



MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Hadlow Down Parish Council
held in the Committee Room of Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down
at 7pm on Tuesday 2nd August 2016.

Present: Councillors Sandra Richards (SR) (Chair), Graham Terry (GT), Damon Wellman (DW), Michael Lunn (ML), Iain Turner (IT) and Julian Michaelson-Yeates (JMY). The Clerk Helen Johnson was in attendance.

Apologies had been received from Cllr. Toby Illingworth (TI)(WDC)

122. PUBLIC QUESTIONS – no items raised.

123. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE – none received.

124. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – ML declared a disposable pecuniary interest in item 137.

125. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS held on 5th and 26th July 2016 were agreed and signed as true records.

126. MATTERS ARISING (from previous meetings):

- i. Land south of the Village Hall – ML (WDC) confirmed that there was no current planning application pending. There have been pre-application discussions with planning officers and developers have been making enquiries with officers.

Cllr. Roy Galley (RG)(ESCC) joined the meeting at 7:03pm.

Following a question from a Councillor, ML (WDC) advised that the land could be an infill site, although this would be subject to planning permission.

- ii. Surface dressing of roads – RG confirmed that his enquiry overlapped with the notification of the date for the works. Councillors commented on the quality of the work, that the manholes were flush with the road surface and the broken drain had been repaired. Concern was expressed over the state of some parts of Wilderness Lane.
- iii. School Lane pavement – IT advised that he had contacted the witness to the damage but no response had been received. The Clerk has written to Highways asking for an update regarding their contact with their insurance company and if this hadn't been successful when they will be repairing the pavements. RG confirmed that he had also contacted Highways.

iv. Japanese knotweed – c/f JMY to speak to landowner.

JMY

v. Varnishing of noticeboards – GT confirmed that he had put 1 coat of oil on the noticeboards but needed to do another coat.

GT

vi. The Clerks Report was sent to Councillors with the agenda updating them on her action points, this included:

- a. The Clerk has spoken to the owner of the cattle who advised that they have laminated signs at either side of the field, she has suggested that they have signs that are more durable as at least one of the laminated signs was missing.
- b. The Clerk has requested that WDC cut back the verges and low branches on the trees at the junction of the Five Chimneys, School, Stocklands and Hastingford Lanes junction. The Chair confirmed that the verges have now been cut back.
- c. The Clerk has been advised that the police are unable to progress an additional cut of the verges however they are looking at whether the Community Payback Team could do the work and have also suggested that problem verges be tweeted to @escroads together with a picture.

127. PLANNING:

a. APPROVED PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

- i. WD/2016/1084/F – OLD FORGE, MAIN ROAD – Proposed 2 storey extension to rear of property. JMY advised that WDC had noted the Parish Council's (PC) comments and that there will be conditions that the proposed windows at first floor level on the north elevation will be obscure glazed and top opening.

