

**HEDGE END TOWN COUNCIL – MINUTES OF A FULL COUNCIL
MEETING HELD 21 JANUARY 2009**

Cllrs. Present: Cllr. Helen Corben, Cllr. Sheila Baynes, Cllr. Keith Day, Cllr. George Fraser (Chairman), Cllr. Pearl Hicks, Cllr. Lisa Hollis, Cllr. Val Houghton, Cllr. Keith House, Cllr. JennyAnn Hughes, Cllr. Peter Hughes, Cllr. Sally Lloyds, Cllr. Shankerlal Sthankiya, Cllr. Jane Welsh, Cllr. Ray Worley

1. Public Questions on the Agenda

Patience Sambrook, Chair of Eastleigh Southern Parishes Older People's Forum, addressed the Town Council on behalf of those residents unable to attend the meeting to speak to Members. These included housebound residents and carers, who depended on taxis to travel to hospitals and doctors surgeries. Previously, residents over 70 had received travel tokens to the value of £32 and those over 80 received tokens to the value of £52, which could be spent on taxis. However, Eastleigh Borough Council had decided that it would cease the issue of travel tokens and provide a free bus pass instead. Mrs Sambrook considered that this may be a viable alternative to able-bodied residents, but it was no good for those unable to use public transport. Although Dial-a-ride provision was to be increased, this service could not be used to travel to hospitals. She asked Members to request Eastleigh Borough Council to reconsider the issuing of travel tokens, or to consider issuing taxi vouchers for those unable to use buses.

Cllr. Keith House reported that, although Eastleigh Borough Council had ceased issuing travel tokens, a range of initiatives to help those unable to use public transport had been introduced. In addition, the issue of supported travel was continually monitored, particularly by the Environment Scrutiny Panel, which received a full report on the situation on an annual basis.

Cllr. Pearl Hicks stated that it was essential that people claim all the benefits to which they are legally entitled and receive the help the Government affords them.

The Chairman thanked Patience Sambrook and her colleagues for their attendance. Some Members signed the petition.

2. Apologies

Cllr. Louise Bloom, Cllr. Cynthia Garton, Cllr. June Hughes, Cllr. Derek Pretty, Cllr. Jenny Schwausch

3. Declarations of Interest

None recorded.

At this stage of the meeting, the Chairman elected to take the HEWEB Youth Council Report

**FULL COUNCIL MEETING
MEETING OF 21 JANUARY 2009 – Cont'd Page 2**

4. To Receive a HEWEB Youth Council Report

The Chairman welcomed Guy Davies to the meeting. Guy reported that The Box is currently closed as decoration is in progress. Recently, the staff have been working with a Fire Arms Expert to explore gun culture and sessions have taken place to educate young people, which has proved to be a positive experience. The staff and young people went to a modern Hip-Hop dance comedy in Fareham and the young people engaged very positively to the experience. Recently, The Box held a drug/alcohol misuse session, which was very well attended. Representatives spoke about their personal experiences of misuse. The staff held their Annual Christmas Meal whereby the staff acted as waiters and cooks serving the young people. Eastleigh Borough Council recently gave a presentation on recycling and waste disposal. HEWEB Youth Grant applications are being reviewed at the end of January and interviews for decision on grants will take place on 16 February 2009. The Friday 4.00pm to 7.00pm sessions for 11 to 14 year olds is very well attended and all in all The Box is very busy.

5. To Receive a Police Report

The Chairman welcomed WPC Sandy Wyld to the meeting. WPC Wyld reported on the latest crime figures relating to Hedge End. For the period 1 December to 31 December 2008 inclusive, there was an overall total of some 231 incidents of which there were 31 incidents of rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour coupled with 28 for theft, 22 for thefts involving a vehicle and 19 for assault. She stated that the police launched Operation Nemesis, cracking down on burglaries and advised members not to leave keys to vehicles within close proximity of the front door as burglars are breaking-in to claim keys to such vehicles. In response to Cllr. Helen Corben's comments under Minute 5 of the December Full Council Minutes regarding speed limits down Wildern Lane, WPC Wyld stated that this has been referred under the 'Safer Street Campaign'. Cllr. Helen Corben expressed her thanks.

