

**MEETING OF HEATHFIELD AND WALDRON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2009, 7.30 PM**  
**AT HEATHFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**PRESENT:** Mrs Archer, Mr Baker, Mrs Clark, Mrs Gander, Mr Harmer, Mr Hart, Mrs Holmwood, Mrs Kentish-Barnes, Mr Kerby, Mrs Muddle, Mr Newnham (Chairman), Mr Waterhouse, Mr Wood and Mr Woodhouse.

The Clerk was in attendance.

Also present: County Councillors Dowling and Simmons  
District Councillors Angel and Mrs Kirkpatrick  
Sgt Hammerton, PCSO Whitaker  
2 members of the public

09/96 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Mr Loveday stated that residents of Little London Road were pleased with the improved road surface and new speed limit as a result of the works carried out by ESCC.

09/97 **REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

County Councillor Simmons reported on the new Transport Plan covering the period until 2026.

County Councillor Dowling stated that the A267/B2102 junction was the next priority. During the operation of a one-way system through the High Street, some residents had favoured this as a permanent solution, but it was not supported by all. Further discussions would take place with local action groups (CHAT and Possingworth Group) regarding future measures. The lack of the promised deer signs was causing frustration.

District Councillor Mrs Kirkpatrick reported on a report being prepared on road safety issues in January, the results of which would be made known to the Parish Council.

District Councillor Angel reported on a newspaper article regarding Gray Court in Mill Road which was becoming an eyesore and been empty for some years. It appeared that Downland Housing Association had mislaid the Deeds which was preventing a sale of the building and it had not been feasible for Downland to convert it.

The Housing Needs Survey preliminary results had indicated that 100 households were in need within the parish. There was disappointment at the lack of affordable housing provision within the proposed McCarthy and Stone development at Mutton Hall Hill and concern was expressed at the effect upon the age pattern of the town as a result of the Phase 2 development.

**The Meeting commenced at 7.57 p.m.**

09/98 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

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

09/99 **DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

Mr Newnham, Mrs Holmwood and Mrs Clark disclosed personal interests as they were all acquainted with Mr Smith from Punnetts Town.

09/100 **CO-OPTION OF NEW MEMBER**

The Council considered applications to fill the current casual vacancy from Mr Baker, Mr Smith from Cross-In-Hand and Mr Smith from Punnetts Town. Mr Baker and Mr Smith from Punnetts Town spoke to the Council in support of their applications.

Mr Harmer and Mr Baker requested a signed written vote and following this, Mr Smith from Punnetts Town was duly co-opted onto the Council and took his place at the meeting table.

09/101 **MINUTES**

**RESOLVED:** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 September 2009 having been previously circulated, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

09/102 **MATTERS ARISING**

Members noted that the telephone kiosk to be retained in Waldron village would be maintained by the residents. The retention of the electricity supply was currently being investigated.

09/103 **CCTV FOR HEATHFIELD**

Members considered a report and quotations for the provision of three mobile cameras in Heathfield. Mr Baker asked whether the Police would take responsibility for the images under the Data Protection Act and this would be clarified at the next LAT meeting.

Concern was expressed at the lack of continuous monitoring, as Heathfield Police Station was not manned 24 hours. However, it was noted that data could be checked retrospectively following an incident and this proposal was most cost effective. Although it was possible that the cameras would displace anti-social behaviour to alternative locations, the cameras were mobile and could be moved subject to suitable power supply and funding.

Mr Wood stated that he disliked CCTV because it could not replace efficient policing.

Following a vote, it was duly **RESOLVED** to approve the quotation for three

mobile cameras from Stryker and that funding of £25,000 be allocated in the 2010/2011 financial year towards the total anticipated cost of £33,965.

Mr Wood asked that his name be recorded as voting against this Resolution.

09/104      **REPORT OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN**

The Chairman reported on events he had attended since the last meeting, including Chairman's training course, Recycling Management event, retirement party for the Reverend Sherwin, WDC Chairman's reception, the performance of Annie by the Heathfield Drama Club, WDC Planning Conference and laying a Remembrance Day memorial wreath at Waldron.

The Vice-Chairman had attended the Chairman's training course, the inauguration of the Reverend Guest at Old Heathfield and laying a Remembrance Day memorial wreath at Cade Street.

09/105      **CLERK'S REPORT**

A correspondence list as at 3 November had been circulated to Members. The Clerk reported that she would be attending the SLCC Regional Conference at Uckfield on 11 November.

09/106      **COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS**

There were none.

09/106      **TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

09/106a      Finance and General Purposes Committee

Mrs Clark reported on the meeting of 29 September 2009.

09/106b      Highways, Planning and Street Lighting Committee

Mr Newham gave a report in respect of meetings held on 14 and 28 September, 12 and 26 October and 9 November 2009.

A meeting of the Rural Transport Sub-Committee had taken place on 26 October 2009 and Mr Kerby reported thereon.

09/106c      Burial Grounds Committee

The next meeting will be held on 30 November 2009.

09/106d      Recreation Grounds and Properties Committee

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2009 were to follow. Mr Woodhouse reported that the official opening of the new skatepark would take place on Saturday 12 December.

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

09/107 **USE OF COUNCIL'S OFFICIAL SEAL ON DEEDS OF GRANT OF EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF BURIAL**

It was **RESOLVED** to approve use of the Council's official seal on Deeds of Grant numbers 421 – 441.

09/108 **HEATHFIELD AND WALDRON EMERGENCY PLAN**

A draft updated Emergency Plan had been prepared by Mr Baker and was circulated to Members. It was noted that there were currently no working radios in the parish and Mr Wood expressed an interest in respect of setting up a new system.

The draft Plan was duly approved and adopted and the Chairman thanked Mr Baker for his efforts in this regard.

09/109 **LIST OF PAYMENTS - 1 SEPTEMBER TO 31 OCTOBER 2009**

A list of payments for this period had been circulated to all Members and it was **RESOLVED** that they be approved.

09/110 **APPOINTMENT AND REVIEW OF INTERNAL AUDIT**

Members considered a report confirming the appointment of Mr Mulberry of Mulberry and Co as the Parish Council's internal auditor for the 2009/2010 financial year.

It was noted that the first visit had now taken place and an audit plan had been agreed which would be reported to the FGP meeting on 8 December 2009.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the appointment of Mr Mulberry of Mulberry and Co as detailed above.

09/111 **CRIME & DISORDER ACT 1998 SECTION 17 – TO CONSIDER EFFECTS (IF ANY) ARISING FROM ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

It was considered that the installation of CCTV cameras would have a positive effect under the above Act.

09/112 **RISK MANAGEMENT**

It was considered that the implementation of an updated Emergency Plan was a positive way to manage risk in the event of an emergency. The proposed installation of CCTV cameras around the town would have a positive effect in helping to reduce the risk of anti-social behaviour and vandalism.

09/113 **TO CONSIDER MOTIONS**

None received.

09/114

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 12 January 2010 at 7.30 pm in the Ian Price Room, Heathfield Community Centre, Sheepsetting Lane, Heathfield.

**The meeting closed at 8.44 p.m.**

**Signed**

**Chairman**

**Dated**