

# HALSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE AMENITIES & HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 29 JANUARY 2014 in THE PAVILION, STATION ROAD AT 18.00

PRESENT: Cllr. Jeff Baldwin, Chairman  
Cllr. David Taylor, Chairman of Council  
Cllr. Barrie Blundell  
Cllr. Chris Ford  
Cllr. Karen Grosvenor

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk  
The meeting convened at 18.15

### 1 APOLOGIES

All members were present and signed the register.

### 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Nil

### 3 ALLOTMENTS

#### 1. Trenches and drainage

Cllr Baldwin suggested that the trenches be drained as soon as the weather improves.

He advised that the cost of hiring a fuel driven water pump would be £36 per day; £46 for two days.

The Committee agreed to put this to Council.

Thames Water has advised that the pipe needs to be embedded in pea shingle or soft sand.

The cost of pea shingle is £35 per tonne bag = 1 cubic metre. Discussion took place on the amount of pea shingle required. Clerk to ascertain the depth required under the pipe. A working party will be arranged.

The shingle/sand will also need to be placed over the pipes before the trenches are back filled.

Cllr. Grosvenor mentioned the water lying in the road at Beldam Haw. She suggested digging a trench along the edge of the allotments near the pedestrian gate to drain it back onto the allotment. After discussion, the Committee disregarded this action: it would make the allotment permanently water logged and unusable.

#### 2. Any other items

##### **Removal of hedge.**

Clerk to ask David Elliott if he can remove the hedge at the vehicle access point from the road side. He will also be asked to remove this carefully so that the plants can be replanted in the hedge row.

##### **Car park**

This is on hold until the weather improves.

### 4 FLOODING THROUGHOUT HALSTEAD PARISH

Flooding areas were noted. Knockholt Road (Cherrywood), Shoreham Lane (in the dip), Otford Lane (in several places including in front of the Dell), Watercroft Road. These areas are in need of sweeping. Clerk will contact SDC. Contact also being made about sweeping Sevenoaks Road at Knockholt Station on Saturdays

### 5 PAVILION ROOF

The roof has developed a leak through to the hall via a light fitment. The light has been disconnected by an electrician and a builder visited site. The hole could not be located but a damp patch was found in the loft.

There are several tiles broken (C25) and roofing companies have been contacted for site visits and quotations.

### 6 COUNTY COURT FINE

This relates to damage of the bus shelter last year. Discussion took place on pursuing this claim. It was agreed that both sets of parents should be approached for payments of the £100 excess paid by Council against the insurance claim.

It was agreed that the parents should be informed that Council would make a claim through the County Court Money Claims Centre if there was no response again and that they would also be liable for costs. Cllr. Blundell proposed, seconded by Cllr. Taylor and agreed that the Committee should make these recommendations to Council. It was understood that the victim of assault had taken out a private prosecution.

**7 DOG FOULING**

After discussion it was agreed to recommend to Council that a large yellow sign, same as that displayed outside the Pavilion, should be purchased and displayed on the bus shelter.

It was also agreed to recommend to Council that 50 all-weather stickers costing £15 should be purchased from Carneassociates, proposed by Cllr. Blundell, seconded by Cllr Taylor and agreed.

**8 SPEED INDICATOR DISPLAYS**

The SID in Station Road had been replaced following complaints made to Kent Highways by a resident.

Council had not been informed that it was to take place. Clerk has contacted a Highways manager to ascertain who to speak to on this matter.

**9 MEETING WITH HIGHWAYS**

Date to be arranged as soon as possible.

Agenda items to date: Draining problems, Speed Indicator Display, Hedges, Contact procedures and courtesy

**10 INFORMATION**

Nil

The meeting closed at 19.30