

Hatfield Heath Business Association.

Minutes of meeting June 12th 2006 at The White Horse PH.

Meeting commenced 7.15pm, 11 members present.

Chaired by John White.

1. Apologies for absence received from Bruno Scheggia & Pat Connelly.
2. Minutes from last meeting distributed and taken as read.
3. Matters arising:
  - a. Mark Lemon reported that with regard to sub-post offices, he understood that there would be grants from the Common Market for the next 3 years, Irene to investigate!
  - b. The treasurer had visited the bank to set up an account for HHBA, a second signatory is needed, John White elected.
  - c. Litter, the possibility of a working party was discussed again. The owner of the wall in The Shaw which backs onto the car park reported that it was not the responsibility of the council to clean the graffiti off, it was decided to refer the matter to the next Parish Council meeting.
  - d. The car park signs have at last arrived!
  - e. Mel Sullivan reported that quotes have been obtained for the resurfacing of the entrance to the car park. Much discussion ensued as to the placement of the speed humps, it was agreed that the present ones are too high, a better arrangement may be two narrow shallower humps at the entrance. The removal of the height barrier was discussed, also the possibility of moving the roof on the cold store back to allow easier access for larger vehicles.
  - f. Parking continues to be a problem, the closure of the access road outside the White Horse was again discussed, with the possibility of a one way system along this slip road. Although this would create some more parking spaces, John felt that it would be detrimental to his trade, also difficult for large delivery lorries to negotiate the sharp bend to enter this road.
  - g. With regard to the revival of the village festival, it was agreed to monitor the flower festival weekend.
4. John White had met with Keith Hughes, Essex Business Link, which claims to be the biggest help to small businesses in Essex. It was suggested that a representative be invited to a meeting. On the other hand Mark Lemon reported that it seems many contracts are not being awarded to small local businesses, we need to find out how to get onto the list for tenders. Any letters on this subject would be gratefully received by Mark for discussion at the next District Council meeting.
5. Parking, John has again spoken to Brad, who is to monitor the situation. The Parish Council is hopeful that a 30mph speed limit will be in place this year, Mel reported that the money was available and a verbal agreement from all agencies involved was in place. There is also the possibility of the introduction of a mobile flashing speed restriction sign, this to be shared with neighbouring villages. The option of a mini roundabout at the Sheering road junction to slow down the flow of traffic was discussed, though this would require street lighting.

6. Kevin is to create an e-mail list from people in the original list with a view to setting up a directory for those willing to pay. The setting up of the web site was discussed, it was agreed that the minutes of our meetings must be on the web site as well as in the parish magazine. Bruno is to be asked to give Wayne a copy of the village magazine to put on the web site. Extra magazines were requested for the Post Office and the White Horse.  
With regard to the new map on the wall of the White Horse, Kevin is to contact JJ Signs for a quote. Letters must be sent to the owners of other boards, the British Legion, The Heath Players and The URC to agree amalgamation of boards.
7. The revival of the village festival was again discussed, it was agreed that a decision must be made as soon as possible whether to go ahead for next year. To that end Bruno would be asked to insert a flyer into the next magazine inviting offers of help, ideas for the use of profits etc, slips to be returned to local businesses/pub. John White agreed to contact Tim Potter with regard to the timing of the festival. The Parish Council could be approached with a view to underwriting the event. Wayne will contact Bruno with regard to flyers.
8. A -boards, Mel reported that the subject of these had been raised at the last Parish Council meeting. The HHBA have an agreement with the Parish Council to police all A boards, unfortunately this is not being complied with. It was suggested that a letter be sent to every business stating the agreement that all boards must conform to a set standard, ie size, colour (there is a choice), and the design to include the HHBA logo. All boards are to be brought in at night. It was pointed out that Highways have every right to remove boards and charge for their return.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm. Next meeting Monday July 10th at the White Horse PH.