



MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Hadlow Down Parish Council
held in the committee room at Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down
at 7pm on Tuesday 1st July 2014.

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

Present: Councillors Sandra Richards (SR) (Chair), Clare Emsden (CE), Graham Terry (GT), Michael Lunn (ML), Damon Wellman (DW), Nathan James (NJ) and the Clerk Helen Simpson-Wells. Apologies were received from Cllrs. Ken Ogden (WDC) (KO) and Roy Galley (ESCC) (RG).

- 88. PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – none raised.
- 89. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE** – none received.
- 90. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – no declarations of interest received.
- 91. CRIME REPORT** – in his absence PCSO Davies had reported that there had been no crime in the village since 1st June. There had been reports of suspicious vehicles but these had come to nothing.
- 92. MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on 3rd June 2014 were agreed and signed as a true record apart from item 73 which should have read that the drains are lower than the road surface.
- 93. MATTERS ARISING (from previous meetings):**
- i. WDC Housing List – the Clerk will write to WDC to get the figure for the number of local people on the housing waiting list. Clerk
DW
 - ii. Litter bin – DW to action after the meeting.
 - iii. Website – the Chair confirmed that she had contacted Eddie Westfield who has since liaised with Mark Davis.
 - iv. Gullies in Waghorns Lane – the Clerk advised that Highways have confirmed that they will need to organize traffic management first before the gullies can be cleared. SR to raise with RG.
 - v. Poppy seed planting – ML confirmed that the poppies had been planted at the bottom of his field.
 - vi. The Clerks Report was sent to Councillors with the agenda updating them on her action points, this included:
 - a. The Clerk had confirmed to planning that there was no longer a green barn at Five Chimneys Cottage.
 - b. The Clerk updated the PC on the responses she had received from Highways regarding outstanding items. A Councillor advised that the road service was very bumpy following the recent work by South East Water on the A272, SR will include this in a letter to RG. A discussion was held on Highways work. SR
- 101. PLAYING FIELD:** The Chair congratulated the Playing Field Committee on obtaining the grant for the drainage work at the Playing Field. John Thompson (JT) and Bob Lake (BL) were invited to update the Parish Council (PC) and to answer any questions.
- i. **LEASE** – JT advised that they do not need to change the wording on the lease they just need to extend it in line with the requirements of the award. The PC agreed to extend it till 5th July 2040. The Clerk will write a letter confirming the extension to be signed by herself, SR and one other Councillor. BL advised that they would like to start work in October however there is a £19255 shortfall for which they will be applying for funding. It is therefore likely that work will start in early summer 2015. The Topographical survey and other ground investigations can be undertaken prior to this.
 - ii. **GRANT FROM SPORTS COUNCIL** – in order to obtain the award Sport England would need to enter a restriction or caution on the Land Registry title. The Clerk had queried this with BL who advised that there would be a legal charge of £300-£400. It would mean that the committee would be notified of any change to the title and if the PC sold the land the grant would have to be paid back to Sport England. BL to send written clarification from Sport England regarding this item to the Clerk together

with the exact wording that would need registering. The PC agreed for the Clerk to get legal advice once she had received the information. Due to time constraints it may be necessary to hold an extra meeting regarding this item.

94a. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

- i. **WD/2014/1060/F - BURG HILL, WILDERNESS LANE, TN22 4HU** – New vehicular access to provide off-road parking area to improve road safety – The Parish Council support the application. (6/0)
- ii. **WD/2014/1005/F - GREYSWOOD FARM, HOWBOURNE LANE, BUXTED, TN22 4QD** – Double garage and log store – The Parish Council support the application. (6/0)

b. APPROVED APPLICATIONS:

- i. **WD/2014/0814/F - ST MARK'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL** – The relocation of 2 no. air conditioning units and the addition of a draught lobby to the access doors to the playground.
- ii. **WD/2014/0773/LB - STOCKYARDS FARM, STONEHURST LANE** – Internal and external alterations.

c. PLANNING MATTERS:

- i. The Clerk updated the PC on correspondence she had received regarding a bar possibly being built in the garden at Hebe Haven. She had contacted Environmental Health and Planning who confirmed that no work had been undertaken and that planning permission would be required.
- ii. The Clerk updated the PC on correspondence she had received from the Land Registry regarding the burial ground driveway, it was agreed not to take this further at this stage..

95. REPORT FROM CLLR. KEN OGDEN WDC – in KO's absence ML reported that WDC have appointed contractors to do the nitrogen monitoring at Ashdown Forest however it hasn't yet started. WDC are setting up SANGs and have been discussing the brown fill sites that they can't do anything with due to Ashdown Forest 7km exclusion zone. KO had a meeting with the Chamber of Commerce in North Wealden regarding issues over the 7km zone.

96. BANK RECONCILIATION: –for June 2014 was agreed and signed. The Clerk confirmed that the overpayment to WDC had been paid back into the bank account.

97. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS :

- i. The Clerk updated the PC on the cost of the wreaths for the commemorative service. It was agreed to donate £79.
- ii. Quarterly finance report – the Clerk had sent out the report prior to the meeting together with accompanying notes. She clarified some of the figures for Councillors.

