



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF Hadlow Down Parish Council
held in Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down
at 7pm on Tuesday April 3rd 2012.

*Note – this a draft copy to be agreed and amended, if
necessary, at the next Council Meeting.*

Present: Councillors David Walker (DW) (Chairman), Sandra Richards (SR), Damon Wellman (DWe) and Graham Terry (GT). Also in attendance was the Clerk Helen Simpson-Wells (HSW).

1. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – none received
 2. **REPORT FROM PCSO MARK CARTER** – no report in Marks absence.
 3. **APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE** – apologies received from Michael Lunn and Rona Hellewell, these were accepted.
 4. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** - no declarations of interest received.
 5. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on 6th March 2012 were agreed and signed as a true record.
 6. **MATTERS ARISING (from previous meetings):**
 - i. Development at Oakways – c/f. RH
 - ii. Article on double yellow lines was sent to go on the website and in the Parish Magazine.
 - iii. Annual report – reports need to be sent to GT by the end of April. ALL
 - iv. Recycling bins – c/f ML
 - v. Clerks Report: was sent to Councillors with the agenda updating them on her action points, this included:
 - a. Fingerposts are to be added to the draft local list of buildings and structures of local importance. The Village Maintenance Team, who are visiting in April, have been asked to strip them back to bare wood and repaint them.
 - b. SR to speak to a school governor regarding the decision over the use of the land opposite the school for parking. SR
 7. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**
 - i. **WD/2012/0526/F & WD/2012/0527/LB - DUDDESLAND FARM HOUSE, HEATHFIELD ROAD, CROSS IN HAND TN21 0UJ** - The erection of a single storey utility outbuilding with lightweight link to the rear of the main building – The Parish Council fully support this application – agreed by all present.
 - ii. **WD/2012/0435/F - LOUDWELL FARM, TINKERS LANE, TN22 4ET** – Proposed agricultural building – Clerk to arrange site visit. Clerk
 - iii. **WD/2012/0534/F – SOUTHVIEW, WILDERNESS LANE TN22 4HX** – Conversion of garage to provide holiday accommodation – The Parish Council do not object to the application, however we have concerns as to where residents will park their vehicles. At present there is sufficient car parking space – agreed by all present.
- GRANTED PLANNING PERMISSION:**
- i. **WD/2012/0189/FR HASTINGFORD HOUSE** – retention of tree house.
 - ii. **WD/2012/2754/F COOPERS FARM** – retention of a mobile home and lean-to extension for 2 year period
 - iii. **WD/2011/2726/LB BROADREED FARM** – remove existing structural unsafe utility room and construct new utility room
 - iv. **WD/2011/2792/F WARREN FARM, SHEPHERDS HILL** – erection of a replacement building to provide enclosed area for meat freezers & collection point, secure storage, covered shed & provision of first floor farm office with sanitary facilities.
8. **REPORTS FROM CLLR. TONY REID, ESCC & CLLRs. KEN OGDEN and NORMAN BUCK WDC** – no reports received in their absence.
 9. **BANK RECONCILIATION:** –dated 26th March 2012 was agreed and signed.

10. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS –

i. Barclays have not upheld the Parish Council's (PC) complaint over the missing documentation, however they have offered £200 in full and final settlement of the complaint. A discussion was held on whether to accept the offer or whether to refer the matter to the Financial Ombudsman Service. It was agreed to accept the offer, confirmation signed by bank signatories.

11. **REVIEW OF 2011/12 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE** – the Clerk had previously sent Councillors a breakdown of the income and expenditure for the 2011/12 financial year. £6900 has been transferred to reserves, it was agreed to put £2000 of this into fingerpost costs earmarked reserves, £1000 into property maintenance earmarked reserves, £900 into unearmarked reserves and £3000 into a new Community Plan earmarked reserve fund.

12. **NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE** – SR updated the PC on the recent meeting with the solicitor from Hedleys, representatives from AirS, the Village Hall and Community Centre committees. *GT to visit the record office to see if he can obtain further documentation. The Clerk will then liaise with the Solicitor in order that title can be registered.*

GT/Clerk

The Clerk will liaise with ML regarding a new lease for the playing field entrance.

Clerk

Janet Tourell has confirmed to the Clerk that at the next Village Hall committee meeting they will confirm the management trustees.

13. **PARISH ASSEMBLY** – arrangements for the Parish Assembly were discussed.

14. **PLAYING FIELD DRAINAGE** – c/f.

15. **CAB FUEL POVERTY WORKER** – SR confirmed that the CAB have a free service where a fuel poverty worker can visit people's homes and can also undertake talks for organisations.

16. **FLAGPOLE ON PLAY AREA** – GT confirmed that the Playing Field committee would like to put up a flagpole at the entrance to the Playing Field. The PC agreed to this request.

