**Hart Parish Council**

**Minutes of meeting held at 7.35 pm on Monday 17 May 2018 at Hart Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs. J. Quarmby, J. Littlefair (Chair), K. Brown, F. Lancaster, T. Britcliffe

In Attendance: M. West, Clerk

1. **Apologies:** Ward Cllr P. Beck, Cllrs Geddes & Park
2. **Public Forum:** No members of public present.
3. **Declarations of Interests:** None
4. **Minutes of 9th April 2018:** The minutes were approved unanimously and signed by the Chairman.
5. **Matters Arising:** ***(a)*** ***HBC Officers’ response to issues raised:*** The Clerk read out the response from Peter Frost which itemised the many issues raised at the walk-about and explained what HBC were doing to mitigate the problems. The Clerk was asked to forward his email to them all. It was agreed that the Clerk should thank Mr. Frost for his response and ask that the remaining blocked gullies be made a priority as water was still running down both sides of Front Street. The planted triangle between the pub car park and the footpath it was **agreed,** would be better tarmaced, as this would both make the area tidier and save HBC on-going maintenance costs. The Chairman agreed to speak with the owner of the tree which was causing such problems in the walk behind Mill View and ask her to have it felled. The collapsed wall to the school/village field was of great concern. The HBC proposal to simply erect a fence on the field side of the wall was deemed unacceptable. Following a prolonged discussion, about ownership of the land in question – believed to have been gifted to the village, it was **agreed** that the Clerk should request from HBC’s legal department, copies of all documents relating to the application made in 2002, by the then Parish Council, for Village Green status for the field. In the meantime, the Chairman **agreed** to approach Mr. David Wall, who was party to the application, to ask if he still had any of the documentation about this which he could make available to the Parish Council. **Actions:** Cllr Littlefair to speak with Miss Jackson and Mr. Wall; Clerk to forward Mr. Frost’s email to all PC, write to Mr. Frost and HBC legal department as agreed.

***(b) Chare Wall:*** The Clerk informed that Mr Simon Nesti, the Conservation Surveyor contracted, had been to the village to measure the various areas identified as in need of repair/restoration. She awaited his itemised report, on receipt of which she would convene a meeting of all interested parties.

***(c) Clerk’s Appraisal:*** The Chairman reported that he had only received 2 completed Appraisal forms and the Clerk’s self-appraisal. After a brief discussion it was **agreed** that Cllr Britcliffe, as the newly elected Vice-Chairman, and Chair of the Personnel Sub-Committee, would take over the Appraisal. Councillors were given until Friday 26th May to get their completed forms to Cllr Britcliffe, who would then collate the responses and arrange a feedback interview with the Clerk.

1. **Chairman’s Report:** The Chairman stated that he was disappointed that water is still running down the village on both sides of the street, despite HBC having cleared most of the gullies and noted that, since being cleared, the drains/gullies in Butts Lane have improved the situation there somewhat. He had received notification that Hartlepool’s Community Safety Team are now based at the Police Station in Avenue Road.
2. **Ward Councillors’ Report:**Cllr Beck had submitted an e-mailed report which the Clerk read out. Cllr Beck’s report was noted.
3. **Finance Report**: (i) The Clerk presented the reports which indicated that funds had been received from HBC and HMRC, but no expenditure incurred since the start of the financial year.

**Receipts £ Payments: £**

HBC (Precept, Concurrent & CTS grant) 9,897.00

HMRC (Vat reclaim) 247.84

**TOTAL £10,144.84 TOTAL: £0.00**

1. **Correspondence:** (a) HBC Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations and Resident Distribution List Consent Form – **agreed** Clerk to complete. (b) Punch Taverns: re White Hart car park - agreed they are responsible and will undertake repairs. (c) NALC notice of Section 137 Expenditure limit for 2018-19 – noted; (d) NALC – notice of Data Protection fees – Hart PC likely to be at lowest level - £40.00; (e) copy of letter sent by Minister for Digital & Creative Industries to Alex Cunningham MP re impact of Data Protection bill on parish councils – noted.
2. **Planning Application**: H/2018/0148 – 500 dwellings on land to south of A179 and west of Middle Warren. No objection in principal but PC would wish to see substantial planting on the western edge and northern boundary on A179 to screen the new development from Hart Village and reduce the visual impact on the landscape to ensure the rural nature of the village is maintained. The PC has objected on numerous occasions to the huge increase in traffic due to the large number f housing developments in this part of the Borough which is making the vital link of A179 to A19 hugely congested at morning and evening peak times. Entry and exit to Hart is becoming very difficult and dangerous. The road infrastructure around the villages needs to be considerably improved.
3. **Matters of Concern to Councillors:**

Cllr Brown raised concern that the gutter next to Burns Close had still not been cleared out by the resident whose building works had caused it to be blocked. **Agreed** Clerk to raise the issue informally with him. **Action:** Clerk to speak with resident.

1. **Annual Parish Meeting**: It was **agreed** to produce a newsletter as last year highlighting the Parish Council’s work over the past year. It was also **agreed** to suggest that tasks for the next year should include working to ensure the repair of the village field wall, and the Chare Wall. It was further **agreed** that a Best Front Garden and Best Flower tub competition be organised in 2019, with a Gardening voucher as a prize for each. The Clerk was reminded that due to other bookings, the Parish Meeting could not commence until 7.30 pm. The Clerk apologised for her error and offered to send an e-mail to all she could contact in this way, and to place notices on the board and website.
2. **Date of next meetings: Monday 11th June** at6.45pm.

Meeting closed at 8.43 pm.