental spending. There is a further £3,000 (carried over from 2002/03 and 2003/04) reserved for the enhancement of The Green. (The 2004/05 budget includes an additional £1,500 for The Green).

e. audit and banking The accounts 2003/04 have been signed off by the Accountants Lubbock Fine. Because of our investment in the Halifax Reserve Account we are due approximately £80.00 interest at the end of March.

f. charitable giving

Boxted and Hartest Institute. The Clerk read a letter from Richard Weller-Poley dated 12 March 2004. The Institute Committee does not require and will forgo any sum allocated to it by the Parish Council in the financial year to 31 March 2004. The Institute Committee asks the Parish Council to give great consideration to continuing to budget annually to give the historic grant to the Institute so that The Institute may decide each year whether to accept the grant. The letter also highlighted that additional finance is likely to be required in future because of insurance costs, legislation and safety issues. **No further action this year.**

Suffolk Accident Rescue Service. It was agreed to donate the sum of £25.00 (Section 137 funding) **Action Clerk**

Hartest Pre-school A letter had been received from the Hartest Pre-School Management Committee requesting funding from HPC to expand childcare facilities for Hartest children. Provision of accommodation is urgently required due to an increase in numbers at the Primary School forcing the child care group to relocate to the Institute. £25k required. To date £8k raised locally, £10k conditional grant allocated. Further grants of £5,726 and £11k have been awarded towards first year running costs. There was general agreement that this was a worthy cause and it was agreed that a grant be made to the Hartest Pre-School management Committee in the sum of £500.00 towards the costs of the provision of accommodation for the child care group. Proposed Cllr Schofield, Seconded, Cllr Oaten, **Carried** (Section 79 funding). Clerk to write letter of support to the group with cheque. **Action Clerk**

04/6 District Councillor's report

Cllr Long said there was nothing significant to report

04/7 Planning

BaberghDC decisions:

B/03/01333/LBC/MC - The Crown, Hartest, IP29 4DH – Application for Listed Building Consent and installation of tempered air intake equipment. **Application withdrawn**

B/03/02069/FUL – Peartree Farm, Brockley Road, Hartest IP29 4EQ – Erection of detached two-story dwelling (following demolition of existing dwelling). Alterations to existing vehicular access. **Permission refused**

HPC decisions:

B/04/00051/FHA – 3 The Row, Hartest, IP29 4DL – Erection of detached two-story side and rear extensions and front porch. Construction of new vehicular access. **No HPC objections** (planning site meeting 16 February 2004)

B/04/00143/TPO/NN – Oakhill House, Somerton Road, Hartest – Tree conservation applications **No HPC objections** (Mike Feather report).

B/04/00100/JVC Hillbank House, Hartest Hill, IP29 4ES – Erection of two story side extension and alterations to roof. **No objections** but changes in materials recommended and highways permission for additional parking should be obtained.

Considered at this meeting:

B/04/00310/FHA/COB – Laurel House, Melford Road, Hartest, IP29 4JN – Erection of a rear conservatory, detached double garage, construction of swimming pool, erection of 4m high fence enclosure to tennis court.

No objections but materials for garage should be in keeping with the rest of the property and fence around tennis court should be of the open link type. Babergh to be asked why no materials were specified on the plans.

B/04/00391/FUL/GD – Peartree Farm, Brockley Road, Hartest IP29 4EQ – Erection of detached two-story dwelling (following demolition of existing dwelling), alterations to existing access. **No objections, application supported**

04/8 Correspondence

Stop Stansted Airport Expansion Campaign The Clerk had received a telephone message from Peter Sanders from the campaign who was trying to arrange to speak at Council. Clerk returned the call to say it would not be possible at this meeting. It was agreed that no further action was necessary.

Parish Plan Steering Group A letter and report had been received from the Chairman of group. They outlined the group's preparation of a draft funding application to the Countryside Agency and argued that this funding was vital to the preparation of the Parish Plan. The status of the Parish Council would have an influence on the success of the application and the group requested information on the Quality Council Status of the Parish Council. The group requested funding from the Parish Council for the initial work of the group prior to the award of an agency grant as these initial expenses cannot form a part of that grant. The expenses are expected to be contained within £100.00. It was agreed that the Clerk would check the requirements for HPC Quality Status. **Action Clerk** There was a

discussion about the request for finance: This was additional to the sum already allocated. It could not be open ended. There must be rigorous accountability for spending by the Group. The Group should present accounts to Council and to the Parish meeting. It was agreed in principle to provide the Parish Plan Group with an additional sum limited to £100.00 for expenses incurred by the group in preparing a funding application to the Countryside Agency. This additional amount is dependent upon the groups financial reporting arrangements being satisfactory and their agreement to present accounts to the HPC and the Parish Meeting, Proposed Cllr Long, Seconded Cllr Oaten **Carried** Voting against: Cllr Gotts. **Action Clerk**

