



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF Hadlow Down Parish Council
held in Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down
at 7pm on Tuesday February 7th 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), Rona Hellewell (RH), Graham Terry (GT) and Damon Wellman (DWe). Also in attendance was the Clerk Helen Simpson-Wells. Apologies were received from Cllrs. Norman Buck (NB) and Ken Ogden (KO)(WDC) and Tony Reid (ESCC).

323. PUBLIC QUESTIONS - none received.

324. REPORT FROM PCSO MARK CARTER – Mark advised that there had been a large number of reports of a dog attacking sheep at Stocklands Farm and in Mayfield and a number of sheep had needed to be destroyed. A dog had been seen and the owners had been spoken to, however there was no proof that this was the dog responsible for the attacks. There have been no recent incidents. On 24th December a farm building was broken into in Wilderness Lane. There has also been a problem with quad bikes and diesel being stolen and locks being cut on buildings. There has been an increase in thefts in Buxted. Directive patrols are being undertaken in Buxted and Hadlow Down. There is still a problem with scrap metal being stolen.

325. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE apologies received from Cllr. Michael Lunn (ML).

326. DECLARATION OF INTEREST – DW declared a personal interest in point 333i.

327. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS held on 3rd and 17th January 2012 were agreed and signed as being true records.

328. MATTERS ARISING (from previous meetings):

- i. Website for new planning document – c/f KO
- ii. SR confirmed that the bus stop signs were due to be put up within the next week, if they aren't she will contact ESCC. SR
- iii. Community Infrastructure Levy consultation –c/f ML
- iv. Playing Field sign – c/f DW
- v. Consultation on WDC budget proposals c/f ML
- vi. RH has sent the Clerk the contact details to obtain a further quote for the burial ground work **Clerk**
- vii. GT has taken some of the finger post photographs, Clerk to send him contact details to obtain a map. **GT/HSW**
- viii. Clerks Report was sent to Councillors with the agenda updating them on her action points, this included:
 - a. Liaison with Eddie Westfield over broadband proposals. He has put an article on the website and in the Parish Magazine. The Clerk is also liaising with ESCC to ensure that the village's interest is registered.
 - b. Research regarding Village Hall paperwork

329. PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE – the chair of the Playing Field committee gave an overview of the work undertaken by the committee. Jarvis Brook football club are no longer using the site due to drainage problems, this will have an impact on the committees' finances. They have looked into the cost of drainage work and the possibility of obtaining grants. They are considering meeting with the Community Centre committee to discuss this further. They have a vacancy for a trustee and would be interested in applicants. In future the Clerk will be sent a copy of their minutes.

330. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

WD/2011/2792/F – WARREN FARM, SHEPHERDS HILL TN22 4PY – Erection of replacement building to

provide enclosed area for meat freezers & collection point, secure storage, covered shed & provision of 1st floor farm office with sanitary facilities. The Parish Council support this application. Approved by all 5 Councillors.

WD/2011/2726/LB – BROADREED FARM, CRIERS LANE TN20 6LG – remove existing structural unsafe utility room and construct new utility room. The Parish Council support this application. Approved by all 5 Councillors.

WD/2011/0189/FR – HASTINGFORD HOUSE, HASTINGFORD LANE TN22 4DY – retention of tree house. The Parish Council support this application. Approved by all 5 Councillors.

GRANTED PLANNING PERMISSION:

WD/2011/2436/F – CHESTNUT COTTAGE, WILDERNESS LANE TN22 4HT – single storey extension and associated works.

- 331. REPORTS FROM CLLR. TONY REID, ESCC & CLLRs. KEN OGDEN and NORMAN BUCK WDC** – In his absence KO reported that he had attended the public examination for the core strategy and confirmed that questions had been asked regarding development boundaries and housing need.
- 332. BANK RECONCILIATIONS:** – dated 23rd December 2011 and 26th January 2012 were agreed and signed.
- 333. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS** –
- The Clerk had received a request from the Village Hall (VH) committee for a grant to assist with the woodworm treatment in the VH. The Parish Council (PC) agreed to grant the remaining £880 allocated from the precept for this work, to be paid under the power given in Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976 s.19.
 - The Clerk confirmed the new litter and dog bin emptying charges. It was raised that there has been an increase in the number of dog faeces not being cleared up by the owner, villagers are encouraged to clear up after their dog.
- 334. NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE AND VILLAGE HALL** – a discussion was held on the response from the AirS Village Hall advisor. *It was agreed for the Clerk to send a copy of the paperwork for the VH and the correspondence with AirS to James Stockdale (JS) for his comment. Clerk to also send a copy of the AirS response to Janet Tourell.*
Clerk
It was agreed that the Clerk would raise an official complaint with Barclays over the loss of the legal documents.
Clerk
Once JS has reviewed the paperwork the PC will hold a meeting with him to consider questions that should be raised at a meeting with the legal advisor. It was agreed that the PC would pay the fee for the meeting with the legal advisor.
ML and SR are willing to be the PC's representatives on the CC committee, however they didn't want to be in the position of not being able to vote at PC meetings and asked whether this would be affected if they didn't have voting rights on the CC committee. *The Clerk will contact the Monitoring Officer at WDC and report back.*
Clerk
- 335. LEASE WITH ST MARKS SCHOOL HOUSE TRUST** – it was agreed that this would be discussed once the legal paperwork is sorted for the Village Hall. *The Clerk will write to the Trust for confirmation that they are still in agreement to extend the lease and for the Community Centre to be built on part of the land.*
Clerk
- 336. LEASE WITH PLAYING FIELD TRUSTEES** – it was agreed that this would be discussed once the legal paperwork is sorted for the Village Hall. JS was thanked for his work on the 2 leases at the Playing Field
- 337. MINUTES FROM COMMITTEE MEETINGS** – the Clerk will in future be sent a copy of the Playing Field committee minutes, she is also now receiving a copy of the Village Hall committee minutes.
- 338. ST MARK'S CHURCH** – DW advised that the vicar is looking at how the church can be used as a community asset and is looking at installing toilets and a kitchen. Concern was expressed over a conflict over the various venues within the village. The Church is holding a Spire Bonfire Party on 21st February to which everyone is invited. Councillors were asked to consider ideas for use of the church and to discuss these with the vicar.
- 339. PUBLIC TRANSPORT** – concern was raised that the school bus is in the afternoons stopping at or near the top of School Lane which is causing traffic problems. *The Clerk will write to ESCC and request that the bus stop next to the noticeboard where a bus stop is about to be installed.*
Clerk
A discussion was held on installing a bus shelter on the previous site in Main Road. The Clerk advised that to obtain possessory title for the land they would need to demonstrate that they had made efforts to trace the owner such as through probate and that they had been maintaining the site for several years. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact Wilderness Wood for a quote for the building of a bus shelter.
Clerk
- 340. JUBILEE OAK** – DW agreed to visit the playing field to look at a suitable site for the tree.
DW