She commented that lights are not working at the HEYCA car park and that this needs attention. A new NCCZ (No Cold Calling Zone) is to be set up at the Grange Park Mobile Home area. She supplied the Town Clerk with a list of Hedge End Beat Surgeries for the year to be held in the foyer between Sainsburys and Marks and Spencer for publishing in the Gazette.

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6. To read and approve Minutes of the Full Council Meeting – 17 December 2008

The Minutes were Proposed by Cllr. Sheila Baynes, Seconded by Cllr. Peter Hughes and unanimously agreed. Motion Carried.

7. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman commenced his report stating that as part of the St George Fest, it would be very helpful if land to the rear of Baden-Powell lodge could be used for guests to camp for the weekend at Woodhouse Lane and asked that the recreation & amenities committee consider this at the

**FULL COUNCIL MEETING
MEETING OF 21 JANUARY 2009 – Cont'd Page 3**

next meeting. He touched upon the outline planning permission for the cemetery and wished this to be progressed by the recreation and amenities committee without delay. He reported on the recent visit by some members on groundsman storage and all members expressed an interest in visiting the greenkeepers store at Magpie Lane, Eastleigh. He stated that the Gazette had improved but would like to see advances made to the Town Council Website. He concluded his comments by announcing that the Annual Parish Assembly for the Town Council will be held on 23 March 2009 in the 2000 Centre, Large Hall at 7.00pm.

9. To receive and consider reports and minutes of committees

(a) Recreation & Amenities Committee

7 January 2009

Councillors Peter and JennyAnn Hughes Declared an Interest on this agenda item and took no part in discussion or vote.

Pursuant to Minute R166, the Town Clerk reported that he had received further details from Mrs Heidi Burford enclosing a copy of a new quotation which takes into account the recreation and amenities committee request of an increase in fence height to 1200mm, double gates opposite the patio doors and a pedestrian gate to the side of the fenced area. Copies of the documentation were available for each Member.

The Minutes including the supplementary information on the increase in fence height were Proposed by Cllr. Jane Welsh, Seconded by Cllr. Sheila Baynes and agreed. Motion Carried.

(b) Finance & Administration Committee

8 January 2009

The Minutes were Proposed by Cllr. Sheila Baynes, Seconded by Cllr. Val Houghton and unanimously agreed. Motion Carried.

(c) Highways & Planning Committee

14 January 2009

The Minutes were Proposed by Cllr. Peter Hughes, Seconded by Cllr. Keith Day and unanimously agreed. Motion Carried.

10. Borough and County Council Reports

Cllr. Jane Welsh reported that at the recent HEWEB Local Area Committee meeting that planning applications for Homebase to create two retail units and the construction of 1 no, 2 bed bungalow to front of 13 & 15 Taplin Drive were agreed.

Cllr. Keith Day reported that the appeal date for 6 Pardoe Close will be in March 2009

**FULL COUNCIL MEETING
MEETING OF 21 JANUARY 2009 – Cont'd Page 4**

Details regarding traffic calming and new pedestrian measures for Lower Northam Road have been worked up by Hampshire County Council with six different options for consideration.

Cllr. Keith House reported that the December inflation rate was recently published as being 2.8% and in accordance with EBC policy of increasing Council Tax at 1% less inflation, rises will be limited to 1.8%.

11. Councillors Questions

Cllr. Peter Hughes stated that he has been informed of a missing metal hydrant cover on the corner of Westward Road and Simmons Close.

Cllr. George Fraser informed Members of the Burns Night supper taking place at the 2000 Centre on 24 January 2009 at 7.00pm for 7.30pm.

There being no further business to transact, the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.16 hours.