

HENLEY PARISH COUNCIL

"Creating a spirit within our community that is always friendly & welcoming."

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Minutes of Henley Parish Council Meeting Tuesday January 12, 2016 7.30pm Henley Community Centre

Public Discussion	<p>Five members of the public and Cllrs James Caston and John Field were present. Cllr John Whitehead had sent his apologies.</p> <p>Continuing problems on Clay Lane were mentioned with a vehicle recently going into a ditch and damage caused by coaches. Potholes on Ashbocking Road had been reported to the Highways team through the County website. Damaged pavements on Gascoigne Drive and other maintenance issues need to be reported.</p> <p>There was a discussion about the new Respect Zone outside the primary school. School parents present acknowledged the benefits of the road outside the school being safer and of the exercise gained from a short walk. But less beneficial were the problem of children arriving at school cold and wet; the lack of a formal footpath from the Community Centre car park down Church Meadows; the new parking problems caused by cars stopping further west along Ashbocking Road; and the potential danger caused by traffic moving faster along Ashbocking Road. Correspondence had also been received from other school users making similar points.</p> <p>Cllr John Field's County report drew attention to projected reductions over coming years in available budgets and the potential unspecified effects on services. He also noted continuing discussions about regional devolution, continuing difficulties in progressing Highways work including the new signage in Henley Square, and progress on superfast broadband provision which suggests that the decision to go ahead with a commercial interim solution in the Henley square area was a good one.</p> <p>Cllr James Caston's District report drew attention to the work of the Scrutiny Committee in looking at cutbacks and concerns about homelessness, especially in situations where offered help was unwelcome. A Conservative group meeting had discussed possible changes in ward sizes but Cllr Caston does not believe this is a useful plan, especially if Babergh and Mid Suffolk continue towards a complete merger of authorities. £18,000 worth of applications had been received for £10,000 of possible locality grants by the January 8 deadline and decisions would be made shortly about</p>
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	allocating the funds.
	Present: Kevin Griggs (chair), Stephen Brock, Keith Lawrance, Martin Redbond, Bryan Marks, Rod Caird (Clerk)
1/120116	Apologies and Approvals of Absence
	Graham Doyle had sent his apologies and his absence was approved.
2/120116	Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation
	None
3/120116	To approve as accurate the Minutes of the Meeting held on November 10, 2015
	Approved
4/120116	To discuss progress reports as follows:
	<p>Henley Square traffic signage: The work has been ordered and dates are awaited.</p> <p>Vehicle Activated Sign on Main Road: This has been installed initially on the north-bound post on Henley Road. Cllr Marks will move it in rotation to the south-bound post in Hemingstone and then Henley. It was noted it could also be used on Ashbocking Road outside the school to encourage slower speeds there. Data will be downloaded on traffic behaviour and reported to the police.</p> <p>Henley Primary School Respect Zone: The zone has been in place since January 6. The scheme is a joint project by the Parsh Council, the School, Mid Suffolk and the police. The points raised in discussion earlier together with other comments made verbally or in writing were noted and acknowledged as helpful observations as the Zone develops over time. The weather has been a problem for walking and traffic congestion around Pond End has been heavier. Speeds outside the school can be monitored using the VAS and Cllr Field will inquire whether funding is available for a “walking bus” from the Community Centre to the school. Footpath provision on Church Meadows would be investigated. It was agreed to monitor progress and to consider all</p>

	<p>opinions expressed, including the many positive views which had been passed on. It was particularly noted that the Parish Council values and welcomes the School as a vital part of the community. Cllr Redbond was thanked for his hard work in bring the Zone into existence.</p> <p>Clay Lane traffic and road condition: Following the discussion earlier this would remain on the Agenda for future meetings.</p> <p>Improvements to Parish noticeboards at the bus stop and Henley Square: An application has been made to the District Councillors' locality budget and the outcome is awaited.</p> <p>PCSO Funding proposals: It was noted that discussions on revised policing plans for the area are ongoing and would be monitored.</p> <p>Church Lane ditches and concerns about the smell from the pig farm: Highways have contacted landowners concerning the need to improve the ditch work near Kewland Hall. Clerk has reported the smell concern to the Environment Agency and a report is awaited.</p> <p>Tree Preservation Orders and maintenance: It was agreed to leave this on the Agenda.</p>
5/120116	<p>To discuss planning applications:</p> <p>a) 4328/15 Location: Hill Farm Barns, Ashbocking Road, Henley, IP6 0SA Proposal: Erection of replacement commercial unit (revised scheme to previous application 2036/14)</p> <p>b) 4364/15 Location: Westways, 21 St Peters Close, Henley IP6 0RH Proposal: Erection of conservatory</p>
	No objection was raised in either case.
6/120116	<p>To consider Henley's planning future in the light of issues raised during discussions about a five-year plan</p>
	A meeting would be arranged with MSDC planning

	department to consider options.
7/120116	To review the 2015 Henley Christmas fair and to set a date for 2016
	Chairman thanked all those who had helped with a very successful fair. 31 stall-holders had taken part and £1,001.20 was divided equally between Brooke's Wish to Walk and Daisy's Wish. Letters of thanks had been received from both groups. This year's Christmas Fair would be held on Saturday December 3, 2016
8/120116	Payments due and financial report including Section 137 grants for 2015/16
	The bank reconciliation to date was signed, showing a balance including uncleared items of £14,278.67. Payments were made to Rod Caird (clerk pay, £99.00) and Suffolk County Council (street lighting, £1,857.53). Proposals for Section 137 grants were considered and it was agreed to pay £250 each to the E Anglian Air Ambulance, to Henley Senior Citizens group and to St Peter's Church towards improvement work in the churchyard. A budget of £12,685 for 2016/17 was approved and the precept requirement would be unchanged from 2015/16 at £12,111.
9/120116	Urgent matters to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council
	A safety report had been received from Playquip and it was agreed to ask them for an estimate of the cost of work on the railings. A letter had been received concerning drainage and ditch problems on the edge of the garden of the last house on the left east-bound on Church Lane and it was agreed the Chairman would inquire about ownership of the neighbouring field. The next village litter pick would be held on Sunday February 28, 2016
10/120116	Date of Next Meeting
	Tuesday March 8, 2016, at 7.30pm in the Community Centre.