



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HADLOW DOWN PARISH COUNCIL**  
Held in Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down  
Tuesday July 6th 2010 at 7.00 pm

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

Present: Councillors Paul James (Chairman), Michael Lunn, David Walker, Lucy McConachie and Graham Terry. Also in attendance was the Clerk Helen Simpson-Wells. Apologies received from Cllrs. Norman Buck (WDC) and Tony Reid (ESCC).

The Chair congratulated the Village Fayre committee on an outstanding and well attended Village Fayre.

118. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – It was raised that people are using the wheelie-bin at the village hall to put in their dog's faeces. *The Clerk will put an article in the Parish Magazine asking if people can dispose of them in their own bin or in the dog bin which is provided at the Playing Field. Clerk to also obtain quote for a sign and speak to the Dog Warden.* The possibility of a further dog bin was also discussed however the Clerk has received correspondence from WDC advising that they have not been charging for all of the bins they have been emptying so the bill to the Parish Council (PC) will be increasing. **Clerk**
119. **PCSO KATIE BREEDS** – No report received from Katie in her absence. The lack of speeding by motorcyclists when the speed check was undertaken by the police was raised, ML advised that a further check has since been done.
120. **APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE** – received from Cllr Lisa Scott.
121. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None received.
122. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS** – held on 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> June were agreed and signed as true copies apart from at point 90 it should read installation rather than insulation. The Clerk has received a letter from the Bowls Club disagreeing with point 47 in the minutes of 4<sup>th</sup> May and confirming that they are not opposed to the new village hall and offering their assistance with the venture.
123. **MATTERS ARISING (from prev. meeting):**
- Japanese Knotweed – ML advised that he has visited the site and there is a substantial amount of Japanese Knotweed there. *He is continuing to research the options available.* The Clerk advised that it is recommended that there is frequent cutting but not strimming of the weed as this will sap its energy and also that it should be kept away from paths. **ML**
  - Fence adjacent to play area – *c/f* **PJ**
  - Kerbing on Main Road east of Wheelers Lane – ML advised that he had received a response from Highways who have advised that the recent works undertaken at the junction of Hut Lane and the A272 were the result of an historical planning agreement between Osbourne Homes and the County Council. The works (required as part of the Standen Mews development) were never completed to the Council's satisfaction and the bond was therefore called in so that the works could be finished. Highways will ensure that the PC is made aware of any future works. ML has written to Highways and the kerbing on the Main Road east of Wheelers Lane is on the list to be done, however it won't be done in the foreseeable future.
  - Clerks Report: update passed to councillors with agenda
- Archiving of docs – The records office have confirmed that they do not make personal sensitive data available to the public. With regard to electronic archiving they have suggested that letters and important emails are printed off and filed, to then be archived at a later date.
  - A report was sent to the Parish Magazine regarding monitoring of speeding motorbikes
  - The Clerk has written to WDC to request they only empty the bin opposite the New Inn on a fortnightly basis and to advise her if this becomes a problem.
  - Registration of Village Hall land – *c/f* **Clerk**
  - A letter was sent to the Claude Jessett Trust congratulating them on an excellent rally.
  - A letter was sent to Richard Boswell instructing him to survey both the present VH and the new site and to produce 3 drawings together with associated information for presentation at a public meeting.
  - Final payment has been sent to Playlink
  - Website – *c/f* **Clerk**
  - Information regarding the recycling scheme and dates of the public meetings were placed on the notice boards.
  - PJ will be unable to attend the Community Building Day
  - VAT return has been sent off for period April 2009 – March 2010
  - Thank you letters have been received from Wealden CAB and Sussex Air Ambulance for the grants given to them
  - Correspondence has been received from Planning at WDC regarding the buildings behind Little Tinkers, an application is due for submission and they will look into this at that time.
124. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS: KD/WD/2010/0604/F - WOODLANDS FARM, MAIN ROAD, TN22 4HH** – Single storey side extension and two storey rear extension – planning appeal – the Parish Council stand by their original decision, therefore no action required.  
**GRANTED PLANNING PERMISSION: WD/2010/0454/F – LITTLE FOXES FARM, STONEHURST LANE TN20 6LL** – Erection of new dwelling and associated outbuildings amendments to approved application WD/2008/0339/F. To include amendment to condition relating to demolition of existing dwelling, application seeks to retain this until new dwelling is constructed.

**WD/2010/1009/FE & WD/2010/1091/LBE – CROWPITS BARN, CROWPITS HOUSE, WILDERNESS LANE TN22 4HB**  
– Extension of time for conversion of Crowpits Barn to provide a residential annexe to Crowpits House (Renewal of WD/2006/1942/F and WD/2006/1946/LB).