98. COMMUNITY PLAN – The Chair updated the PC on the recent meeting of the Community Plan Working Group. It has been agreed with Eddie Westfield that as it isn't possible to host the mapping on the village website that there will be a link on there to the High Weald website which will have the maps. The copyright on the tithe maps still needs sorting. Mark Davis has produced a number of walks which he will be walking and other members of the group are also encouraged to undertake them and highlight any concerns. CE is due to look at the horse crossing in the Ashdown Forest and will then liaise with Highways. *SR will send out possible dates for the next meeting.* **SR**

99. CHECKING OF GULLIES – the Clerk handed out the maps of gullies to Councillors. She asked that Councillors highlight any gullies that are missing from the maps. *Councillors will mark those that need work done to them and bring the maps back to the September meeting.* **ALL**

100. VILLAGE FAYRE– a discussion was held on the PC having a stall. It was agreed (4/2) to continue with a stall and that the Clerk would purchase election promotional materials. *SR to provide display stands. GT to see if he can provide a gazebo and the Clerk will produce name badges.* **SR/GT/Clerk**
GT to arrange for the next newsletter to be available on the stand. It was suggested that the following items appear in the next edition: Community Plan and update on walks, gullies, tree warden role and the playing field grant.

102. MEETING DATES FOR 2015 – the meeting dates were agreed

103. BROADBAND – the Chair advised that a number of complaints had been received, ESCC have now issued a statement regarding the lack of superfast broadband in Hadlow Down. It was agreed that *SR would write to RG* regarding the PC's concern that the celebratory event was held in Hadlow Down and advertising the village as one of the first to receive superfast broadband when it wasn't actually available. **SR**

104. DOG FAECES IN HALL LANE – the Clerk had received correspondence regarding the amount of dog faeces in Hall Lane. An article has gone in the Parish Magazine and WDC have been contacted to ensure that the dog bin by the Village Hall is emptied. The Clerk has since been advised that the situation has improved.

105. 1st AID TRAINING – NJ provided information on the Red Cross 1st aid training. The PC agreed to fund 3 people for the full day training and then another 3 in 18 months time. *NJ to raise with the EP committee.* **NJ**

The Clerk confirmed that the first aid training being given to the TN22 Club wasn't suitable for the

committee members..

- 106. NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE** – GT advised that there is a public meeting on 18th July. The Charity Commission are concerned that the village hasn't been consulted regarding the disposal of the Village Hall and this will be discussed at that meeting. A discussion was held regarding the ownership of the land, the building and regarding the lease. SALC have confirmed that the information given by the Clerk is correct. It was agreed that *GT would get legal advice from Ian Davison up to a cost of £100 and that he get written confirmation of this advice. SR would then liaise with BL and Janet Tourell regarding the public meeting.*
- SR/GT**
- 107. RISK ASSESSMENTS** – *ML agreed to undertake the quarterly risk assessments.*
- ML**
- 108. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS (COUNCIL MATTERS AND OUTSIDE BODIES):**
- i. Cllr. Clare Emsden advised that the Highways Steward is handling approximately 130 enquiries a day. The Chair asked for details of Highways items that have been outstanding for a long time. *CE and the Clerk to send information to her in order that she can add them to her letter to RG.*

Clerk/CE

 - ii. Cllr. Damon Wellman updated the PC on comments made at a WDC meeting relating to fracking.
 - iii. The Clerk advised that she had contacted Highways regarding the pothole work in Five Chimneys Lane. Highways have confirmed that they will be replacing the gully tops between Nashes Farm and Five Chimneys Lane with slot tops and where there isn't a kerb backing they will put one in. At some point when the utility company has finished their repair work, the ESCC contractor will survey other sections near to this part of the A272 to see if there are more broken pipes and will do 1 big drainage scheme for the area. Further information will be available at the next SLR meeting.
- 109. CLERK'S MATTERS AND CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:**
- i. The Clerk's hours were agreed and signed
 - ii. The Clerk updated the PC on the recent Highways Community Self-Serve event she attended and on what the requirements were for the Community Match Fund.
 - iii. Councillors had been copied in on the response the Clerk had received from the owner of Michel Delving House to her letter requesting that the hedge be cut back. It was thought that the hedge had now been cut back, although DW offered to cut it if it hadn't been.
 - iv. The Clerk advised that the booking of the playing field for a camping event on 6th July had been cancelled. St Mark's PTA are holding a camping event on 18th July, they are informing local residents and will be signing a disclaimer.
 - v. The Clerk advised that she will be taking some holiday over the next few months and will therefore need to cut back on her workload.
- 110. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT** - the following payments were agreed and cheques were signed:
- i. Helen Simpson-Wells. Salary £769.34 includes £23.53 mileage and expenses, £620 already paid by standing order, therefore cheque raised for £149.34.
 - ii. Hadlow Down Village Fayre £10 hire of pitch for Village Fayre paid through the power given in Local Government Act 1972 s.137.
 - iii. HM Revenue and Customs £107.09 tax and NI.
 - iv. AJW Grounds Maintenance Services £80.00 maintenance of the play area.
 - v. Compact Cutting £168.00 maintenance of the burial ground.
- The following payments were also raised and cheques were signed, these will be ratified at the next meeting:
- a. Printmonger Media £150.00 printing of newsletter
 - b. Hadlow Down Village Hall £200.00 hire of hall
 - c. The Royal British Legion £79.00 wreaths for WWI commemorative event.
- 111. TRAINING AND CONFERENCES:**
- i. ESCC Parish Conference – no items were raised to go on the agenda
 - ii. WDALC attendance at a PC meeting – it was felt that this wasn't necessary.
 - iii. Wealden Parish Conference – it was agreed for CE and SR to attend.
- 112. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING A RESPONSE:**
- i. Rural Services Network questionnaire on rural housing.- it was agreed for *ML & NJ to respond.*
- ML/NJ**
- 113. CORRESPONDENCE NOT REQUIRING A RESPONSE:**
- i. Friends of East Sussex Records Office newsletter.
- 114. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA:**
- i. Standing Orders – providing the Clerk has had time to finish working on them.
- 115. ENTRANCE TO PLAYING FIELD** – discussed in closed session

The meeting closed at 9:10pm