

**HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL - MINUTES OF A MEETING OF
FULL COUNCIL HELD 18TH FEBRUARY, 2009**

Cllrs. Present: Cllr. Sheila Baynes, Cllr. Louise Bloom, Cllr. Helen Corben, Cllr. Keith Day, Cllr. George Fraser (Chairman), Cllr. Cynthia Garton, Cllr. Lisa Hollis, Cllr. Val Houghton, Cllr. Keith House, Cllr. Peter Hughes, Cllr. Nathan Khan, Cllr. Sally Lloyds, Cllr. Derek Pretty, Cllr. Jenny Schwausch, Cllr. Shankerlal Sthankiya, Cllr. Jane Welsh, Cllr. Ray Worley

Also Present: WPC Sandy Wyld

1. Public Questions not on the Agenda

No members of the public present.

2. Apologies

County Cllr. Derek Blampied, Cllr. Pearl Hicks, Cllr. Jenny Hughes, Cllr. June Hughes, Jenny Critchlow, Guy Davies

3. Declarations of Interest

The Chairman and Cllrs. Jenny Schwausch, Keith Day, Lisa Hollis and Nathan Khan expressed a non-pecuniary interest relating to their voluntary services to the St. George Fest Committee.

4. To Receive a Police Report

The Chairman welcomed WPC Sandy Wyld to the meeting. WPC Wyld provided a written record of the latest crime figures relating to Hedge End for the period 1st January, 2009 to 31st January, 2009.

WPC Wyld informed members of forthcoming Police ‘Beat’ Surgeries, being held at the Mall at Marks & Spencer/Sainsburys, Hedge End Retail Park from February to May inviting the community to speak to their Safer Neighbourhoods Team on subjects such as anti-social behaviour, youth nuisance or environment problems. Councillors would be very welcome to attend these advertised surgeries, to address issues that may be directed to the Local Authority. This would be a good way to impress upon the public that this is an exercise of “working together”. The Town Council offices have assisted by posting notices of the Surgery dates on all Village Notice Boards.

As part of a “working together” group representatives of Wildern School, The Box and Housing are to have Liaison Meetings with the Police to approach community problems as a team. Once again, Councillors would be very welcome to attend.

Members noted that parking restrictions have now been implemented in Coltsfoot Close and Shamblehurst Lane. WPC Wyld confirmed that these areas will be monitored.

Cllr. Jane Welsh reported upon a complaint she had received from a resident of Yardley Road with regard to a recent vehicular accident. The resident had referred to the Highway Code and claimed that it was an offence to park vehicles on the bend of a highway, and thereby causing an obstruction. WPC Wyld gave assurances that the accident in question was not caused by vehicular obstruction, however, the Highway Code is only an advisory. If there is an obstruction, the Police may investigate, however, it would have to be considered a danger before there would be circumstance to serve a ticket. If there is sufficient reason to raise an issue, this should be referred to Highways.

Cllr. Helen Corben asked for WPC Wyld's comments with regard to the current Wildern Lane closure, to which she responded that there had been no specific problems, just a bit of congestion with parking at the Co-operative Store and some motorists using a route through the car park to the rear of Lower Northam Road Shopping precinct to reach Cedar Close.

Cllr. Helen Corben also referred to her observation that vehicles regularly park in the cycle lane of Grange Road, opposite Botleigh Grange, is this an offence? WPC Wyld will investigate.

5. To receive a HEWEB Youth Council Report

The Deputy Town Clerk read a report on behalf of Jenny Critchlow, Area Youth Worker.

“The Box has been decorated inside and out in the last month.

The Youth Council conducted interviews for the Annual Youth Grants on Monday this week.

Young people have at last been successful in obtaining funding for a CCTV system for The Box through YOF (Youth Opportunities Fund).

Also through YOF we have funding for new seating in the chill box (quiet room).

Funding has also been secured for blinds for the windows of the main space at The Box which will make a private space for group work.

