



MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Hadlow Down Parish Council  
held in the Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down  
at 7pm on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015.

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

Present: Councillors Sandra Richards (SR) (Chair), Damon Wellman (DW), Julian Michaelson-Yeates (JMY), Michael Lunn (ML), Nathan James (NJ) and Graham Terry (GT). The Clerk Helen Simpson-Wells was in attendance.

**240. PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – none raised.

**241. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE** – apologies received from Cllr. Iain Turner, these were accepted. The Chair requested that ML (WDC) ask Cllr Illingworth (TI)(WDC) to send his apologies if he is unable to attend a Parish Council meeting.

**242. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – GT declared a personal interest in item 245bi. JMY and NJ declared a personal interest in item 245ai. SR declared a personal interest in item 248ii relating to the CAB. JMY declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item 245ciii.

**243. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS** held on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015 were agreed and signed as true records.

**244. MATTERS ARISING (from previous meetings):**

- i. The Clerks Report was sent to Councillors with the agenda updating them on her action points, this included:
  - a. The Clerk has liaised with the Chair of the Playing Field committee regarding the bonfire risk assessment, the materials for the bonfire and the suggestion of a padlock on the gate.
  - b. Highways have sent the Clerk details of the dates the gullies on the minor roads were cleared. She has copied this to Councillors and has highlighted to Highways that all the gullies in Waghorns Lane weren't cleared on the date quoted by the contractor, they are investigating.
  - c. Highways Liaison are looking into what work is due to be done on the rattling drain cover near Little England Farm. The insufficient apron opposite Tinkers Lane has been reported to Highways.
  - d. Wealden Roads Watch have been requested to undertake Speed Watch in Hadlow Down.
  - e. The south boundary on the land at the entrance to the Playing Field has been confirmed with St Mark's School House Trust.
  - f. The Keep have confirmed that they do not want to receive a digital file of the emails.
  - g. An invite was sent to Nus Ghani MP to the Parish Assembly, the Clerk will update the PC when a response has been received.
  - h. A response was sent to the Uckfield TCR Project survey.

**245. PLANNING**

**a. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

- i. **WD/2015/2397/LDE – BRACHERLANDS, MAIN ROAD, TN22 4HS** – Use of land for storage and occasional occupation of 12 modern touring caravans and 12 historic living vans. – The Parish Council agree with the information given in the application, however they would like Wealden District Council to give a definition of 'occasional occupation' in order that this is clear to all parties. (6/0)

**b. APPROVED PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

- i. **WD/2015/1737/LB – STOCKLAND OAST, STOCKLAND LANE** – Renewal of some existing windows and 2 external doors in the annexe.
- ii. **WD/2015/2104/F – SHEPHERDS HILL HOUSE, SHEPHERDS HILL** – Proposed tennis court and extension to residential curtilage.
- iii. **WD/2014/2537/F – CROUST FARM BARN, HADLOW DOWN ROAD** – Change of use and conversion of redundant agricultural buildings to form a single dwellinghouse, along with additional new building

works linking the two barns.

**c. PLANNING MATTERS:**

- i. Five Badgers, Stonehurst Lane – the Clerk advised that 5 appeals have been lodged against the WDC enforcement notices which will be dealt with in accordance with the Planning Inspectorate time frames. ML (WDC) confirmed that he has called the planning application into WDC planning committee, the Clerk will advise *DW and JMY of the date of the committee meeting so that they can attend on behalf of the PC.* **Clerk**

It was confirmed that development is still being undertaken at the site, the *Clerk will contact planning enforcement.* **Clerk**

Concern was expressed over the pollution control report included in the documentation relating to planning application WD/2015/2287/FR as the environmental officer hadn't visited the site. It was agreed for the *Clerk to write to environmental health and copy in planning department.* **Clerk**

- ii. Cart Lodge, Stonehurst Lane – the Clerk confirmed that planning enforcement have visited the site and no-one is currently living there.

JMY didn't join in the discussion for the following item.