**WD/2010/1007/F – LAND IN SCHOOL LANE TN22 4JD** – Erection of greenhouses and sheds. Unused ex residents garden area to be restored as a community garden for members of the School Lane Community Association.

**WD/2010/0679/F – 15 STANDEN MEWS, HADLOW DOWN, TN22 4HG** – Proposed rear conservatory.

**WD/2010/0626/F – ST MARKS C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL, SCHOOL LANE, TN22 4HY** – Addition of an entrance canopy to the main entrance area

**WD/2010/0582/LB – THE NEW INN, MAIN ROAD** – Proposed extensions, alterations and refurbishment of listed public house and hotel – Clerk to write to Head of Planning department to advise that the PC are disappointed that the decision regarding the planning application did not address the serious problem of the redundant fuel tanks, parking and drainage  
**Clerk**

**WD/2010/0578/F – 11 & 13 ST MARKS FIELD** – To replace existing dark stained single glazed windows with PVCU rosewood double glazing

**125. REPORTS FROM CLLR. TONY REID ESCC AND KEN OGDEN/NORMAN BUCK WDC** – Nothing received in their absence.

**126. BANK RECONCILIATION:** – Bank reconciliation for 25<sup>th</sup> June agreed and signed as correct.

**127. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS –**

i. Payment of £94.00 was ratified, payable to SALC for the Legal and Finance Training Day

ii. Payment of £143.88 was ratified, payable to Swan Timber from the Pathfinder Grant

iii. Payment of £67.56 was ratified, payable to Graffiti Design International Ltd for the playing field sign, paid under the powers given in the Open Spaces Act 1906 s.10

iv. Payment of £2361.75 was ratified, payable to Playlink Ltd from the Pathfinder Grant

v. All Councillors had been passed a copy of the Village Hall accounts for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> January 2010. Janet Tourell confirmed that the figures had reduced slightly since the accounts had been produced.

**128. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:** The following were agreed by all and cheques raised:

i. Helen Simpson-Wells. Salary £1030.60 includes £26.00 for mileage, £116.40 training hours, £460.74 extra hours and £1.76 expenses. £520.00 already paid by standing order, therefore cheque raised for £510.60 .

ii. Sussex Associations of Local Councils £18.80 for copy of Governance and Accountability in England.

iii. Peter Gillies for itemised invoices for the play area £155.03 to be taken from Pathfinder Grant

iv. Hadlow Down Village Hall £100.00 for hire of the hall

v. Viking Direct £101.85 for stationery

vi. S. Taylor £98.35 from Pathfinder Grant

vii. HM Revenue and Customs £993.17

viii. Suffolk ACRE Services Ltd £496.89 insurance

ix. Woodland Products £495.00 from Pathfinder Grant, to be ratified at the next meeting

x. Peter Gillies £40.63 from Pathfinder Grant which comprises £15.76 to Balcombes and £24.87 to Chandlers, to be ratified at the next meeting.

xi. Jason Pooley £500.00 from Pathfinder Grant, to be ratified at the next meeting.

**129. PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE EMERGENCY PLAN** – Proposals have been received from Eddie Westfield for changes to the Hadlow Down Emergency Plan. Since forwarding these proposals Eddie has advised that he will be resigning from the Emergency Planning Committee wef. 12<sup>th</sup> July due to a communication issue he feels exists. The PC are disappointed that EW has resigned from the EPC as they feel that the issue with the website is not connected. EW has done an excellent job as Chair of the EPC and put in a lot of hard work. Clerk to write to EW to apologise for the lack of communication over the decision regarding the website and to thank him for the work he has put in as EPC chair. Clerk to contact LS requesting that she contact the remaining EPC members to decide the way forward. **Clerk/LS**  
The PC all consider that EW has done an excellent job with the Emergency Planning.

**130. PLAY AREA** – GT to arrange for sign to be put up. He advised that it has been proposed that members of the PC and of the Playing Field committee be there for the inspection of the new play area. GT will check time of the inspection and inform Councillors. **GT**

LM to look at how often inspections should be undertaken and what would be required to be done. **LM**

**131. RISK ASSESSMENTS** – ML to do the risk assessments for July. **ML**

**132. LITTER PICKING IN COUNTRY LANES** – Clerk to write to WDC requesting that they litter pick at the following sites:

Wilderness Lane up from the V junction to the A272; Five Chimneys Lane; School Lane into Hastingford Lane and Main Road.

**Clerk**

DW advised that it would be good to get community spirit going, get people involved, have a community day out collecting litter. It was also suggested that people could adopt roads that they would then be responsible for.

When the Clerk writes to WDC she will also ask if they are able to provide bin bags, high visibility jackets etc.