The Detached Workers have just begun their work with YISP (Youth Inclusion and Support Panel) working with young people at risk on the Fairthorne project which this year has two girls taking part, one from Hedge End. The rest of the group is made up of young people from Hedge End, West End and a few from the Hamble area.

We have a new member of staff at The Box who already has experience of youth work which is a great help.”

6. To read and approve Minutes of the Full Council Meeting - 21st January, 2009

The minutes were proposed by Cllr. Peter Hughes, seconded by Cllr. Sheila Baynes and unanimously agreed. Motion carried.

7. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman reported that he had been made aware of a Fee Comparison exercise with regard to the Cemetery and was horrified to find how cheap it is to get buried in Hedge End. Even a Non-Parishioner interment was just over half of the Eastleigh Parishioner fee. He hopes that this will be regulated in the forthcoming review.

Following on from a very successful Christmas Lights Event, plans are progressing for the St. George Fest. This is an opportunity for all of us to get involved in all Village events throughout the year, i.e. help to the Carnival Committee for example.

The Chairman has also learnt of the £500.00 Bond imposed upon the use of playing fields and feels that this is a bit unfair and should be reviewed.

However, there is a lot to be done for the St. George Fest and stewards will be required and in this respect the voluntary assistance of Councillors would be most welcome.

Finally, the Chairman pointed out that Cllr. Lisa Hollis had not been officially appointed to any of the Committees and had expressed an interest to join Finance & Administration, Personnel and Community Services. Cllr. Keith Day proposed that Cllr. Lisa Hollis be appointed to the aforementioned Committees, seconded Cllr. Jenny Schwausch and motion carried.

8. To receive and consider reports and minutes of Committees

**(a) Highways & Planning Committee
28th January, 2009**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr. Keith Day, seconded by Cllr. Jane Welsh and unanimously agreed. Motion carried.

**(b) Recreation & Amenities Committee
5th February, 2009**

The minutes were proposed by Cllr. Jane Welsh, and in the absence of members of the Committee in attendance, seconded by Cllr. Peter Hughes and unanimously agreed. Motion carried.

(c) **Highways & Planning Committee**

11th February, 2009

The minutes were proposed by Cllr. Ray Worley, seconded by Cllr. Jenny Schwausch and unanimously agreed. Motion carried.

(d) **Community Services Committee**

Excluding Exempt Business

27th January, 2009

CS421, Cllr. Jane Welsh expressed her view that the whole idea and, indeed, the first concept was to remember local people, loved ones and acknowledge those that had served the community. She felt that the Committee discussion and recommendation had become far too complicated, in the suggestion that two books would be required and could not be historic and on this basis proposed an **amendment “that anyone can be remembered in the Book of Remembrance providing they have lived and worked in Hedge End. Using one Remembrance Book”**, seconded Cllr. Peter Hughes. **The Chairman raised a counter proposal suggesting the subject be returned to the Community Services Committee for further discussion, however, this was unsupported.**

As a result of some debate members agreed upon the following:

- **The minutes are amended to omit the paragraph “Cllr. Pearl Hicks suggested that another book of remembrance should be opened to enable those pre to the opening of this book to be remembered”. Cllr. Khan pointed out that this was only a suggestion, however proposed the omission, seconded Cllr. Sally Lloyds and motion carried.**
- The Book of Remembrance can include retrospective entries
- The qualification of entry should be that the person would have lived or worked in Hedge End.
- The Council will not employ the services of a Calligrapher and entries will be written in the Town Clerk’s or Deputy Clerk’s hand.
- There will be no charge for this service.
- Public awareness will be raised by an article in the Gazette

Cllr. Jane Welsh accepted the aforesaid as part of her amendment, seconded Cllr. Peter Hughes. Votes in favour 13 and 4 against. Motion carried.

