



**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 6<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

Present: Councillors Sandra Richards (SR) (Chair), Damon Wellman (DW), Julian Michaelson-Yeates (JMY), Michael Lunn (ML), Helen Bonnick (HB), Iain Turner (IT) and Roy Galley (RG)(ESCC). The Clerk Helen Johnson was in attendance.

- 222. PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – a member of the public raised that the last Hadlow Down Community Centre Committee minutes on their website related to 27<sup>th</sup> January 2016. He asked for the public to be kept better informed on what was happening.  
A member of the public raised that the Playing Field committee don't publish their minutes. The Clerk suggested that he raise this with the committee and that it would be their decision as to whether they published them.
- 223. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE** – none received.
- 224. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – ML declared a personal interest in 227a and advised that he wouldn't be involved in the discussion and decision regarding this item and has asked Cllr Toby Illingworth to act on this matter at WDC. IT declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in 227a. SR declared a personal interest in 227a and 230iii re the CAB and Parish Magazine. HB declared a personal interest in 230iii re the CAB.
- 225. MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 were agreed and signed as true records.
- 226. MATTERS ARISING (from previous meetings):**
- i. Photographs of bridlepath 25a – SR advised that she had tried to photograph the bridlepath however she will need to do it when there are less leaves.
  - ii. School Lane surface – SR advised that she had spoken to the school and although they had raised regarding 2 potholes which the Clerk has reported, they had no other comments on the road surface. A discussion was held as to whether this was a high enough priority to raise with the Chief Executive of ESCC, instead it was agreed to invite a representative from H2CM and ESCC Highways to a meeting with villagers in February or March, *Clerk to organize.* **Clerk**
  - iii. Bonfire night risk assessment – SR confirmed that the risk assessment had been agreed prior to the meeting and advised that all the feedback she had received for the event had been positive. *The Clerk will write to the committee congratulating them on a successful event.* **Clerk**
  - iv. The Clerks Report was sent to Councillors with the agenda updating them on her action points, this included:
    - a. The Clerk has written to the Head of Planning and Environmental Services at WDC regarding CIL funding and is awaiting a response.
    - b. ESCC have advised that the Parish Council's (PC) request for a reduction in speed to 50mph between Hadlow Down and Buxted will be assessed once ESCC know the resources available for 2017/18. If it is taken forward the issues raised by the PC will form part of a more careful assessment that will be carried out with the Police.
    - c. Having compared previous planning applications ESCC Highway Land Information Team are investigating the Highway extent at Oaklands in Stonehurst Lane. The Chair updated RG on this item.
    - d. ESCC Rights of Way team have confirmed that their authorization isn't required for the fencing, gate and opening proposed at the Waghorns Lane end of footpath 27c. The Clerk has liaised with Bob Lake who confirmed that no spoil would be put on the boundary next to the land to the north of the footpath belonging to the owners of Springwell Cottage. Bob also agreed to delaying the digger work until after it had rained and that if the footpath had been damaged by the bonfire procession he would have arranged for it to be re-rolled.

The Chair moved the following 2 items forward:

**241. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:**

- ii. The Clerk confirmed that Fiona Shafer, Chair of the Playing Field Committee (PFC) had written thanking the PC for their support with the Bonfire Night. She has asked that if a member of the public raises an issue over the Bonfire Night or any matters regarding the PFC's activities that in the first instance that they raise it with Fiona or another member of the PFC. The Clerk will also encourage people to contact the PFC in the first instance. Guy Osbourne as the PFC's representative confirmed that the Bonfire Night in 2017 would be held on 4<sup>th</sup> November. He confirmed that they were sourcing their own insurance cover, the Chair requested that the Clerk be sent a copy of the cover.

**238. NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE** – the Chair advised that the committee have applied for 2 grants and are awaiting the outcome of the applications. ML confirmed that it is hoped that a meeting will be held in the New Year once the outcome of the grants is known.

ML and IT didn't join in the discussion for the next item.

Cllr. Toby Illingworth joined the meeting at 7:29pm

**227. PLANNING:**

**a. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

**WD/2016/2524/F – FIVE CHIMNEYS FARM, CURTAINS HILL, TN22 4DU** – Demolition of redundant chicken shed and erection of 2 no. replacement dwellings and detached garages – The Parish Council do not support the application as it is overdevelopment of the site, however the Parish Council are in favour in principle to the demolition of the chicken shed and the erection of a single residential dwelling and detached garage in line with Wealdens Permitted Development Guideline 2016 for 450m<sup>2</sup>. There needs to be a business plan to ensure the continued viability of Five Chimneys Eggs and a revised s.106 restricting continued expansion of Five Chimneys Eggs for the next 10 years (3/1).