**Clerk**

**133. SITES FOR DEER WARNING SIGNS** – ML advised that a meeting has been held, he will write to Highways confirming where the PC would like the signs placed. **ML**

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

i. Tree Warden, Rights of Way, Highways and Footpaths – Cllr. David Walker – DW advised that the hedge at Middle Manor needs cutting back, Clerk to write to owners. Correspondence has also been received regarding the foliage from the field near the entrance to Waste Wood, Chair to identify who owns the field in order that the Clerk can write to them.

**Clerk/PJ**

Chair advised that the overgrown hedges in Wheelers Lane have now reduced the road to a single lane, a number of roads in the area have also been affected by overgrown hedges. The Clerk will put an article in the Parish Magazine to encourage villagers to cut back their hedges in order to keep the character of the village and improve safety. Clerk DW advised that the stile in Hut Lane needs repairing, PJ to action.

**PJ**

ii. Community Strategies, Sustainable Development and Environment Matters – Cllr. Michael Lunn – ML advised that he will be attending the upcoming WDALC meeting. The Community Plan is ongoing.

iii. New Village Hall Working Party and Playing Field Committee – Cllr. Graham Terry – GT advised that correspondence has been received from Richard Boswell who has proposed that a design meeting be held. A survey has been undertaken of the present Village Hall and design brief guidance notes have been issued. The Chair advised that at the last meeting it was agreed that himself and RB would get together and produce some sample plans looking at the site layout, levels etc. JT advised that a meeting date in August has been proposed. ML advised that RB needs a basic design brief. The Chair informed the meeting that himself and RB hoped to survey the site prior to the meeting. ML suggested that the PC propose that dates be allocated for meetings. Rachel Lewis has spoken to Barbara Beaton who has suggested that the organising group be a sub-committee of the old Village Hall Committee, reportable to the PC. GT to forward RL's email to the rest of the PC.

**GT**

The Chair advised that he is keen to move the new Village Hall forward. JT advised that RL has suggested a Working Party chair who will then delegate to others. A discussion was then held about what would need to be on the agenda and whether this could all be fitted into the one meeting. JT will liaise with GT.

iv. Neighbourhood Watch and Wealdlink – Cllr. Lucy McConachie – LM has been advised that there has been no response from villagers to the Wealdlink bus service to Crowborough. She has been sent information regarding the Wealdlink community bus which could be used by village groups and has passed information onto LS in case it can be used for youth events.

Recently there has been metal stolen from a skip and a suspect white transit van in the village.

The reported stolen horses were actually missing horses.

LM has been sent details regarding services available to older people, Clerk to file.

**135. CLERK'S MATTERS**

i. Hours checked agreed and signed. The Clerk confirmed that she has now taken all of her holiday entitlement for 2009.

ii. Report has been received from the Rights of Way officer updating on the works that have been undertaken on footpaths 32, 20b and 13.

iii. Correspondence was received from Steve Godfrey regarding the success of the Village Fayre and thanking people for their support. The PC commented that it was a very good fayre and that a lot of work had gone into it. It was excellent that Tinkers Park were able to get the siren working and they provided a good display as did 2 other groups.

iv. ESCC have advised that they are analysing the results from the Waste and Minerals Core Strategy consultation.

v. Highways have sent a response to the PC's letter regarding the safety of cyclists on the A272. Due to statutory regulations they are only able to provide a cyclist warning sign where a cycle route crosses or joins a road. ESCC also have no duty or budget to provide any new footways, they have however requested that a Coarse Assessment be undertaken and that the request for a new footpath be added to their already extensive list. The Transport Strategy Team have confirmed that they have no current plans for cycling schemes in Hadlow Down.

They have also checked the Police Crash Record for the last 3 years and there have been no incidents involving cyclists on this section of the road. Clerk to write to Highways reiterating about the recent accident involving a cyclist.

**Clerk**

vi. The Clerk updated the PC on correspondence that was received from the Clerk at Buxted Parish Council regarding Five Chimneys Cottage.

vii. EW has sent the Clerk a copy of a letter that he has written to ESCC regarding the traffic island at the junction of the A272 and Tinkers Lane.

**136. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR DISTRIBUTION**

i. Crowborough Arts Festival, ii. Wealden Parish Bulletin, iii. LCR magazine, iv. Update from St Wilfrid's Hospice regarding their search for a new site in Eastbourne, v. Correspondence from Wealden District Police Commander regarding budget, vi. SALC summer bulletin

The Clerk advised that she has received correspondence advising that Highways will be needing to make cuts in their budget.

Details of the Highways works on the A272 will be posted on the notice boards.

**Meeting closed 9pm**

**THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL be on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2010 at 7pm.**