

**HEATHFIELD AND WALDRON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2008, 7.30 PM**  
**AT HEATHFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**PRESENT:** Mrs Archer, Mr Bassingthwaite (Chairman), Mrs Gander,  
Mr Harmer, Mr Hart, Mrs Kentish-Barnes, Mr Kerby, Mr Newnham (Vice-  
Chairman) Mrs Oakes, Mr Waterhouse, Mr Wood and Mr Woodhouse.

The Clerk was in attendance.

Also present: County Councillors Dowling and Simmons  
District Councillors Angel, Mrs Fox and Mrs Newton  
3 members of the public  
1 press  
Mr Baker, Mr Elphick and Mrs Holmwood

08/102      **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Heathfield Small Business Network

Ms Hibbart gave details of the Launch meeting of the Network, which would provide help and support for small businesses within the parish. She informed the meeting that they hoped to work along side the Chamber of Trade, who were working hard on behalf of their Members.

08/103      **REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Councillor Simmons gave an update on the Tilsmore Road traffic calming scheme and stated that the Parish Council would be informed of the findings of the audit, which was now complete. ESCC had been working to bring improvements in elderly care in recent years and it was hoped that the outcome of a Review would be positive. With regard to other services, additional resources were being put into Transport and Environment and Childrens' Services were highly rated.

With regard to the latest phase of the High Street improvements, the possibility of providing additional car parking spaces in New Parade would be reviewed, but seemed unlikely.

Councillor Dowling said that progress in respect of the A265/A267 junction was slow and that it was still hoped to get ground works completed during the winter.

**The meeting commenced at 7.43 p.m.**

08/104      **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence had been received from Mr Chambers, Mrs Clark, Mr Davis, Mr Hough, Mrs Muddle, Mrs Plant and Dr Rayner.

08/105      **CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Following the resignations of Mrs Carr and Mr Woolley, there were currently two vacancies on the Council which were required to be filled by the co-option process.

Three nominations had been received and Mr Baker, Mr Elphick and Mrs Holmwood were present and spoke to the Council in support of their applications.

A vote was taken and Mr Baker and Mrs Holmwood were duly co-opted onto the Parish Council. Mr Baker took his place around the table and Mrs Holmwood left the meeting having explained that she had a long-standing prior engagement.

08/106      **DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

There were none.

08/107      **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2008, having been previously circulated, be amended at 08/93 to read ...”that the Parish Council send a letter of condolence to his family” and be then approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

08/108      **MATTERS ARISING**

There were none.

08/109      **CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

The Chairman reported on a letter of thanks he had received from the Chairman of the Heathfield Partnership Trust. He had attended the Punnetts Town Village Hall reception and lottery award, the launch of the Wealden Residents Association, the AGM of the Old Heathfield and Cade Street Society, filming by the BBC of the red telephone box in Waldron, the Inauguration of the new Vicar of St Richards Church and the Wealden District Council Chairman’s Reception.

A Remembrance Day wreath had been laid at Waldron by the Vice-Chairman and the Chairman had laid one at Cade Street.

The Vice-Chairman had attended the Twinning Association 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, two meetings of the Safer Wealden Partnership and the AGM of the CAB.

08/110      **CLERK’S REPORT**

A correspondence list as at 4 November 2008 had been circulated to all Members. The Clerk reported that due to the increasing amount of email correspondence now received, a separate list of these would be circulated on a regular basis and hard copied would be provided to Members upon request.

The Clerk had attended a meeting of the SLCC at Uckfield and a SALC Clerks' Day on 4 November. She reminded all Members of the Public Meeting taking place on Monday 24 November with regard to the play area at Leeves Common.

08/111 **CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION - DOWNTURN OF ECONOMY IN THE PARISH**

Members noted the contents of a letter regarding measures proposed to try and help local businesses during the current economic difficulties.

08/112 **NO COLD CALLING ZONE**

Information had been circulated to Members regarding an initiative by East Sussex Trading Standards and the Safer Wealden Partnership to introduce No Cold Calling Zones within Wealden.

Mr Newnham gave further information on the scheme and it was noted that there would be possibly 6 zones within the Heathfield and Waldron parish. Trading Standards would provide noticeboards and issue press notices but signage would be required which would have to be funded by the Parish Council, at a cost of £55 each. At the present time it was not known how many signs would be needed and it was **RESOLVED** to support the scheme in principle and that details of the costs involved should be reported to the HPS Committee.

08/113 **COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS**

Mrs Kentish-Barnes asked whether any further action had been taken with regard to a roundabout at the Isenhurst junction. Mr Newnham stated that ESCC had not decided whether a roundabout or traffic lights should be installed.

Mr Kerby asked whether any response had been received from the Government regarding representations against the revised housing allocation figures. It was noted that this was awaited.

The Parish Council were concerned about possible proposals which would result in the closure of the Heathfield and The Firs doctors' dispensary. It was agreed that a letter of objection should be sent.

08/114 **MEMBERS ALLOWANCES**

It was **RESOLVED** to accept the recommendation from FGP Committee that Members' Allowances should not be paid for the 2009/2010 financial year.

08/115 **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

08/115a **Finance and General Purposes Committee**

Minutes of the meeting held on 29 September 2008 (unadopted) had been circulated to members. Mr Bassingthwaight reported thereon.

08/115b **Highways, Planning and Street Lighting Committee**

Minutes of the meetings held on 8 and 22 September 2008, 6 and 20 October had been previously circulated. Minutes of the meeting held on 3 November 2008 (unadopted) were circulated at the meeting. Mr Newnham reported thereon.

Minutes of the Rural Transport Committee held on 6 October 2008 (unadopted) had been previously circulated. Mr Kerby reported thereon.

08/115c Burial Grounds Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 15 September 2008 (unadopted) had been circulated to Members and Mr Newnham reported thereon.

08/115d Recreation Grounds and Properties Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on 30 September 2008 (unadopted) had been circulated to Members. Minutes of Waldron Recreation Ground Management Sub-Committee held on 3 September 2008 (unadopted) had been previously circulated. Minutes of the Heathfield Community Centre Sub-Committee held on 3 November (unadopted) were circulated at the meeting.

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meetings reported above be approved and adopted by the Parish Council.

08/116 **QUALITY STATUS – RE-ACCREDITATION**

It was considered that the Quality Council status was a worthwhile achievement and that re-accreditation should be applied for at the due time.

08/117 **REVISED STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve revised Standing Orders and Financial Regulations as recommended by FGP Committee. Copies of the revised documents were circulated to all Members.

08/118 **USE OF COUNCIL'S OFFICIAL SEAL ON DEEDS OF GRANT OF EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF BURIALS NOS. 400-420**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve use of the Council's Seal as indicated above.

08/119 **USE OF COUNCIL'S OFFICIAL SEAL ON LEASE RELATING TO A GAS GOVERNOR AT HEATHFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve use of the Official Seal on the above Deed.

08/120 **CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 SECTION 17**

It was considered that the proposed No Cold Calling zones would have a positive effect under the above Act.

08/121 **RISK MANAGEMENT**

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It was considered that the revisions to Standing Orders and Financial Regulations would have a positive effect with regard to the activities of the Council.

08/122     **TO CONSIDER MOTIONS**

There were none.

08/123     **DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Council meeting will take place on **Tuesday 13 January 2009**, at 7.30 pm in the Ian Price Room, Heathfield Community Centre, Sheepsetting Lane, Heathfield.

08/124     **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion of the following item on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. A Confidential Minute at 08/125 follows on a separate sheet.

**The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.**

**Signed**

**Chairman**

**Dated**