



**Heysham
Neighbourhood
Council**

Bringing The Community Together

www.heyshamonline.co.uk

**Quarterly Public Meeting
Wednesday 30th April 2008**
Heysham Youth & Community Centre

Start 20.00

In The Chair: Mr Peter Whaley (Chairman)

Clerk: Mrs Allison Thomas

Members Present:

David Wilcock, Graeme Austin, Paul Mallett, Janice Whaley, Brian Reeve, Sheila Hindson

Members of the public present: 28 persons

Others present:

Councillor Jean Yates – Lancashire County Council

Councillor Ken Brown – Lancaster City Council

Councillor Evelyn Archer – Lancaster City Council

Councillor Roger Dennison – Lancaster City Council

Councillor June Ashworth – Lancaster City Council

1. Apologies

Mr M Coffey, PC Neil Tomlinson

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 30th January 2008

At Heysham Youth & Community Centre were accepted as a true record, and were proposed by County Councillor Jean Yates and seconded by Graeme Austin

3. Matters arising from the minutes 30th January 2008

None

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4. Community Policing

Mr Graeme Austin reported that there are four Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) and an extra Community Beat Manager (CBM) designated for the Heysham area.

The next Police and Communities Together (PACT) meeting will be held at Heysham and Community Centre on Wednesday 8th May 2008 - the meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month. The minutes from these meetings are posted on the Heysham Online site www.heyshamonline.co.uk.

There will be a meeting at St Peters Hall Tuesday 6th May 2008 with representatives from the Community Authority, Lancashire.

Damage on the new Miller Homes site has been reported and fencing will be erected to try and improve the situation.- Mr Austin reminded the meeting to report any incidents locally to the Police who will log the calls, this will assist the Police to prioritise resources to where they are needed.

Mrs Angela Sykes advised that free 'doggie bags' are available from various outlets in the village including St Peters Church Hall and the Heritage Centre.

5. Heysham On-Line (www.heyshamonline.co.uk)

Mr David Wilcock started by thanking the Chairman for all his hard work and commitment throughout the year for Heysham Neighbourhood Council.

Giving background information on the website Mr Wilcock advised that the site was started 6 years ago. It is a community based website, updated weekly keeping residents up to date with news.

The website gives information on policing, events and whats happening locally, minutes from Heysham Neighbourhood Council and PACT meetings, Power Station news, photo galleries and a correspondence section.

Local residents are encouraged to use the site to promote any events by contacting Mr Wilcock either by emailing the web-site or in person.

Mr Peter Whaley proposed a vote of thanks to Mr David Wilcock which was seconded by Mr Graeme Austin.

6. Events

The Chairman reported that the carboots had been a 'wash-out' so far this year- the main event will be the Car and Bike Show to be held on Sunday 3rd August 2008, the plans are going well for the event with 108 exhibitors confirmed so far.

The 2007 Christmas Lights event went ahead despite the dreadful weather creating a busy atmosphere in St Peters Church where the service took place. The new lights funded through a Lancaster City Council grant were festive.

Mr Graeme Austin enquired whether additional dates for Car Boots to replace the cancelled days could be organised. The Chairman advised that it really is 'the luck of the draw with the weather' and is up to the discretion of Mrs Sharon Wilson Promenade and Outdoor Facilities Manager, Lancaster City Council.

Councillor Jean Yates suggested contacting Mr Albert Atkinson – the Parish Council 'champion' to see if any donations/funding could be found to help Heysham Neighbourhood Council finances which have been affected by low income from the Christmas Lights events and car boots.

Mr Phil Lee asked if the committee had looked into other ways of raising money explaining that the Heysham Events Committee is successful with grant aid through Environmental groups. The money is then invested back into the local community eg. new lampposts and planting schemes.

The Treasurer will look into finding out about possible funding schemes, and the Chairman will contact Mr Albert Atkinson.

2008 Event dates

Car and Bike Show 3rd August 2008

Christmas Lights 5th December 2008

Car Boots 8th June 2008

27th July 2008

28th September 2008

8. Planning Applications

(a) Application 08/00160/FUL Grid ref: 341164/461370
Erection of Toilet Block and changing room - Mr Philip Lee
Site address: Heysham Village Carpark

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the proposed demolition of the existing toilet block and the relocation site of the new toilets.

The application will be going to the Planning Committee on Monday 12th May 2008.

