

future years

Liz Hart reported that Bulkhead Properties had not been contacted regarding their intentions for installation of the drainage pipe across Grange Lane

Audrey Forgham expressed her delight that the school seemed to be getting more involved in the life of the village.

Liz Hart confirmed that the grant form for work at the school, had been completed and submitted

Richard Farquharson reminded councillors that Anglian Water had agreed to fit a non return valve on an exit pipe into the brook but that this work had not yet been done

Audrey Forgham asked who would be producing Helmdon Voice in future and Cllr Burns said the matter was in hand

6 Finance

a) Financial statement

It was resolved to accept the following financial statement, noting that the second instalment of the precept had been received.

Balance at Co-op bank September 2014 £12,131.57

b) To note payments received

There were no payments received to report. Cllr Coatsworth advised that a £60 donation had been received from Mrs Lidgely towards the cost of bulbs and that Cllr Adhemar had received the £250 Best Village winner prize.

c) To consider bills for payment

The format of the finance statement was noted. It was resolved to update it at the next meeting and to agree with the Clerk the form and content for presentation in future

It was resolved to pay the following bills:

Accounts Payable	NET	VAT	GROSS	Cheque
Brown and Barden –3766 July & 3777 August	391.42	78.28	469.70	500415
S Loake – Clerk's wages	809.90	0.00	809.90	500418
L P Finn Memorials	483.33	96.67	580.00	500419

Note : Cheques numbered 500416 & 500417 were wrongly completed and have been cancelled.

d) Renewal of insurance

It was agreed to renew the insurance under the existing terms

e) To consider increase in NCALC subscription for 2015/2016

Having declared a pecuniary interest in this item Cllr Moody left the meeting room

Clerk

Clerk

NCALC have communicated their intention to very significantly increase the membership fee to parish councils in 2015/2016 membership year.

After much discussion it was resolved that the Parish Council would make its view that the increase proposed is unreasonably excessive and unacceptable by written communication to NCALC and that it intends to move a motion to this effect at the forthcoming NCALC Annual General Meeting

Clerk

Cllr Moody rejoined the meeting

f) To consider changing to on-line banking

Cllr Barnes informed the meeting that he had experience of both Co-op and Unity on line banking services and in his opinion Unity provide a superior service. They also have a product aimed specifically at parish councils. Cllr Barnes proposed and Cllr Moody seconded that the Clerk should open a dialogue with Unity with the intention of moving to on-line banking as soon as practicable

Clerk

RESOLVED: That Helmdon Parish Council opens an account with Unity Trust Bank

7 Correspondence Review

Correspondence listed at Appendix A was reviewed. In the absence of the communications it was not possible to obtain any further details of items 16 & 72. The extent of information required in future will be agreed with the Clerk by Cllr Burns.

Cllr Burns

Cllr Burns outlined the subject matter of relevant correspondence received by him.

The CPRE contribution this year is £36. After brief discussion it was agreed that there was a benefit in being a member. Cllr Coatsworth proposed and Cllr Barnes seconded that membership be continued

South Northants Homes are undertaking a review of parking and how dwellings are affected in the form of a consultation letter to stakeholders. It was resolved to respond that parking is a problem in parts of the village and is likely to worsen with time

Three letters about anti social behaviour in Church Street had been received from concerned residents. It was agreed that as this matter is currently subject to police investigation, no further action would be taken at this stage

8 Planning:

a) To receive update regarding the Broadview Energy Ltd Wind Farm development

It was noted that the decision of Eric Pickles had been expected on or before 28th May 2014. The village had been well represented at the inquiry and in statements made; it was emphasised that parishioners can still contact Eric Pickles to express their views.

(a) To receive decisions of Planning committee on applications since 23/07/14

Application: S/2014/846/out

Location: 6a Church Street, Helmdon

Proposal: Construction of dwelling

This is an appeal to the Planning Inspectorate against refusal of the application by SNC. It was agreed to reiterate all previous objections in writing directly to the Planning inspectorate.

The appeal failed and the original refusal was upheld

Application: S/2014/0991/FUL

Location: 32 Wappenham Road Helmdon

Proposal: Dropped kerb to front of property

It was agreed to support the application. SNC has subsequently granted approval

Application: S/2014/1124/FUL
Location: Manor View Farm, Welsh Lane, Helmdon
Proposal: Extensions to existing barn

It was resolved to support the application. Decision awaited from SNC

Application: S/2014/1342/OUT
Location: Barnstones, 87 Wappenham Road Helmdon
Proposal: Removal of agricultural tie from dwelling house

Helmdon Parish Council had previously been informed that an application had been lodged to demolish the house. It was therefore agreed to seek further information from SNC regarding the forward plans for this site before making any further comment in respect of this application. Further details are awaited