- GT is liaising with Claire Rivers to discuss suitable dates for the planting and visiting the school. GT*
- 341. GULLEYS** – Clerk to contact the Highways steward regarding gulleys that need clearing. He is already going to look at the one at the top of Hut Lane. **Clerk**
- Overgrown hedging on the A272 was highlighted, SR to advise Clerk of owner of the land **SR**
- 342. POWER OF WELLBEING** – the PC agreed to the wording of the Statement of Intent as to community engagement. *The Clerk will arrange for it to appear on the website and in the Parish Magazine.* **Clerk**
As the PC met the conditions required, a resolution was passed for them to be able to use the Power of Wellbeing.
The PC was advised that the date for the AGMs for the Village Hall, Playing Field, Community Centre and Village Fair committees was incorrect in the Parish Magazine, they are being held on 27th February at 8pm.
- 343. DOUBLE YELLOW LINES IN SCHOOL LANE** – DW attended a meeting with the police and the ambulance service regarding the traffic problem caused by the ambulance parking in School Lane. The ambulance is at present unable to go into the driveway due to the vegetation and the gate posts. It was suggested that an ambulance bay be installed further down School Lane and that the double yellow lines be extended on either side of the road as far as Fantails. The police have since spoken to ESCC who have confirmed that the PC's request to extend the double yellow lines is still on their waiting list. The PC are awaiting the responses to the questionnaire sent to villagers and will then look at lobbying ESCC.
- 344. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE TEAM** – items were highlighted to be referred for the Village Maintenance Team to action in the forthcoming financial year, Clerk to complete and return form to ESCC. **Clerk**
- 345. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS (COUNCIL MATTERS AND OUTSIDE BODIES):**
The Clerk advised that the police had recently undertaken speed monitoring in Main Road and had issued two penalty notices and stopped 2 vehicles and given advice regarding speeding. They have advised that School Lane is unlikely to be suitable for them to undertake speed enforcement although speedwatch could use the site identified by the police.
The Clerk had advised that under the terms of the 2 year contract for the Burial Ground maintenance GT had checked the performance of the contractor and was satisfied with the work that has been undertaken. The Clerk has provided feedback to the contractor.
- 346. CLERK'S MATTERS:**
- i. Hours were checked agreed and signed.
 - ii. A further caravan has appeared at Cart Lodge, the Clerk is monitoring whether anyone is residing in the caravans.
 - iii. The Clerk received correspondence regarding the footpath near Woodlands Farm, the Rights of Way team will be writing to the owners of the farm.
 - iv. The Clerk gave out information on predisposition and predetermination, the rules governing these commenced on 15th January 2012. New rules governing pecuniary interests are likely to come into force in July 2012 when the PC may need to adopt a new Code of Conduct.
 - v. South East Water have confirmed that they have not had to use the drought order yet.
 - vi. ESCC have highlighted the problem with deer on the roads and encourage drivers to take extra care at this time, especially in rural areas.
- 347. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:** The following were agreed by all and cheques signed:
- i. Helen Simpson-Wells. Salary £791.56 includes £9.00 for mileage, £67.11 training hours and £9.68 for expenses, £620 already paid by standing order, therefore cheque raised for £171.56.
 - ii. Wealden District Council £524.16 of which £222.84 election charge, £234.36 litter bin emptying and £66.96 dog bin emptying.
 - iii. Printmonger Media £65.00 newsletters
 - iv. Viking £128.57 stationery
- 348. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED NEEDING A RESPONSE:**
- i. WDC LDF Strategic Sites Development Plan Document, Issues and Options Consultation Paper – RH and DW to respond **RH/DW.**
- 349. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR DISTRIBUTION:**
- i. Guide to Neighbourhood Planning; ii. Applause programme of events; iii. East Sussex Record Office annual report; iv. WDC Parish Bulletin
- 350. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA**
- i. Correspondence from resident regarding recycling and planning

The meeting closed at 9:10pm

**THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING will be
on 6th MARCH at 7pm.**