To summarise the main points discussed:

- **The state of the existing toilets**

Local residents expressed their concerns over the rapidly deteriorating building which are over 40 years old, frequently vandalised and in a serious state of disrepair. There have been numerous incidents with children climbing onto the roof which have resulted in the emergency services being involved and injuries occurred.

Many residents reported that visitors to Heysham have complained about the state of the toilets in a conservation area within a village which is renowned for its Britain In Bloom success.

- **The proposed relocation of the toilet block**

It was reported that objections had been received from residents on Duke Street and Lees Court with regard to the relocation site. Questions regarding finance, access to the toilets, utility provision and lighting issues were discussed.

Concerns were raised about members of the public walking the extra distance to the new site particularly in the winter months with the known unreliability of the car park lights.

Mr Philip Lee informed the meeting that he had worked closely with Rob Bracewell Access Officer Lancaster City Council on ensuring that the plans were DDA compliant and had 'taken on board' advice from Lancaster City Councils Planning Department.

Referring to the lights Mr Philip Lee advised that the new relocation site would be floodlit with ample lighting. Relating to the question on utility provision at the new site Mr Lee informed the meeting that the moving of the drains, water, and electric would not cause any problems.

With regard to finances Mr Philip Lee advised that he had lobbied the Council to provide the finance and all funding had been agreed by Lancaster City Councils Cabinet (£50,000 funding with a contingency fund of £87,000 based on the refurbishment of the original building) Approx cost of £20,000 for demolition of the existing building.

Mr Philip Lee advised that a preferred contractor had been found willing to build the new toilet block at cost (charging for materials only) in a more suitable location.

- **The proposed design and layout of the new toilet block**

Discussions on the proposed design and layout questioned the reduction in the number of toilet cubicles compared to the existing building and the location of the urinals facing onto the village field.

The Chairman asked if the plans for the new toilet block could be altered by turning the building round so it fronted onto the car park rather than the field, and suggested that the location of the new building might be more suitable to the other side of the recycling bins nearer the entrance to the car park.

The design and layout will be discussed at the Planning Committee Meeting on Monday 12th May when the Planners will view the suggestions/objections.

The Chairman asked for a vote on an agreement that the meeting was happy that the existing toilet block be demolished – there was a unanimous show of hands and no objections.

Mr Philip Lee will contact the Planning Department with the outcome of this meetings discussion.

- (b) Notification of amendment to application no: 08/00327/FUL
Grid ref: 341658/461698
Police Station, Heysham Road, Heysham,
Erection of new building consisting of one small retail unit and ten flats.
For: Daffodil Homes

The details of the amendment are that the flats are NOT for sheltered use, they are general occupation.

9. Finance

Mr Paul Mallett distributed the Treasurers Report for year 2007-8 detailing the summary of income and expenditure. In addition a detailed breakdown of the account is available to view online www.heyshamonline.co.uk.

The Chairman thanked the Treasurer for the report and Councillor Jean Yates accepted the report with thanks.

10. Parish Council Status

The Chairman reported that as reported in the local press the creation of a Heysham Parish Council will not go ahead.

The consultation regarding the inclusion of Heysham North Ward as part of the Parish Council resulted in only four replies (3 against and 1 for)

Under current government regulations another parish review cannot be undertaken again for a period of two years.

11. Any Other Business

- (a) Mossgate Park Development

Mr Steven Timperley from Long Meadow Road, Mossgate Park reported that he along with many residents of Mossgate wanted to know how the money given to MAC homes to develop the estate was being spent.

County Councillor Jean Yates who is a member of the Mossgate Park Board reported that the money was being spent on sporting facilities and the Children's Centre, but the plans for other services such as the library onsite have been cancelled.

Mr Steven Timperley advised that the residents had received no correspondence or any copies of minutes from the Mossgate Board meetings and would like answers to questions regarding visibility of funds, amounts of money put aside, how much money involved and who is responsible, and a timetable for implementing developments.

County Councillor Jean Yates asked Mr Steven Timperley to put his queries in writing to her and she would do her best to get the answers.

(b) Heysham Village Street Lighting

Mr Jim Pilkington handed out a plan of the village showing the location of the street lamps and reported how erratic the lighting was and the un-reliability of United Utilities with repairs.

County Councillor Jean Yates acknowledged the problem and explained that she regularly complains to United Utilities on behalf of residents. She asked the meeting to send letters of complaint regarding the lights to her personally as she would forward every letter to the local MP's.

There being on other business the meeting closed at 21.15

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