One Suffolk Web Portal This will, in time, provide a web presence for Parish Councils. In the meantime a request to be made to Mr Mike Hamilton on the status of our domain name. **Action Clerk**

04/9 Transport and the environment

Provision of a free bus shelter in 2004 2005. Discussion on the possible siting and style of a bus shelter. The design should be appropriate to the village conservation area. It should be sited with both safety and convenience in mind. It should protect the waiting passengers. SCC and the bus companies should be consulted on possible sites and length of time the offer would be available. **Action Clerk**

20mph speed limit. Discussion on necessity and advisability of introducing a 20mph limit through the village. How effective will it be? What would be the visual effect? What other measures might be introduced instead or as well? There was general approval for a limited scheme, more discussion and thought needed. **Action Councillors** SCC to be asked to look at provision of possible scheme and if any provisional testing needs to be carried out. **Action Clerk**

Pot holes Some remedial work has been carried out. More needed. Will be done at some point. **Action Clerk**

Improper verge protection Stones and stakes placed at Mile End Farm, Somerton Road. SCC investigating.

Removal of recycling facilities from The Institute car park There was a spirited debate. Mr James Long opposed the removal of the facilities. He regarded The Institute as a village community centre and therefore The Institute car park was the best site for recycling. He said communities were keen on recycling, BaberghDC had done a lot of work promoting recycling, most parishes had recycling facilities and Hartest should retain its facility. He said that re-siting the facility within Hartest would be difficult and he was appalled that the Institute Committee had made the decision to remove it. Mr John Schofield said that The Institute was not a public place, that the car park was not a public car park, and that the neighbours were very annoyed by the noise from the bottle bank. He said that the bottle bank was used at all hours of the day and night and by commercial vehicles too which off-loaded great quantities of bottles for up to half an hour at a time. Mr Long said that the effects of noise could be reduced by time limits. There was much agreement with Mr Long on the necessity for a recycling site, but there was also the understanding that bottle bank noise created a nuisance. The Clerk informed Council that the school benefited financially from the recycling site (approximately £300.00 per annum). It appeared that The Institute Committee had not been aware of this when it made its decision. It was decided to try to find alternate sites for the recycling facility. **Action Councillors and Clerk** It was agreed that The Institute would be asked to retain the recycling facility for a short time to see if an alternative site could be found. Proposed Cllr Long **Carried** **Action Cllr Schofield and Clerk**

04/10 The Green, Cemetery and Churchyard

Litter bins have been finished and delivered to the Chairman's house and now need to be positioned and fixed in place. It was agreed that the bins should be placed near to the present seats. Existing litter bins to be removed. Quotations to be obtained **Action Clerk**

Steps leading to post box These need repairing and some of the bricks replaced with more suitable ones. Quotations to be obtained. **Action Clerk**

Green enhancement A site meeting was held on 3 February 2004 The Clerk has circulated a report of the meeting to councillors. Babergh to be chased for their report. **Action Clerk**

Notice-board re-siting The notice-board should be moved to a more appropriate location now that all the shops and the Post Office have closed at that end of The Green. Suggested that the site should be considered after the bus shelter location decision is made.

Cemetery rating revaluation This has yet to be done. Mr M Schosland to liaise with new Clerk **Action Clerk**

04/11 Matters for discussion

The Chairman asked Councillors to handle correspondence boxes speedily. **Action Councillors**

The Chairman said that new procedures for planning applications should be implemented.

Parsons Walk safety SCC have been asked about rights of way responsibility for repair and upkeep. The kissing gate was removed when a bungalow was built in The Row.

Retiring Clerk The Chairman thanked Mr Michael Schosland for his work as Clerk and wished him well in the future.

Date of next meetings:

Annual Parish Meeting Tuesday 18 May 2004 at 7.00 pm in The Boxted and Hartest Institute

Annual Parish Council Meeting at 8.00 pm following the APM.