



**Heysham
Neighbourhood
Council**

Bringing The Community Together

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Quarterly Public Meeting
Wednesday 24th October 2007
Heysham Youth & Community Centre

Start 19.30

In The Chair: Mr Peter Whaley (Chairman)

Clerk: Mrs Allison Thomas

Members Present:

David Wilcox, Graeme Austin, Eric Briggs, Janice Whaley, Sheila Hindson

Members of the public present: 12 persons

**Others present: County Councillor Jean Yates
Councillor Ken Brown
Councillor Evelyn Archer**

1. Apologies

Brian Reeve, Paul Mallett, John Hesketh, PC Neil Tomlinson

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 25th July 2007

At Heysham Youth & Community Centre were accepted as a true record, and were proposed by Mrs Sheila Hindson and seconded by Mr Eric Briggs.

3. Matters arising from the minutes 25th July 2007

Item 3. Stagecoach

A letter dated 18th October 2007 has been received from Stagecoach advising that due to the operational costs there are no plans for the provision of evening bus services beyond Heysham Towers.

Item 10b. Xmas Lights 2007

Following a meeting with Mr Ged McAllister from the Engineers Department Lancaster City Council there will be new lighting in Heysham Village but not at Strawberry Gardens. The proposed designs of the new lighting displays were circulated. The Chairman advised that these new displays were now the property of Heysham Neighbourhood Council for future use.

4. Community Policing

Apologies have been received from PC Neil Tomlinson.

Mr Graeme Austin advised that there is a PACT meeting on the first Wednesday of each month – everyone welcome to attend. The minutes from these meetings are posted on the Heysham Online site www.heyshamonline.co.uk.

Mrs Sheila Hindson reported that the traffic problems around the Woborrow Road area have improved slightly although there are still problems with parking on double yellow lines outside the Chinese takeaway.

The recently improved lighting in Heysham Village car park has helped to improve the amount of cars congregating there in the evening.

Mr David Kerr from Stanley Road reported that there are numerous accidents on and around the junction of Westminster and Stanley Road. Councillor Jean Yates advised that there no plans for traffic calming in that area at the present time, but there has been three new allocations of mobile cameras in the Heysham area.

5. Mossgate Development

Work has started on the Heysham Youth and Community Centre to create the Children's Centre alongside the Youth Centre. Architects plans for the Sports Centre have been approved by Lancashire County Council with work due to start in 2008.

Fencing around the Heysham Library is due to be erected before Christmas in preparation for work starting – temporary library could to be sited in a shop unit if available, or using the mobile library service.

6. Power Station

Mrs Sheila Hindson advised that there will be a public meeting in November – date to be confirmed, look in local press for details. The Power Station have decided that if there is no public attendance at the meeting, future meetings will not include the general public.

7. Events

(a) Car and Bike Show 2007

The Chairman reported that this was a very successful event, well attended on a sunny day with lots of positive feedback.

(b) Xmas Lights 2007

To be held on Friday 7th December involving children from the three local primary schools. Organisation is well underway with a welcome sponsorship of £500 received from Mr Eric McKenzie, Intelligent Voice and Data. The road closure is in place.

8. Planning Application

No significant planning applications received.

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9. Finance

Apologies have been received from the Treasurer Mr Paul Mallett who is unable to attend due to work commitments.

The updated accounts were circulated showing good income from the car show and the sponsorship money from Intelligent Voice and Data.

The Chairman is currently investigating cheaper event insurance which is the biggest expenditure incurred.

Councillor Jean Yates accepted the accounts with thanks to the Treasurer which was seconded by Mr Eric Briggs.

10 Parish Council Status

The Chairman advised that following a Lancaster City Council meeting on the 26th September 2007 plans to establish a Parish Council in Heysham were supported in principle and a review regarding ward boundaries would be undertaken by Lancaster City Council.

This review will involve residents of Heysham North Ward being individually canvassed for their views.

Councillor Jean Yates advised that there may be a boundary split within Heysham North Ward.

Councillor Evelyn Archer advised that she has attended the meeting to answer any questions that people may have regarding the proposed Morecambe Town Council and was keen to ensure a good working relationship with Heysham Neighbourhood Council.

Councillor Archer explained that the inclusion of Heysham North Ward within the Morecambe Town Council proposal was due to pressure from some residents and Councillor Ron Sands.

The Chairman reported that a letter advising that Heysham Neighbourhood Council was to go for Parish Council status was sent to the Chief Executive on the 5th February 2007, but was not read out in a subsequent Council meeting regarding parish/town council reviews. A copy of the letter was also sent on the 16th May 2007 to the Chief Executive.

The Chairman reported that he had spoken to Gillian Noall, Democratic Services Lancaster City Council who advised that she did not envisage the Heysham North boundary review delaying the Morecambe Town Council proposal.

Patricia England commented that she had doubts about Parish Councils and questioned whether a Parish Council would have enough authority, and felt that a possible combined Morecambe and Heysham Town Council would be more beneficial.

The Chairman advised that as Heysham Neighbourhood Council are a non-profit making organisation they would not have the funds to undertake such a large consultation exercise.

Mr Eric Briggs explained that a joint Morecambe and Heysham Town Council would still operate at a Parish Council level with the same constitution and would not have the same authority as Lancaster City Council.

Councillor Jean Yates advised that there are no plans for local government reorganisation but the government is keen to support Parish and Town Councils on a local level.

Councillor Evelyn Archer agreed with Mr Eric Briggs and explained that the proposed Morecambe Town Council is not a 'break away from Lancaster City Council, but a chance for Morecambe residents to have more say in their own affairs'.

The Chairman advised that a possible boundary split within Heysham North would be at the Bold Street/Back Avondale Road area but would depend on the consultation.

Councillor Ken Brown referred to his letter printed in the Visitor this week and stated that the ultimate aim must be the creation of Morecambe Town Council and Heysham Parish Council. Councillor Brown felt it was generally agreed that a compromise on the Heysham North ward would be the way forward.

11. Correspondence

- (a) Letter from the Lancaster District Council for Voluntary Service regarding inclusion in the 2008 Directory – clerk to action.
- (b) Letter from Stagecoach North West (see Matter Arising Item 3)

Councillor Jean Yates advised that a pilot scheme in West Lancashire ‘Demand Responsive Transport` is being set up. This scheme is looking at running buses that are not used regularly to link in with the main bus route network. Members of the public will be able to contact a central call centre and arrange pickups. Councillor Ken Brown asked how the scheme was to be funded.

Councillor Jean Yates advised that it would be consortium funding that would also be sustainable, and that she would keep the committee updated on the progress. The scheme might be useful in the future for local areas such as Overton and Middleton.

11. Any Other Business

The chairman spoke about the problems with the parking on the double yellow lines outside Tesco making it difficult to ‘pull out` of the junction of Heysham Ave - accidents have already happened

Mr Graeme Austin will report on this issue at the next PACT meeting.

Mrs Patricia England reported that she had a bogus caller at her home saying there were from a utilities company and tried to get into her house – she asked local people to be vigilant.

Mr Graeme Austin will report this incident at the next PACT meeting.

The Chairman advised that because of possible vandalism the fencing will have to remain again around the Village Christmas tree.

The Chairman invited everyone at the meeting to have a look at the proposed design for the Tourism Board to be sited at the entrance to Heysham Village car park.

There being on other business the meeting closed at 21.00

Signed..... Date.....

There being no other business the meeting closed at 21.30