- 9. To consider and approve BACS Hedge End Town Council expenditure for January 2009/February 2009 (*Document previously circulated*).
Cllr. Sheila Baynes proposed approval of expenditure for January 2009/February 2009, seconded by Cllr. Derek Pretty and unanimously agreed. Motion carried.**

Cllr. Nathan Khan explained that final payment to Piggotts in respect of the Xmas Lights installation had been sanctioned by the Town Clerk as final instalment, due to time constraints, however, a letter of grievance has been posted to the contractor.

- 10. That Hedge End Town Council agrees in principle to the authorised use of Woodhouse Lane grounds as a temporary campsite for significant events. In particular, for the St. George Fest 23 – 26 April 2009. (*Motion – Cllr. George Fraser*).
In addition to this Agenda item, Cllr. Nathan Khan moved an amendment that the Town Council agree in principle to the use of Woodhouse Lane grounds for the purposes of a Jousting Tournament to take place Saturday 25th April, 2009. Seconded Cllr. Jenny Schwausch and motion carried.**

Cllr. Peter Hughes would strongly oppose sanctioning a temporary camp site as this would be setting a precedent and recommended that the motions be discussed separately, as he would be in favour of a Jousting Tournament.

Cllr. Helen Corben felt that if the grounds were to suffer inclement weather, camping would exacerbate subsequent problems for the grounds staff and on that basis she could not agree.

The Chairman gave a briefing of what would be required:

- For camping - the area between Woodhouse Lane and the Tennis Courts
- The camping area would be accessed from the Baden Powell Pavilion Car Park by the removal of bollards
- Vehicles would not destroy any playing area
- WC facilities could be made available to overnight campers by issuing keys with a deposit. Most campers are expected to be motor homes and have WC facilities, however, those using tents would require WC and water.
- The Jousting Arena would be accessed from the Field Gate in Woodhouse Lane, close to the Skateboard Park and the arena would run parallel to the residential boundary
- Cllr. Jenny Schwausch will visit businesses within the neighbouring Office Campus to ascertain whether they would sanction the use of their car parks for those visiting the Jousting Tournament

Cllr. Derek Pretty expressed his concern with regard to the potential number of those visiting the site and his fear that whilst the Town Council has resisted other

applications for such events, this could be construed as a double standard. He was not keen on the grounds being used for this purpose as it does get water logged. He felt there were Health & Safety issues as well as access. He could not support these proposals without a proper Management Plan.

Councillors conveyed their concerns with regard to use of the Bowling Club Car Park during the Bowls and Tennis season, the potential to encourage the settlement of travellers, that it may be the Bowling Club Open Day and with regard to the latter it would be courteous to forward notification of events.

Cllr. Keith House - with any new event, there is an element of risk attached, but there seems no reason why these cannot be addressed and the event progress to branding a name for Hedge End and promoting the village. Both ideas have potential with a good Management Plan in place. He also reminded members that the motion is "*to agree in principle*" and, in principle, this is worthy and he would back it 100%. The Chairman concurred and emphasised that this is an exceedingly occasional event and these are special circumstances. At this moment in time it is not permanent and may only be a one off. The Chairman responded to concerns regarding the grounds surface and assured that the grounds would be reinstated and that this was insufficient reason to veto the event.

Cllr. Louise Bloom - The Borough Council Festivals have offered camping facilities and although there has not been a great take-up, the grounds have not suffered as a consequence. The Town Council must ensure that it fulfils requisite legal obligations with regard to Camping and an appropriate plan is imperative. Any reinstatement/remedial works to the grounds would form part of the grounds staffs' duties.

Cllr. Nathan Khan - the proposed land for camping is not normally used for recreation and if the grounds are wet, assurances have been given that the Jousting Tournament will not take place.

The Chairman called for those in favour of the motion to agree in principle to the authorised use of Woodhouse Lane for a Jousting Tournament, which was unanimously agreed and motion carried.