**b. APPROVED PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

**WD/2016/2385/LDE – SPINDLE TREE COTTAGE, STOCKLAND LANE, TN22 4EA**

**228. REPORTS FROM CLLR. ROY GALLEY, ESCC** – RG advised that he'd got agreement for the roundels to be repainted on the A272 but this had now been cancelled as they weren't considered to be in a bad enough state. The Chair highlighted that the gullies on the A272 should have been jetted in August and October and they hadn't been, she questioned what happened if the contractor said they would do something and didn't. RG advised that he needed to get together with the director at ESCC Highways and the contractor to discuss this. It was also raised by Councillors that a number of visits had been made to look at the drainage on the A272 opposite Tinkers Lane and all Highways were planning to do was jet the gully.

The following item was moved forward by the Chair in order that IT could update the meeting on Highways issues.

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

- i. Cllr Iain Turner updated the meeting on his site visit to Riverside and Sheepwash Lane and the problems with the work that Highways said had been undertaken. A section of the bank is missing and the side of the road is eroded at Riverside. The Clerk advised that the Works Supervisor has visited the site and has recommended that further works be undertaken as a permanent solution to the problems. This work will be undertaken before Christmas.

The Chair allowed a member of the public to comment that the ditches and culverts are blocked and that there used to be concrete sandbags in this area. *RG was asked by the PC to follow-up on this matter and report back to the PC at their January meeting.*

**RG**

**228. REPORTS FROM CLLRS. TOBY ILLINGWORTH & MICHAEL LUNN WDC** – TI advised that he was attending to listen to the PC's views regarding the Five Chimneys Farm application and will speak to officers on this matter. ML confirmed that he had nothing to report.

**229. BANK RECONCILIATION:** – dated 25 November 2016 was agreed and signed.

**230. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS :**

- i. The PC ratified the decision that was made between meetings by 2 Councillors to pay for the bonfire night insurance
- ii. The PC ratified the payments of £78 for SSALC Limited for Clerks training, £259.20 for Wellers Law Group LLP for legal work and £336 for Compact Cutting for playing field and burial grounds maintenance that were paid at the last meeting, also the cheques for G S Osborne for £116.00 as grant for bonfire night insurance and £8667.60 for Hailsham Roadway Construction Co Ltd for footpath work that was paid from the Sussex Lund grant, these were paid prior to the meeting.
- iii. Draft precept proposals – a discussion was held on the draft precept and amendments were agreed, final decision to be made at the January meeting.
- iv. A discussion was held on a gift for a retired Councillor in recognition of their work.
- v. Tree quote – a discussion was held on the quotes for the tree work at the playing field and burial ground and the Parish Council agreed to award the contract to D. Stevens Arboriculture and Tree services.

