

## HAYFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2011

- Meeting Held:** Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011 at St John's Church Hall, Chapel Street, Hayfield.
- Present:** Councillors E Hodgson (Chair), K Bevins (Vice Chair), M Crompton, A Ramwell, P Easter, B Betts and L Waterhouse.
- In Attendance:** Mrs S Fuller – Assistant Clerk  
Councillor D Lomas – High Peak Borough Council
- Apologies:** Councillor V Wieteska (on holiday)

At the commencement of the meeting there were 12 members of the public present.

- 1. Declaration of Interests.** None
- 2. Public Speaking.**

Councillor A Ramwell stated that he felt under standing orders (1.1) that the meeting could be seen as invalid.

John Harvey requested that co-option candidates be allowed to all speak to the meeting. This was rejected by other nominees present as they were not expecting to speak.

Mike Dean from LHAC stated that LHAC approved the 2 candidates from Little Hayfield for co-option (Mike Dean and Lyndon Evans) and wished candidates from within Hayfield West to be nominated.

Susan Wyatt requested the Council look into stopping acid smells which may be coming from the tip and to make strong representation to those responsible to improve the visibility of the pedestrian crossing on New Mills Road to oncoming traffic from the A624.

Lyndon Evans stated he had sent emails regarding the meeting, which he had been led to believe would not be attended by 3 Councillors, and felt the process for co-option was unsatisfactory and incorrect – referring back to Councillor A Ramwell's complaint. (Councillors M Crompton and A Ramwell both attended the meeting although both had previously said they could not attend)

John Harvey said he thought at least one nominee from Hayfield West Ward should be co-opted but also asked Councillors to consider that there were already 4 new Councillors on the Council and it would therefore make sense to co-opt someone with experience of being a Councillor such as himself.

**3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2011. Approved**

**4. Co-option of 2 Councillors**

The Chair had been advised to read out some correspondence received in relation to this item which was read out by the Acting Clerk

Email from Lyndon Evans:

*To all concerned.*

*As you are aware a meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Thursday 30th June at 7.15 to Co-opt 2 councillors for Hayfield West.*

*I am concerned about the fairness of the vote for the following reason. I have been informed that the meeting was called without consultation in regard to councillors availability on that date. I would have thought this is normal polite practise before any meeting is called.*

*It seems at least 3 of the Hayfield Parish Councillors are away and can't attend or vote.*

*I am aware that the Locum Clerk & the Chairman of the Council were informed on the Thursday the 23rd June. This morning I received a letter confirming the meeting and the agenda - It appears that the meeting will still be going ahead.*

*I feel that as a proposed candidate the process of co-option is compromised.*

*If you feel the same way please let the Council be aware of your feelings.*

*Lyndon*

Email from Ella Davies:

*Dear parish clerk,*

*I have become aware that a meeting of the Parish Council is to be held on Thursday 30th June at 7.15 to Co-opt 2 councillors for Hayfield West. I am concerned about the fairness of the vote for the following reason. I have been informed that the meeting was called without consultation in regard to councillors availability on that date. It seems at least 3 of the Hayfield Parish Councillors are away and can't attend or vote.*

*I feel that the process of co-option is compromised and is not in the spirit of the democratic process and believe the meeting should be delayed to a date that all can make. I would be grateful if you could bring my views to the attention of the committee.*

*Regards*

*Ella Davies*

*Resident Little Hayfield*

In the light of the correspondence and criticism, the Acting Clerk proposed, through the Chair, that the Council should decide whether or not to proceed with the vote that evening.

This was seconded by Councillor B Betts.

The Council voted to proceed with the co-option that night.  
(All Councillors voted in favour: Councillors A Ramwell, L Waterhouse, E Hodgson, B Betts, M Crompton, K Bevins and P Easter).

Councillor M Crompton asked for standing orders to be suspended whilst a secret ballot took place and this was seconded by Councillor L Waterhouse (standing order 1.12). All Councillors voted in favour: Councillors A Ramwell, L Waterhouse, E Hodgson, B Betts, M Crompton, K Bevins and P Easter.

Ballot papers were distributed and Councillors reminded to vote for only 1 or 2 candidates.

Papers were collected and votes counted by the Acting Clerk.

The results were read out:

Mr Phil Chapman	4
Dr Karen Dalkin	0
Mr Mike Dean	3
Mr Lyndon Evans	2
Mr John Harvey	0
Mrs Kathleen Waterhouse	5

Mr Phil Chapman and Mrs Kathleen Waterhouse were co-opted onto the Council.

**5. Part 2 – Matters to be discussed after the exclusion of the public and press.** None

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.40pm.

CHAIRMAN