

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HADDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 3rd September 2014 at 7.30pm at the Arkenstall Village Centre, Station Road, Haddenham, Cambs.

Attendance: Cllrs Cheetham, Goddard, Haigh, Hugo, Lyon (Chairman), Norman, Page, Smith, Tindall, G Wilson, P Wilson and County Cllr Hunt

1. GUEST SPEAKER

Cllr Lyon welcomed Gillian Leeper of Ely Soham Dial-a-Ride, who had attended to update the Council on the activities of ESDAR following the funding cuts by the County Council. Gillian thanked the Parish Council, on behalf of her staff and members, for its continued support of their organisation, which is immensely appreciated. She also thanked Cllrs P and G Wilson for their support. The service currently has 37 members in Haddenham & Aldreth and it provides transport for shopping, doctor and dentist appointments, excursions, etc., which provides an important social element to those in the community who are isolated. The mini buses are also available for hire and at the moment they do have some County Council contracts. However, following the County funding cuts earlier this year the bus pass concessions will cease in April 2015 and this will affect the main people they are there to support, e.g. elderly and disabled. The County contracts will be out for tender in December 2014 and providers will have to go through the process of an e-auction to bid. ESDAR had submitted a bid to the Princes Trust for funding to increase its fleet but unfortunately this had not been successful. They have looked at all areas of their administration procedures and made as many savings as possible on those. They are now looking at their operating procedures and what regular services they could offer the villages they cover, which go out as far as Littleport, Soham, Fordham and Mepal. The County Council has created a community funding pot of £500,000 and community transport is high on the list of eligible services to apply and the next meeting for that working party will be held in September. Gillian also mentioned the ESDAR 100 Club Lottery, which is one of their fundraising ideas and is drawn monthly with 3 prizes per month and various additional ones at Christmas. Gillian is determined to explore all funding options open to them to maintain ESDAR as a viable concern. Cllr Lyon thanked Gillian for attending and wished her well in her efforts.

- 2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** having been circulated to all members were taken as read. Cllr G Wilson proposed and Cllr Cheetham seconded that the minutes should be signed as a true record of the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

3. MATTERS ARISING (For Information Only)

- a. Tree work:** (See Minutes FC 07/2014 Item 14) The Clerk advised that due to a miscommunication Glen Conway had initially trimmed the wrong tree at the Non-Conformist Burial Ground. This had been reported to the Tree Officer and she was content to take the matter no further as the tree was in need of some pruning work. However, this had resulted in the cost of the work being £280 instead of £140 and this would be authorised under-Item 7a.
- b. Electrical Recycling Event:** (See Minutes FC 07/2014 Item 23 para 1) A total of 6.686 tonnes had been collected and income of £246.60 will come back to the parish from WISER Recycling. The Clerk advised that Paul Duggan would like to hold another event on 15th January 2015 and the Council would be happy for this to go ahead.
- c. Hillrow Post Box:** (See Minutes FC 07/2014 Item 23 para 3) The Clerk advised that Royal Mail will endeavour to install the replacement post box within twelve weeks.
- d. Blocked drain:** (See Minutes FC 07 2014 Item 23 para 3) Cllr Goddard advised that the drain is still blocked and the Clerk will chase this up.

- 4. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from Cllr Robert Bush – on holiday and Cllr Julie Parr – personal commitment.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.