- 128. REPORTS FROM CLLR. ROY GALLEY, ESCC & CLLRS. TOBY ILLINGWORTH/MICHAEL LUNN WDC – Cllr.**
Galley updated the meeting on the 3 Counties Devolution Project, all leaders of the 26 councils have met. There are roughly 2 options, one involving the transfer of approx £30 million per annum and the other approx. £120 per annum from the government. RG expressed concern over whether the £120 million would cover all the work that is wanted on roads and railways and it would also add another layer of government. Council members haven't yet been consulted.
The Clerk gave Cllr. Illingworth's report. He advised that EE are building a new phone mast at Pound Hill which should improve the reception in Buxted and Hadlow Down. He will continue to work on the other providers. A Councillor expressed concern over some broadband speeds. *The Clerk will write to TI concerning the speeds from the Buxted exchange.* **Clerk**
Cllr. Michael Lunn advised that the full council have been discussing illegal parking and enforcement. WDC can apply to ESCC to decriminalize parking but haven't yet done this, it has been proposed by the leader of WDC that they look at other options.
A Councillor asked why the Uckfield Town Centre Reinvestment Programme wasn't doing anything about people, including shopowners, parking in the High Street for a long period of time. RG confirmed that there have been people monitoring the situation. ML confirmed that the initial phase of the work should be completed by the end of September. He has looked at the SHLAA (Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment) and there is no official allocation for Hadlow Down. There has been a recalculation of the figures for the 5 year supply of housing. RG confirmed that the objectively assessed housing need has now gone up. The Local Plan will fulfill the 5 year housing supply need.
- 129. BANK RECONCILIATION:** –for July 2016 was agreed and signed.
- 130. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS :**
- i. The payment of £336.00 to Compact Cutting Contractors for grounds maintenance, that was paid at the previous meeting, was ratified at this meeting.
 - ii. The PC agreed the quote for the fencing work at the playing field. The Clerk advised that the Playing Field committee would be discussing the site for the burning of the removed vegetation at their upcoming meeting. It was suggested that the vegetation be burned at the same time as the remainder of it gets cleared by the committee.
 - iii. The Clerk confirmed that the 2015/16 accounts had been signed off by the external auditor.
 - iv. Fingerposts – the PC agreed the quote for the work on the fingerpost at the junction of Five Chimneys Lane and Curtains Hill. The Clerk confirmed that she had asked ESCC to match fund the cost of the work on the Wilderness Lane/Riverside fingerpost and would ask them to match fund the cost for the new one as well. ESCC are currently reviewing match funding and further information should be sent out at the end of August.
- 131. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS (COUNCIL MATTERS AND OUTSIDE BODIES):**
Cllr Sandra Richards declared a personal interest in item 131i.
- i. Cllr. Wellman advised that he had been contacted by a resident regarding the car boot sale in September at Tinkers Park. The planning conditions don't allow visitors or paying customers to be on the site before 9am. *The Clerk will contact the organisers.* **Clerk**
 - ii. Cllr. Turner advised that he had received only a small number of responses to the Emergency Plan survey. He will look at whether to put it on the website.
- 132. HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY MATTERS:**
- i. **SLR MEETING** – a Councillor raised concern over the length of the double yellow lines in School Lane, it was agreed (5/1) to rescind the decision made at the last meeting (agenda item 118) and this motion was signed by 4 Councillors. It was also agreed to raise at the SLR meeting for Ian Johnson to visit the site and recommend where he felt the lines needed to be to improve safety. DW and IT to also attend the site visit.
The following items will also appear on the agenda: School Lane resurfacing; School Lane pavement and outstanding items. *The Clerk will reorganize the date of the meeting.* **Clerk**
The Clerk will report to Highways the pothole on the A272 at the junction with Wheelers Lane. **Clerk**
 - ii. **PROPOSED LORRY BAN IN ROTHERFIELD** – concern was expressed that if lorries are banned in Rotherfield that it will result in more lorries on School Lane. RG advised that this item is being taken to the ESCC lead member meeting on 19th September. *It was agreed for the Clerk to write to Cllr Maynard & cc RG expressing the PC's concern and highlighting that the vehicles will be travelling past 2 primary schools.* **Clerk**
 - iii. **JAPANESE KNOTWEED** – the Clerk advised the meeting of the response from the contractor regarding the knotweed on the footpath between Waghorns and Hut Lanes. ESCC Rights of Way team have already informed the PC that they won't treat it. She gave the PC details of the charges for treating it. It was agreed to await the outcome of the meeting on 4th August.
- 133. RISK ASSESSMENTS** – IT updated the meeting on the outcome of the risk assessments. The noticeboards

are in the process of being treated. He had also visited the closed burial ground and expressed concern over some of the seats which he considered unsafe. WDC are responsible for the closed burial ground, *ML to find out who should be contacted at WDC to highlight the problem with the seats.* **ML**

A Councillor questioned whether the bus shelter needed any maintenance undertaken on the wood, *IT to check.* **IT**

- 134. POLICE COVER** – the Clerk advised that her emails had bounced back from the 2 PCSOs as they are no longer employed by the police force. She has been advised that there aren't any PCSOs covering the village per se. She has a meeting with the police's Public Engagement Officer in September.
- 135. CELEBRATE** – the Clerk confirmed that the invites had been sent out to the meeting on 9th August. Rachel Lewis is volunteering her time. *JMY agreed to chair the initial meeting and he will contact Rachel to organize an agenda.* **JMY**
- 136. NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE** – nothing to update.
ML wasn't involved in the meeting for the following item:
- 137. PLAYING FIELD BOUNDARY** – the Chair will take photos of the boundary on the north and west side and will arrange to meet with the landowners for them to agree the boundary.
- 138. CLERK'S MATTERS:**
- i. The Clerks hours were agreed and signed
- 139. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:**
- i. Active Villages Event – the Clerk will send this onto Rachel Lewis.
- 140. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:** the following payments were agreed and cheques were signed:
- i. Helen Johnson. Salary £810.55 includes £13.50 mileage and £8.85 expenses, £750 already paid by standing order, therefore cheque raised for £60.55.
 - ii. Compact Cutting £168.00 grounds maintenance.
 - iii. East Sussex Pension Fund £228.39.
 - iv. PKF Littlejohn LLP £240.00 external audit.
 - v. SSALC Limited £108.00 training
 - vi. Playsafety Limited £105.00 play equipment inspection.
- A further payment for £100 for Hadlow Down Village Hall for hire of the hall was signed and will be ratified at the next meeting
- 141. DEFIBRILLATOR BATTERY** – the Clerk confirmed that she had checked the defibrillator prior to the meeting.
- 142. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA** - nothing raised.

The meeting closed at 8:12pm