

Hanslope Parish Council

Minutes of an Open Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall on Monday 10th October 2011 at 7.30pm.

Mr Reynolds opened the meeting by welcoming those present to the October 2011 Open Meeting of the Parish Council and introducing the new Parish Council.

Item 1 Possible new community and sports building in the recreation ground;

- a) Mrs Hayward introduced the steering group and explained that they had consulted and consolidated the requirements of all potential user groups and passed on this information to the contracted architect Mr David Coles.
- b) Mr David Coles presented the latest plans outlining requirements of the various user groups including interrelationships and dimensions and recapped on the preliminary plans presented at the April meeting.
- c) Mr David Coles invited those present to ask questions and make comments.
 - Mr Keep asked about the proposed car-parking arrangements.
 - Mr Joe Geary commended the steering group and asked for clarification of the position and orientation of the proposed building.
 - Mr Hayward asked for more detail on the external play area.
 - Mr Castle-Smith asked about the partitioning and heating system.
 - Mr Robin Coles remarked that he would prefer to comment on more detailed plans rather than an aspirational scheme.
 - Mr Prior requested that the detailed plans be made available on the Village website and asked about the corridor linking Castlethorpe Road with the playing field. Mr Sorrell explained that this corridor is required to “safeguard” Preschool children.
 - Mr Johnson advised that a sewer runs parallel to Castlethorpe Road underneath the existing Scout Hall.
 - Mrs Cordon asked about grant funding. It was explained that eligibility for grant funding is improved because of the Youth Groups involved and more grants will be available after obtaining planning permission.
 - Mr Hughes asked how the floor space allocated for the new Youth Hall and Scouts storage area compared with the existing floor space in Baden Lodge.
 - Mr Prior asked about the size of the outside play area.
 - Mrs Simons asked for clarification about the access between the Youth Hall and the outside play area and details of all exits and entrances. Further Mrs Simons requested that the steering group give further consideration to direct access to the existing Play Area from Castlethorpe Road and wheelchair access to the proposed Community Centre.
 - Mr Castle-Smith asked how the floor space in the proposed Community Centre compares with the existing floor space in the Village Hall.
 - Mr Johnson requested details of the proposed Castlethorpe Road parking bay and footpath diversion.

- Mr Ellis expressed concerns about the possibility of vandalism to the proposed glass frontage to the playing fields. Mr Coles explained that this would be protected by security shuttering.
- Mr Prior asked if it would be possible to comment on the detailed plans via the Village website.
- Comments from the floor and a show of hands indicated that in principle the proposed outline plan was well received.

Item 2; Minutes of the April 2011 meeting; Resolved “to accept the minutes of the April 2011 meeting as a true reflection of the discussions that took place.

Item 3; Matters arising from the minutes and Chairman’s report;

- a) There is no police report as TVP are not in attendance.
- b) New speed limits are now all in place.
- c) Mrs Rawlings enquired if it would be possible to have police speed checks in Tathall End; Community Speed Watch Camera to be requested.
- d) Mr Mandleson asked when the speed limit signs will be painted in the road.
- e) There is a planning application for a five turbine wind-farm in Orchard Way, Haversham due to be determined early January 2012.
- f) The planning application for a fifteen turbine wind-farm at Stoke Heights, Hanslope has been effectively frozen by the MKC Planning Department applying Articles 19 & 22. Ecotricity will not be able to progress this application until they can provide ecological information that will require surveys to be undertaken in the Spring.
- g) Mrs Morley asked if Hanslope PC will make representations at DCC meetings regarding the Stoke Heights wind-farm; yes.
- h) Mr Burridge asked for clarification of the Parish Poll result.
- i) Mrs Simonds asked for clarification of eligibility for the ten pound average precept charge resulting from the Parish Poll.
- j) Mr Prior offered his congratulations for the efforts of the Parish Councils and Action Groups to oppose the wind-farm applications.
- k) It was explained that the RWE Npower Renewables newsletter was made available at the meeting for information.
- l) Mrs Corbett, chair of Save Our Salcey Action Group requested that Hanslope PC write to MKC Planning Department to oppose the Haversham wind-farm.
- m) Mrs Green requested that Parishioners continue to support the efforts of the Save Our Salcey Action Group
- n) Mr Joe Geary requested that Parishioners write letters of objection to the Haversham wind-farm individually to increase the number of objections and maximise their effectiveness.
- o) Mr Andrew Geary (Ward Councillor) reported that the MKC Planning Department is to receive an invitation to review their wind-farm policy not updated since 2001. The D5 policy revision document has been written by Mr Phil Ayles, chair of Castlethorpe Parish Council, and challenges the height to distance ratios between turbines and dwellings, bridleways and footpaths in the current policy.
- p) Mr Andrew Geary (Ward Councillor) reported on a recent site visit to the Bus Garage to discuss the present planning application. The bus garage already has planning permission for an alternative scheme.

- q) Mr Reynolds reported on Alternative Services Delivery. Hanslope Parish Council has expressed an interest in; (i) landscaping, (ii) play area maintenance and (iii) taking ownership of land within the Parish currently owned by MKC.
- r) Mr Reynolds reported that Hanslope PC will apply for Parish Partnership money to 50% part fund the refurbishment of village seats. The application will take place in Jan / Feb 2012 and the outcome will be known May / June 2012.

Item 4; Open Forum;

- a) Mr Fisher requested that Hanslope PC explore with MKC the possibility of obtaining dropped kerb access to his property.
- b) Mr Johnson requested that pavements be adjusted at bus stops to facilitate disabled access. New MKC policy is to adjust the buses and not the kerbs.
- c) Mr Joe Geary commented that the new speed limits and the new double yellow lines are an excellent addition. Also reported that the 30mph sign at the end of Newport Road is overgrown and obscured.
- d) Mr Andrew Geary reported that MKC have been asked to remove their expired site notices still in place around the Parish.
- e) Mr Mobley reported that there are also speed limit signs obscured by undergrowth in Forest Road and Higham Cross Road.
- f) Mr Robin Coles enquired why the proposed off-road parking bays at the bottom of Castlethorpe Road are not progressing. This scheme did not receive a match funding grant following the last application; Hanslope PC will re-apply at the next opportunity.
- g) Mr Prior requested that the next PC Newsletter run an article requesting that dog owners ensure that their animals do not cause noise nuisance after 10pm within the Village.
- h) Mr Hayward requested a similar article about horse fouling.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm