



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 7th February 2017.

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

276. PUBLIC QUESTIONS – none raised.

277. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE – apologies had been received from Cllr. Bonnicks (HB), these were accepted.

278. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – IT and ML declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in agenda item 281a.i, SR declared a personal interest in this item.

279. MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on 10th January 2017 were agreed and signed as a true record (previously circulated).

280. 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. Letter was sent to the insurance company advising that the Parish Council (PC) feel a monthly play area inspection is sufficient.

b. Signs for footpath 27c have been produced, DW agreed to put the one up at the eastern end, second one to be installed when fencing is in place at the western end.

c. Letter of support was sent to Bob Lake for the roller grant application.

281. PLANNING:

Cllrs. Lunn and Turner didn't partake in the meeting during agenda item 281a.i.

a. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

i. 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.

Cllr Illingworth advised that he had spoken to the planning officer and informed the meeting of the content of the conversation.

The Parish Council support the amended application based on the applicant taking into account the previous comments made by the Parish Council. They request that if WDC approve the application that the suggested conditions in the 'Recommendations of Biodiversity Consultation', especially with regard to floodlighting, are included in the approval. (2/1)

b. APPROVED PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

i. WD/2016/2901/LB & 2900/F – THE WILDERNESS, WILDERNESS LANE, TN22 4HU – Proposed ground floor single storey side and rear extensions, ground and first floor rear extension and internal works.

282. REPORTS FROM CLLR. ROY GALLEY, ESCC & CLLRS. TOBY ILLINGWORTH/MICHAEL LUNN WDC – RG

advised that ESCC had agreed their budget for 2017/18 and will need to make £70 million of cuts. They are increasing the core precept by 1.99% and having a short term increase of 3% to the precept for social care. Some extra money will be available for highways for drainage and pavements.

The GCSE results were better than they have been in the last few years. A Councillor asked GC about the A level results.

A Councillor asked about the 3 Counties devolution bid and about the possibility of ESCC creating a housing plan where the District Council doesn't have one. RG advised that the 3 Counties wouldn't have received sufficient funds to i.e. produce the transport infrastructure they would have liked to create. He confirmed that WDC have a local plan and are in the process of revising it. He couldn't see ESCC wanting to create a housing plan rather than WDC.

TI advised that the local plan is currently on hold whilst the council looks at the content of the Housing White Paper, which came out today.

ML confirmed that in the supplementary document to the White Paper the government is looking at the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) as it is currently only meeting 20% of housing infrastructure costs. They are looking at a 3 level system of s.106, CIL and infrastructure development.

283. BANK RECONCILIATION: – dated 26 January 2017 was agreed and signed. The Chair requested a separate sheet each month for Celebrate expenditure, *the Clerk will arrange.* **Clerk**

284. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS :

- i. Grounds maintenance at play area for March 2017 – the PC approved the quote.
- ii. Grounds maintenance contract at burial ground – the PC reviewed the quotes and agreed on which contractor to appoint. They also agreed for the tree in the burial ground to be cut to ground level.
- iii. Report of the Wealden Parish Remuneration Panel on Parish Councillor Allowances for 2017/18 – the Clerk updated the meeting on the report and confirmed that the statutory notice had been displayed.

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

- i. Cllr. Michaelson-Yeates advised that he had attended the Playing Field Committee’s meeting and felt that the committee was very well run, he had assisted at the pop-up restaurant and advised that the committee were successfully fundraising. The drainage project isn’t yet completed. JMY asked what arrangements had been agreed regarding fencing on the north side of the playing field. The Chair advised that the neighboring landowner had considered installing tall fencing and she believed that the PC had previously agreed not to install fencing, JMY will update the committee.
- ii. Cllr. Richards advised that villagers have contacted her regarding vehicles parked in Wilderness Lane and in the layby in School Lane. *It was agreed for the Clerk to write to the police.* **Clerk**

286. CELEBRATE – the Clerk advised that there is a meeting of the working group this week and that some completed event forms had been received. The Chair advised that HB had contacted her regarding the management of the finances and payment of grants. *It was agreed that the Clerk will check the terms and conditions regarding the finances and will request that the Working Party produce proposals for how these should be managed.* **Clerk**

287. ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE – prior to the meeting the Clerk had sent Councillors details of the tests undertaken by WDC to see if a property/land could be listed as an asset of community value. It was agreed for *ML and DW to approach the owners of three sites regarding the PC’s intention to apply for them to be listed. Once they have been approached the Clerk will complete the application forms.*

DW/ML/Clerk

288. RISK ASSESSMENTS – the completed quarterly risk assessments were handed to the Clerk. The bench near the turning to the burial ground was considered to require some work in the next 6 months. *DW agreed to put new bolts in it.* **DW**

It was highlighted that the sump for the drainage pipe in Hut Lane will need clearing after the winter, *the Clerk will arrange.* **Clerk**

The Chair agreed to clear the litter that had been produced from the burial ground. **SR**

289. PARISH ASSEMBLY – the PC agreed amendments to the questionnaire for the Parish Assembly. *The Clerk will invite those new residents, that she is aware of, to the Parish Assembly.* **Clerk**

290. HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY MATTERS:

- i. Update from the SLR meeting – IT updated the meeting on the recent SLR meeting. The gully in Stocklands Lane has been cleared, Dog Kennel Lane is on the drainage list. Flooding on Main Road opposite Tinkers Lane has been referred to the ESCC Highways Assistant Director. IT did highlight at the meeting that if there were to be an accident at this site that the PC have raised concerns over the flooding on a number of occasions to ESCC. Mayfield Flats gullies are due to be cleared by the end of February. Highways are due to look at the drainage on Riverside near Harvest Hill Farm but it was thought unlikely that any work would be done. Highways are going to reassess the surface of School Lane. *The Clerk will contact Highways to see what is happening about the insurance claim for the School Lane pavements.* **Clerk**

IT advised that at this time double yellow lines aren’t being progressed in Wilderness Lane as there is sufficient space for a fire engine to get through. If this isn’t possible in the future, residents should contact the local fire station. Wilderness Lane near Gillhope Farm is due to go on the ditching schedule however this still hasn’t been drawn up. The roundels are due to be re-done on Main Road.

- ii. Public Highways meeting – the meeting has been advertised & Councillors were asked to encourage people to attend.

- iii. Verges near St Mark’s School – Councillors had been copied in on correspondence from the school regarding grass verges in School Lane that are being damaged by parked cars. The Clerk had contacted ESCC Highways over what action could be taken and a discussion was held on this. *It was agreed that the Clerk would respond to the School advising that the PC would be unable to take any*

action.

Clerk

- iv. Request for supply of grit/salt in Wheelers Lane – the Clerk had received a request from a resident for a grit bin in Wheelers Lane, a discussion was held on whether the PC should supply a grit bin, it was decided not to provide a bin as having spoken to other PCs the grit is often taken by others and isn't used for the area for which it was provided. *The Clerk will respond to the resident.*

Clerk

291. NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE – the committee have been awarded a grant of £17,208 to start work on the architectural design and some of the surveys. They will apply for a further grant in April 2017. Bob Lake has confirmed that they are committed to the Community Right to Build. ML has asked for a timeline from Bob Lake. A committee meeting is to be held next week.

292. DOCUMENT RETENTION POLICY – approved

293. GUIDANCE ON DATA PROTECTION – approved

294. LITTER PICKING – JMT confirmed that in a personal capacity he will be organizing a litter pick in and around the village. *The Clerk agreed to contact WDC to borrow materials to assist the volunteers in the litter pick*, JMY will arrange for collection of the rubbish bags.

Clerk

295. CLERK'S MATTERS:

- i. Hours were agreed and signed
- ii. Hours for Parish Projects – the Clerk updated the meeting on the time spent in January.
- iii. Computer security – the meeting agreed for Arlington PC to continue to contribute to the cost of the computer security as it is valid for more than 1 computer.

296. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- i. Hadlow Down Welcome leaflet – the Clerk had been contacted regarding the Hadlow Down Welcome booklet that was now out of date and it had been suggested that the PC produce a new booklet. The Clerk has suggested that as the Hadlow Down Festival booklet will have a list of local groups and contact details that it wouldn't be required for this year, this was agreed by the PC.

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

- i. Helen Johnson. Salary £950.79 includes £18 mileage and £17.92 expenses, £750 already paid by standing order, therefore cheque raised for £200.79.
- ii. Printmonger Media £85.00 printing of report.
- iii. Hadlow Down Village Hall £200.00 hire of hall.
- iv. SSALC Ltd £17.00 Local Council Review subscription.
- v. East Sussex Pension Fund £281.36 pension.

Three further payments for £30 for Sign Creator for 2 signs, £37 for Graham Long for mole catching and £35 subscription for Information Commissioner were all signed and will be ratified at the next meeting.

298. TRAINING AND CONFERENCES:

- i. SALC East Sussex Spring Conference – no-one to attend.
- ii. SLCC Regional Training Seminar – the PC didn't agree for the Clerk to attend.

299. DEFIBRILLATOR BATTERY – the Clerk confirmed that she had checked the defibrillator prior to the meeting.

300. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA – nothing raised.

The meeting closed at 8:55pm