- iii. Land at Gatehouse Farm, Stockland Lane – the Clerk advised that the appeals were dismissed and that the enforcement notice came into effect on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

**246. REPORTS FROM CLLR. ROY GALLEY, ESCC & CLLRS. TOBY ILLINGWORTH/MICHAEL LUNN WDC – Cllr.**

Galley advised that the county electoral boundary review was going to the Boundary Commission for review.

Cllr. Toby Illingworth joined the meeting at 7:35pm

RG confirmed that under the review the district boundary would cover Rotherfield and Hadlow Down. The county boundary would cover Wadhurst, Frant, Hadlow Down and Rotherfield. SR requested that in future RG give information on budgets in his reports.

Cllr. Illingworth apologized that he hadn't been able to attend recent meetings. He advised of the WDC boundary review. The Chair commented on the size and quality of the WDC Local Plan Issues, Options and Recommendations documents and concern was expressed over the way responses were having to be made. It was suggested that a summary should have been issued.

Cllr. Lunn (WDC) advised that his concerns related to planning matters.

RG confirmed that WDC will be increasing their council tax by 1.9%. The Chair expressed concern for those affected by cuts in council tax support.

**247. BANK RECONCILIATION:** – due to the delay in receiving the November 2015 statement it will be agreed and signed at the next meeting.

**248. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS :**

- i. ARBORICULTURIST SURVEY – the survey had been sent to Councillors and the Playing Field Committee (PFC) prior to the meeting. NJ updated the meeting on the PFCs discussions regarding the survey and a discussion was held on the removal of the wood once it has been cut down .

There are 3 trees in the play area which need actioning and it was agreed for *the Clerk to obtain quotes, for discussion and agreement at the January meeting.* **Clerk**

- ii. PRECEPT – a discussion was held on the proposed budget. It was agreed to request that HWCAAG membership be reduced to associate level with immediate effect. The Clerk advised that she is awaiting the invoice from WDC for the election costs, *ML (WDC) will raise this at WDC.* **ML**

Concern was raised that PC's are having to fund items previously paid for by WDC/ESCC. It was highlighted that ESCC should clear back pavements if they are used by schoolchildren. *RG will raise this with ESCC regarding School Lane and Main Road.* **RG**

The Clerk will amend the precept and bring the proposed precept to the January meeting for final approval.

- iii. INTERNAL AUDIT – the PC agreed to appoint Alison Stevens to undertake the internal audit for the 2015/16 accounts.

- iv. EXTERNAL AUDIT – the PC agreed to be part of the Sector Led Body procured external audit services. There will be a one-off Sector Led Body fee which the Clerk has included in the 2016/17 budget.

- v. HWCAAG – a Councillor questioned how much impact the group would have once a decision has been made about a new runway. *The Clerk will confirm that membership isn't automatically renewed for the following year.* **Clerk**

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

- i. Cllr. Julian Michaelson-Yeates advised that the land behind Standen Mews is up for auction.

He advised that Gatwick is putting in place new dispersal patterns and are consulting on precision based navigation for all arrivals. He had attended planning training with DW.

- ii. Cllr. Damon Wellman highlighted that there had been oil theft in Wilderness Lane, SR will request that

an article go in the Parish Magazine. DW advised that he had been contacted by a resident concerned that the WDC Planning Committee North minutes didn't reflect the meeting and there was confusion over when the conditions at Wilderness Wood commence. *ML (WDC) will check with planning department and report back at the next PC meeting.*

ML

DW expressed concern over parking in School Lane opposite the junction with Waghorns Lane, which is causing a problem for other road users, ML will raise with the resident.

ML

iii. Cllr. Nathan James advised that the Playing Field committee would like to meet with the PC to discuss the PC's purchased land and ways of separating the play area and the parked cars. *The Clerk will liaise with the chair of the committee to organize a meeting and request that the committee produce a list of items they wish to discuss.*

Clerk

iv. Cllr. Graham Terry expressed concern that Highways had originally said that they had cleared the gullies in Waghorns Lane and they hadn't been done. It was also highlighted that all the gullies hadn't been cleared in Stocklands Lane, *the Clerk will raise with Highways.*

Clerk

v. It was agreed that *the Clerk will write to the Fiona Shafer to thank her and all the people involved in the bonfire night.*

Clerk

vi. The Clerk advised that Councillor Iain Turner has a copy of the Emergency Plan and has been liaising with the Emergency Planning Officer. He has toured the roads in the village with SR and is familiarizing himself with Highways matters.