Application: S/2014/1336/FUL
Location: Astwell Castle Farm, Helmdon
Proposal: New grain store, new storage barn and 1 new dwelling

It was resolved to support the application. Decision awaited from SNC

Application: S/2014/1337/FUL
Location: Astwell Castle Farm, Helmdon
Proposal: Demolition of grain store and conversion to 2 dwellings

It was resolved to support the application. Decision awaited from SNC

Application: S/2014/1336/FUL
Location: Bell Inn, 29 Church Street, Helmdon
Proposal: Change of use from office/store to butcher's shop

It was resolved to support the application. Decision awaited from SNC

(b) To receive update regarding outstanding applications including the Spring Farm Ridge application

The progress of the above applications is included in item (a) above. There was nothing further to report in respect of the Spring Farm Ridge wind turbine application

9 To consider Neighbourhood Watch issues

Cllr England stated that there was nothing to report

10 To receive update from Reading Room committee

Cllr England reported that Cec Harrold is now vice chairman and that Barbara Whitlock has resigned from being secretary. Jo Kirkland has agreed to undertake secretarial duties. The secondary double glazing in the cottage is complete and quotes are being obtained for other maintenance and improvement works. The facility has many forward bookings

11 To consider Highways issues

Cllr Moody reported that during works by western Power to replace poles, the highway verge was being damaged and not repaired. Cllr Moody had pointed this out to the men on site and

the matter had been rectified to a satisfactory standard.

12 To receive update from Playground Committee

In the absence of committee members, Cllr Coatsworth stated that any repair to the cargo net supporting post was likely to be short term owing to the amount of dry rot in the post, and that the best course of action was replacement. It was not considered appropriate to request HYHO funds for this purpose and it was agreed to consider the matter again at the next meeting.

Cllr Moody asked to report on his school liaison meeting between Mrs Crouch, Cllr Adhemar and himself. A full report of the meeting was tabled and is attached as Appendix A. After some discussion the recommendations in the report were agreed. Cllr Burns expressed the hope that this would be the start of a better relationship with the school.

13

To receive update from Allotment Committee

14 Cllr Coatsworth reported that the problem of rats had now spread to the plot cultivated by Mrs du Bois who had asked for advice. After consultation with the SNC Pest Control Officer, Mrs du Bois was advised to place a trap close to the problem area and this she has agreed to do.

To receive update from Parish Plan Group

Cllr Moody reported that a meeting of the group took place on 22nd September 2014 and summarised the current situation relating to the following

Fast broadband – whilst BT are loathe to give a definite date for the system going live, it is expected that this will occur before end 2014

Mobile phone coverage – the progress had stalled for various reasons but action was in hand to move things forward in conjunction with the PCC

Cycleway to Brackley – a possibility exists for this to link into a wider cycleway project associated with HS2 mitigation measures

Joint Core Strategy – the revised document was scheduled to be finalised by July 2014 but further delays have occurred. Not thought likely to be resolved before end October 2014

15 New Homes Bonus – need to ascertain amount of money available and then consider suitable application of the funds.

Councillors' questions and any other business

Cllr Burns informed the meeting that the parish council was scheduled to participate in a service at Helmdon church on Sunday 5th October 2014 and invited all councillors to attend

Cllr Coatsworth

Cllr Barnes reported that the fence where Station Road joins Jeffs bridge has partly collapsed and gives no protection between pedestrians and a steep embankment. It is believed that this is the responsibility of the current owners of the coach operator. Cllr Coatsworth offered to make personal contact to determine who should be officially advised of the problem

Cllrs Duncombe and Barnes expressed their concern at the state of repair of the raised

Cllr Moody

pedestrian crossing outside the school. Cllr Moody agreed to report the matter on Street Doctor

Cllr Duncombe reported that an egg had been smashed on the notice board in The Square. He agreed to clean as necessary

Cllr Duncombe

There was some discussion regarding the reluctance of Bulkhead Properties to undertake the installation of pipes across Grange Lane for which they are responsible as the owners of the land. Cllr Coatsworth suggested that the stalemate should not be allowed to continue and was of the opinion that if the owners were unwilling to commit to the full cost it may be a project suitable for a grant from the new homes bonus. As a first step, Cllr Burns will speak with Bulkhead Properties to establish a possible solution to the present impasse

Cllr Burns

Cllr Coatsworth asked what should be done regarding Helmdon Voice and it was agreed to discuss the situation with the clerk on his return.

The meeting wished to place on record its thanks to Cllr Barnes for his time and effort in modifying the signs at all four road entrances to the village to record the Best Village successes in 2011 and 2014 at no cost to the parish council.

Framed photographs of the 2014 Best Village presentation were handed to Cllr England, one to be displayed in The Bell and the other in the Reading Room

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:37 pm