

HENLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Rod Caird, 26 Church Lane, Henley IP6 0RQ
Tel: 01473 831172 Email: henleyparishcouncil@gmail.com

Minutes of the
Parish Council meeting
on Tuesday November 14, 2017 at
7.30pm in Henley Community Centre

1/141117	Apologies for Absence and Approvals
	None. Two members of the public were present, together with Cllrs John Field, John Whitehead and James Caston
2/141117	Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation
	None
3/141117	Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on September 12 and October 26, 2017
	Approved.
4/141117	To invite public discussion on items on the agenda and to receive reports from the County and District Councillors
	<p>County Cllr Field's report will be published on the Henley website. He drew attention to cuts in the home-to-school transport service; to the likelihood that the West Meadows traveller site will be sold to its residents; to the new arrangements for reporting problems to the Highways team; and to remedial works being authorized and carried out at the Bells Cross crossroads following the recent accident. There was a discussion about safety on Henley Road and whether better surfacing would be helpful.</p> <p>District Cllr Caston's report will be published on the Henley website. Proposed electoral boundary changes will have no effect on Henley. The merger of Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils is likely to proceed. Most MSDC staff have now moved to Endeavour House in Ipswich and the former offices at Needham Market will be converted and developed though no specific plan has yet been made. Funding is still available from the District Councillors' Locality Budgets and applications need to be in by the end of December. There was a discussion about the buses used by Otley College and it was felt the Parish Council should approach the new Principal of the College about using smaller buses which might not be driven in convoy. It was also noted that the new car park lights at Barham Care Home are unnecessarily</p>

	bright.
5/141117	<p>Progress reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Henley housing needs survey and the Mid Suffolk Local Plan • Co-option of additional councillors • Operation of the Respect Zone outside the Primary School • Speeding on Ashbocking Road • Use of Rede Lane by heavy vehicles • Redecoration of the bus shelter
	<p>A meeting had been held with Community Action Suffolk and MSDC planning officers to discuss possible ways to meet the perceived need for about 30 new houses in Henley including approximately 15 defined as affordable. After discussion it was agreed to seek out a planning consultant for an exploratory conversation. It was agreed it is vital for the process to be open and transparent.</p> <p>The question of co-opting an additional councillor would be revisited at the next meeting.</p> <p>A meeting will be arranged with Highways engineers in order to look again at possible solutions to the traffic problems outside the school, in addition to the continued operation of the Respect zone.</p> <p>Data will be collected on speeding on Ashbocking Road and through Henley Square. Highways would be consulted about introducing priority signs at the narrowed section at the entrance to the village from Ashbocking Road.</p> <p>After discussion it was suggested the weight limit for vehicles on Rede Lane is too high and a case could be made to reduce it from 7.5 to 3.5 tons. Work needs to be done to improve safety of the junction of Rede Lane and Henley Road. It was noted that one consequence of new housing would be a need for improved roads.</p> <p>It was agreed to obtain quotes for redecoration of the bus shelter.</p>
6/141117	To receive a report from the Henley Community Centre Charity
	Volunteers are sought to join the Trustees group and also to staff the bar.

7/141117	To adopt the latest version of the appropriate Parish Council Standing Orders
	The standing orders were adopted.
8/141117	Financial report to date, including agreement on a budget for 2018/19. Any payments due will be made, including, if appropriate, Section 137 grants to local organisations
	<p>The draft budget for 2018/19, which had been circulated in advance, was approved and it was agreed to hold the precept at the same level as the current year, £12,111. Spending in the year is anticipated to be approx £12,285.</p> <p>A payment of £592.71 had been made to Suez Trust, a condition of that organisation's grant for the stage extension in the Community Centre. A payment was made to Playquip for the playground safety check (£144). Payment of the invoice from CAS for the Housing Needs Survey (£2,794.48) was held pending clarification of the contribution to the amount due to come from Mid Suffolk.</p> <p>Applications for Section 137 grants will be sought so that decisions can be made at the January 2018 meeting.</p>
9/141117	To set a date for the next village litter pick
	Sunday March 4, 2018
10/141117	Urgent matters to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council
	The barn conversion application at Damerons Farm has been approved. Information has been sought from Mid Suffolk as to the outcome of the change of use application at the Cross Keys.
11/141117	To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting
	Monday, January 15, 2018