**250. NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE** – the Chair updated the meeting on progress with the traffic impact analysis and the pre-feasibility assessment. She has asked for the traffic impact analysis to also cover the village hall site. A village survey has been undertaken looking at where villagers travel to. It was suggested that Hadlow Down shouldn't be included in the Ashdown Forest 7km exclusion zone. GT is collating the responses to the survey. It was proposed and agreed that the outcome of the survey be submitted to WDC planning with a request that a screening be undertaken and for a Neighbourhood Area to be requested for the whole of Hadlow Down. The Clerk confirmed that the final version of the Feasibility Report was due in the following week.

**251. HOUSING NEEDS** – the Chair updated the meeting on the responses received and confirmed that none of the responders cross the Ashdown Forest to go to work. There is a housing need however people don't appear on the housing register. Concern was expressed that some people would always be at the bottom of the housing register and therefore felt it wasn't worth registering. The Chair confirmed that they will refer to the survey when submitting the Neighbourhood Area application.

**252. NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA** – discussed at items 250 and 251.

**253. STANDING ORDERS** – amendments agreed.

**254. RISK ASSESSMENTS** – the completed risk assessments were handed back. *NJ to speak to homeowner regarding the gap in the fencing.*

NJ

**255. ENTRANCE TO THE PLAYING FIELD** – to be discussed at meeting with the Playing Field committee.

**256. WEALDEN LOCAL PLAN – ISSUES, OPTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS** – response agreed. *TI and ML will raise the PC's concerns regarding the document with WDC.*

TI/ML

*The Clerk will send the response and copy in TI.*

Clerk

**257. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION PUBLICATION SCHEME** – amendments were agreed.

**258. CLERK'S MATTERS:**

i. Clerks hours were agreed and signed

ii. Wealden Clerks Meeting – the Clerk advised that it had been proposed by 1 PC that Wealden PCs sign a letter to the Sussex Police Commissioner objecting against the redeployment of PCSOs. The PC agreed to this.

**259. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:** the following payments were agreed and cheques were signed:

i. Helen Simpson-Wells. Salary £946.09 includes £35.10 mileage and £1.84 expenses, £750 already paid by standing order, therefore cheque raised for £196.09.

ii. St Mark's CE School £20.00 donation for caretaker's time and use of electricity.

iii. Chiddingstone Parish Council £40.39 HWCAAG contribution to costs.

iv. Compact Cutting £168.00 burial ground and play area maintenance.

v. Public Works Loan Board £567.07 loan payment to be paid by direct debit.

vi. BT £130.47 telephone and broadband to be paid by direct debit.

vii. Viking £41.98 stationery

viii. Friends of The Keep archives £30.00 subscription

ix. Broad Oak Tree Consultants £600.00 arboriculturist survey

**260. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:**

i. WDC Statement of Licensing Policy 2016 consultation – DW updated the meeting on changes to the policy, a response was agreed which the *Clerk will send to WDC.*

Clerk

- ii. ESCC Local Transport Plan – Draft Implementation Plan 2016/17 – JMY updated the meeting on local changes, no response was made.
  - iii. Draft East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton and Hove Waste and Minerals Sites plan consultation – no response was made.
  - iv. Update re PCSOs – PCSOs Nikki Johnson and Hannah Parks now cover Buxted, Hadlow Down, Maresfield and Uckfield. *ML will invite them to attend a PC meeting and will send the Clerk their contact details in order that they can included in the Parish Magazine.* **ML/Clerk**
- 261. DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING AND CHECK** – the Clerk advised that training had been arranged for TN22 Club on 7/1 and that she was also arranging interactive training on 24<sup>th</sup> February. *She will put an article in the Parish Magazine and will send an invite to local organisations.* **Clerk**  
The Clerk confirmed that she had checked the defibrillator.
- 262. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA:**
- i. Computer files and emails

**The meeting closed at 9:12pm**