

HUNDLEBY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE INFORMAL MEETING HELD ON THE 31st MAY 2018

Councillors present: Dr D Cartwright, (In the chair), Mrs D Jacklin and Mr P Maddison.

County Councillor Mr B Aron and Mr A Ratcliffe from the Highways Department also attended.

Cllr Cartwright welcomed Cllr Aron and Mr Ratcliffe to the meeting and expressed his regret that P C David Mills, the Community Beat Manager did not attend.

He explained that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the parking problems in Main Road Hundleby. Vehicles were parking on the pavements which meant that pedestrians, especially those with prams or pushchairs or using mobility scooters, were having to walk on the road in some places. There was a risk that someone could be killed or injured.

The Parish Council had received complaints from residents about the parking and the local P C S O had distributed leaflets asking that cars should be parked on the road and not the pavements. This had been successful for a short period but vehicles had gone back to parking on the pavements. It was pointed out that there were bottlenecks in certain areas where it was very difficult to park fully on the road because traffic would be unable to pass.

Mr Ratcliffe was asked if he could offer any solutions to this problem. He said that there was limited action which could be taken by the Highways Department, Enforcement Officers could only act if a traffic order was being violated. He said there were only 2 Enforcement Officers in the County, extra Officers were drafted in to help on Bank Holidays etc, but they were only used in certain areas e.g. Skegness. Officers did occasionally carry out spot checks.

The police were able to issue parking tickets when a traffic violation was reported but again lack of staff was an issue.

Mr Ratcliffe was asked if yellow lines could be painted on the road but he said that in order to do this a public meeting would have to be held and the local residents would be consulted, it was unlikely that they would agree. If these were put in place, even if they were staggered Mr Ratcliffe felt this was not a good option.

Another suggestion made to Mr Ratcliffe was that parking bays could be created at the front of the Gables site and at various other places in the village. Mr Ratcliffe said that he thought these could cause more congestion. He also said that the Highways Department would not be able to fund all of this, the cost would have to be met by outside means (residents and developers).

Mr Ratcliffe said that there was a problem with resources at the Highways department due to Government cutbacks, meaning fewer staff and less money. He would be able to send in a brief detailing Hundleby's parking issues but he said it would not be a priority item, priority was given to accident sites, new developments and problems at large locations. When asked he said that he would expect at least 6 years would elapse before anything was done.

Cllr had been in contact with the managers of the Grace Swan Clinic and they were not averse to the idea of residents parking during periods when the Clinic wasn't in use but there would obviously need to be a time limit in place and not everyone would use the facility.

Cllrs asked Mr Ratcliffe to send in a brief so that at least the issues would be reported and "in the system", he said he would do this and send a copy to the Clerk.

Cllrs also decided to ask the Police officer and a local PCSO if they could meet and walk through the Village to identify the main problem areas, this will be arranged. It was also suggested that letters could be delivered to residents asking that they do not block pavement access.

Cllr Cartwright thanked Cllr Aron and Mr Ratcliffe for attending the meeting.