The Chairman called for those in favour of the motion to agree in principle to the authorised use of Woodhouse Lane as temporary camping for significant events. 9 votes in favour, 8 against and motion carried.

11. Borough and County Council Reports

Cllr. Keith House - informed members of new parish structures within the Borough of Eastleigh and all areas West of M3. Elections to be conducted May, 2010.

Cllr. Louise Bloom - re Public Art, Dowds Farm. There were 36 applicants. Cllr. Bloom has been involved in the short listing and appointment process. The successful applicant is from Manchester. She is confident that this is a very exciting appointment and there will be every effort to engage with the community to develop Public Art features by Autumn this year.

Cllr. Louise Bloom - there will be day and evening Fair Trade Events on 26th February at Wildern School. Also Fair Trade stalls at Eastleigh Market on Saturday 28th February and 7th March.

Cllr. Keith House - referred to a recent three page article in the Daily Echo, headlined "Bank of Eastleigh". A report he described as "total fabrication" of the facts. The Borough Council is extremely concerned for the Housing Market and the slow down of construction and, in this respect, is launching three schemes:

1. Additional Mortgage Deposit Scheme
2. Direct purchase of property for private rental
3. A Guaranteed Sale Cost of stock for new developers

The main aim is to maximise occupancy of stock and access to mortgages. Not a Bank.

Cllr. Keith House - EBC are to extend the subsidized Hospital Taxi Scheme. The Borough will be taking half the travel cost to Outpatient Locations and looking to extend the service to GP appointments. The criteria for this service is for Over 60s or those with a disability, it is a pretty open access scheme but tied to medical purposes and monitored very carefully. The Taxi company is contracted to this service and the passenger books in advance of the appointment and pays just half the fare. The Scheme is advertised in GP leaflets, The Borough News and Libraries. Cllr. Louise Bloom added that those receiving income support Benefits are able to claim Hospital visits.

The Deputy Town Clerk read notes on behalf of Cllr. Derek Blampied, for information:

The grant application from the Town Council for £500 for the Marquee for community use was successful and the money should be paid into the bank account on the 19th February.

From March the opening hours for the Library will be increased on Mondays from 1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. and Wednesday from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

The proposed County Council increase in the community charge next year will be 1.9% and this will be debated on Thursday 19th February, 2009.

12. Councillors Questions.

Cllr. Nathan Khan announced that part of the St. George Fest will be a Craft Market and that Fair Trade and Carnival stands would be most welcome.

Cllr. Louise Bloom confirmed the date of the Quiz Night in aid of the Mayor of Eastleigh's Charity will be 13th March and announced "An Evening with Shirley Williams and Barry Norman" on 14th March at The Point.

Cllr. Jane Welsh - the recent Burns Night in aid of the Mayor of Eastleigh's Charity raised £1023 and there will be a further donation from a well known High Street Bank.

Cllr. Cynthia Garton - on the evening of Saturday 25th April there will be an event in aid of the Mayor of Eastleigh's Charity, a Twilight Trail, organised by Countess Mountbatten Hospice, when sponsored participants can walk or run the Twilight Trail in Victoria Country Park. Registration is £8.00 and the event will include a BBQ picnic.

Cllr. Sheila Baynes - a further event in aid of the Mayor of Eastleigh's Charity will be held on Friday 17th April at Hedge End Bowling Club. A Bowls competition when it is hoped that Councillors and Staff from each of the Southern Parishes will compete in a challenge: HETC v Southern Parishes at £5.00 per person. The evening will include Cheese and Wine.

Cllr. Shankerlal Sthankiya - Complained that the Library does not have WC facilities on site. Cllr. Keith House gave assurances that this is a future project of Community Services Committee, with a feasibility study to install Public Conveniences close-by.

13. All members of the public and press are requested to leave the meeting - Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960.

No members of the public present.

14. Exempt Business - To receive and consider reports and minutes of the Community Services Committee - 27th January, 2009.

Matters concerning this year's Award for Serving the Community were discussed.