- vi. The Clerk confirmed that £35 had been received from ESCC as their contribution to the cost of work on a fingerpost.
  - vii. Quote for work at Waghorns Lane end of footpath 27c - c/f.
- 231. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS (COUNCIL MATTERS AND OUTSIDE BODIES):**
- ii. Cllr. Julian Michaelson-Yeates advised that a car in School Lane had been hit by a brick that it was thought came from a lorry travelling along the road. He advised that South East Water have sprayed blue paint at the bottom of the fingerpost at the junction of Wilderness Lane and Riverside, *the Clerk will investigate.* **Clerk**
  - iii. Cllr. Damon Wellman updated the meeting on the WDC Parish Conference, the tour of Gatwick Airport and the WDC Parish Planning Panel meeting that he had attended. DW and JMY had also attended planning training. ML (WDC) advised that WDC have opposed a number of applications based on policy reasons, these have gone to appeal and WDC have won the appeal.
  - iv. Cllr. Iain Turner updated the meeting on the 'Getting ready for Winter' event he had attended.
- 232. CELEBRATE** – the PC discussed the applicants for the self-employed role of sessional worker, the PC agreed to appoint Denise Leary, they also approved the Terms of Reference for the working group. The Clerk updated the meeting on insurance cover for events and advised the PC that they would be liable for any insurance excess for claims under their policy.
- 233. ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE** – c/f to the next meeting.
- 234. RISK ASSESSMENTS** – the quarterly risk assessments had been received, no matters raised.
- 235. HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY MATTERS:**
- i. Dog Kennel Lane ditching – DW had offered to do the ditching, SR and DW to meet on site to discuss.
  - ii. Parking in Wilderness Lane – correspondence had been received from a resident regarding vehicles parking close to the junction of Wilderness Lane and Main Road and the difficulty this causes when large vehicles use the lane. The PC have confirmed that they are unable to put up signage as the land doesn't belong to them. The Clerk has spoken to the police and they wouldn't get involved. A Councillor advised that if there is insufficient space for a fire truck to get through the matter should be reported to ESRFS (East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service), however he has visited this site on a number of occasions and feels that there is sufficient space here.
  - iii. Signage regarding HGVs – following pressure from the PC, ESCC are planning to provide signing on Main Road on the approach and at the junction with School Lane, this will inform drivers that School Lane is unsuitable for long vehicles and HGVs. Councillors requested that a sign also be installed at the end of Five Chimneys Lane, *the Clerk will raise with ESCC.* **Clerk**
  - iv. Drainage on Main Road opposite junction with Tinkers Lane – Highways have advised that the outflow is at the correct height and are waiting for the system to be jetted. The Clerk has raised with Highways that this won't solve the historical problem at this site. IT advised that he will raise this at the next SLR meeting.
  - v. Speed reduction schemes – c/f
  - vi. ESCC Highways report – c/f
- 236. NEWSLETTER** – SR will circulate newsletter topics to Councillors, Graham Terry has agreed to produce the newsletter. **SR**
- 237. STANDING ORDERS** – a Councillor asked about transparency, the Standing Orders were agreed by the PC.
- 239. CONSULTATION REGARDING THE REMOVAL/ADOPTION OF BT TELEPHONE BOX** – the PC agreed to adopt the telephone box, *the Clerk will write to WDC to advise.* Future use of the box to be discussed at the next meeting. **Clerk**
- 240. CLERK'S MATTERS:**
- i. The Clerks hours were agreed and signed
  - ii. Hours for Parish Projects – the PC agreed the hours the Clerk could work on Celebrate in December, in January the sessional worker will be able to take over from the Clerk.

SR left the meeting at 9:20pm, ML took over the chairing of the meeting.

**241. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:**

- i. NALC Dependent Carers Allowance Survey – no response made
- iii. Friends of the Keep Archives newsletter.
- iv. Big Wealden Switch 2017 – The Clerk advised that WDC are delivering their next collective energy switch from late Feb/early March 2017 until late May 2017 during this time residents can sign up for a cheaper energy deal online at [www.wealden.gov.uk/thebigswitch](http://www.wealden.gov.uk/thebigswitch) or by tel. on 01323 443322. The Clerk will also put an article on the website. **Clerk**
- v. Invitation to St Wilfrid's Hospice reception – *the Clerk will send apologies.* **Clerk**
- vi. Notification of Inspector's report regarding the Waste and Minerals Sites Plan – the Clerk advised that the Inspector has concluded that the Plan is legally compliant and sound.
- vii. Correspondence regarding Civil Parking Enforcement – the Clerk to Ticehurst Parish Council has

written asking if the PC would welcome the adoption of Civil Parking Enforcement by Rother and Wealden District Councils. The PC confirmed that they would welcome it, the *Clerk will respond*.

**Clerk**

- 242. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:** the following payments were agreed and cheques were signed:
- i. Helen Johnson. Salary £899.64 includes £42.30 mileage & £7.85 expenses, £750 already paid by standing order, therefore cheque raised for £149.64.
  - ii. East Sussex Pension Fund £254.02 pension contributions.
  - iii. SSALC Limited £132.00 planning training.
  - iv. BT £103.78 telephone and broadband, already paid by direct debit
- A further payment of £432 to WDC for dog and litter bin emptying was signed and will be ratified at the next meeting.
- 243. TRAINING AND CONFERENCES:**
- i. SLCC Branch meeting – the PC agreed for the Clerk to attend.
- 244. DEFIBRILLATOR BATTERY** – the Clerk confirmed that she had checked the defibrillator prior to the meeting.
- 245. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA** – nothing raised other than the c/f items.

**The meeting closed at 9:25pm**