17. **BUS SERVICES** – the bus stop signs are due to be installed next week, the bus times will be displayed on them. The 196 Countryliner service stopped from 18th March 2012. *Councillors to inform the Clerk and SR when the signs go up in order that an article can go on the website.*

ALL

Of the remaining services there is unlikely to be any funding for a bus shelter from the providers. The Clerk has spoken to Wilderness Wood about the possibility of them building a shelter, although other quotes would also need to be obtained. A discussion was held on the possibility of installing a bus shelter and on the planning permission required, *DWe to investigate further.*

DWe

18. **FINGERPOST AGREEMENT** – GT had studied the agreement from Highways and recommended to the PC that they don't sign up for it at this stage. Agreed by all. The Clerk advised that the agreement will be raised at the WDALC meeting. She has also liaised with other Clerks and there is concern that parishes and towns will be asked to contribute more financially.

19. **SLR MEETING** – SR updated the PC on the recent SLR meeting. Highways have agreed to commence the Hadlow Down parking review in July when they will consider the extension of the double yellow lines in School Lane. Speed recording in School Lane should be completed in June and the re-siting and installation of new speed signs in School Lane should be done by July.

It was raised that the speed signs in Wilderness Lane have been turned round, *Clerk to contact Highways steward.*

Clerk

20. **NEWSLETTER** – it was agreed that the following topics would appear in the next newsletter: Localism; fingerposts; burial ground; typical Parish Council meeting. It was felt that the newsletter should be colour on both sides.

21. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS (COUNCIL MATTERS AND OUTSIDE BODIES):

i. Cllr. Graham Terry – Burial Ground, Village Hall, Playing Field, New Community Centre and SLR – GT will be attending the next school assembly about the tree planting. GT and DW to prepare the ground and ensure that it is safe prior to planting. Planting on 25th April, *Clerk to contact press to attend.* Clerk
GT advised that the gate at the playing field had been broken and needs replacing, the Playing Field committee will arrange for a new gate to be installed. *GT will also highlight the problem with the tunnel, that was identified in the recent risk assessment, to the committee.*

GT

22. CLERK'S MATTERS:

i. Hours were agreed and signed. GT highlighted that the Clerks appraisal was overdue. SR thanked the Clerk for all her work in preparation for the meeting with the solicitor.

ii. Correspondence had been received regarding the cars for sale on the A272, this has been raised with WDC who are investigating.

iii. Correspondence had been received regarding the PC setting up a village email contact list, *Clerk to respond* that the PC wishes to support the website editor who already has a list and therefore they do not feel it is necessary for them to also set up a list.

Clerk

- iv. Correspondence had been received regarding sandstone bricks in Brick Kiln Lane, no action was felt necessary.
The state of the road surface in both School Lane and Hastingford Lane was raised, *Clerk to contact Highways Steward to investigate.* **Clerk**
 - v. Information received on Walk Wealden 2012, *Clerk to contact Robert Thorpe to see if he is interested.* **Clerk**
 - vi. Volunteer drivers needed for NHS Patient Transport, *Clerk to post information on the website.* **Clerk**
- 23. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:** The following were agreed by all and cheques were signed:
- i. Helen Simpson-Wells. Salary £852.55 includes £13.50 for mileage and £45.87 for expenses, £620 already paid by standing order, therefore cheque raised for £232.55.
 - ii. Hadlow Down Bowls Club £50 grant for tournament payable under power given in Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19
 - iii. Action in rural Sussex £199.08 Louise Beaton's attendance at meeting. Payable under power given in Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19
 - iv. Hadlow Down Village Hall £100.00 hire of hall
 - v. JFDI Groundcare Services £121.00 maintenance of burial ground and play area.
 - vi. Sussex Associations of Local Councils £305.92 of which £203.92 NALC & SALC subscriptions, £102.00 Localism conference.
 - vii. Wealden District Association of Local Councils £20.00 subscription
 - viii. Graham Terry £8.99 expenses for map
 - ix. HM Revenue and Customs £356.30
 - x. David Walker £185.00 allowance
- 24. PLAY AREA CONTRACT** – GT expressed the opinion that discussions about contracts should not be held in closed session, he had taken advice from SALC. The Clerk explained that she had put it on the agenda to be in closed session following recent posts on the Clerks forum and in that there may be local applicants. A discussion was held on the tenders and it was agreed to continue with JFDI for a further 2 years.
- 25. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR DISTRIBUTION:**
- i. SALC newsletter
 - ii. Wealden Business Focus
 - iii. Grey Matters
 - iv. WDC Parish Bulletin
 - v. East Sussex Record Office AGM and report
- 26. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA:** nothing added.

The meeting closed at 8:50pm

**THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING will be the
PARISH ASSEMBLY
on 17th APRIL at 7pm.**