



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HADLOW DOWN PARISH  
COUNCIL**

**Held in the Village Hall, Hadlow Down  
at 7.00 pm on Tuesday March 4<sup>th</sup> 2008**

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

Present: Cllrs Paul James (Chairman), Vicky Richards, David Walker, Graham Terry and Marian Wilson. Also in attendance were Joan Wiltshire (Courier) and Jean Holmwood (Clerk).

1. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** Joan told the meeting that the Courier is going to run an article about Hadlow Down in a near future edition.
2. **PCSO Tam Bennett:** Tam had emailed the following information with her apologies.  
09/02 – RTC car v deer, A272, Hadlow Down. The driver moved the deer to the side of the road, police attended, deer removed. 19/02 – break in to an outbuilding of a farm, Stocklands Lane, forensic examination conducted, enquiries ongoing.  
Speedwatch: She will update next month, after she has used the gun a few times. She plans to use the gun in the village in the next week or so.  
PCSO's have been asked to identify people in our communities as candidates for having free alarms fitted (similar to the Lifeline initiative) please pass the name, address, contact number and brief reason (lives alone, has mobility issues etc ...) of anyone who you think is suitable. The funding will be available for the foreseeable future.
3. **APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE:** Apologies received from Cllrs Colin James and Jo Dummer. Also from Cllrs Norman Buck and Ken Ogden (WDC) and PCSO Tam Bennett.
4. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** There were none.
5. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** held on February 5<sup>th</sup> were agreed and a minor alteration, adding Cllr Norman Buck's apologies was made. They were signed as a true record. (Previously circulated and posted on the notice boards and website).
6. **MATTERS ARISING**
  - i. Press Release from ESCC - Details of the new speed limit for the village. The details had been circulated and had been in the local press. Although the press release had not shown Hadlow Down as included. The Clerk had contacted ESCC who had apologised and confirmed that Hadlow Down IS one of the first roads to have its speed limits amended. ESCC are soon going to consult Sussex Police on the actual changes.
  - ii. Clerk's report on other matters: From Tim Guyton, ESCC – re bollards at the New Inn.  
"The money is to come from Ian Johnson's Traffic Budget. The cash has run out this financial year due to other demands. The money for H.D. will come from next year's budget. Ian will place the order in April."  
Email from a villager bringing to our attention the response from ESCC highways about Marlowe House. *David and Graham had met with ESCC about their comments on the proposed new entrance to Marlowe House. They have "gone away to re-think their comments". (The PC agreed to make an urgent point by email but later in the meeting David returned to advise of an email that he had received which advised that the matter was not going to be discussed at WDC on Thursday, as had been expected).*  
ESCC Highways – reply regarding the state of the roads outside Scocus Farm. On Feb 11<sup>th</sup> they had requested the developer put out warning signs and take action immediately to sweep the road. After our second call on Feb 15<sup>th</sup> they had contacted him again and he had replied that he would be employing a road sweeper ASAP. They were going to follow up on the 19<sup>th</sup>.  
Youth Council – The Clerk had spoken to Joanna Partridge at AiRS. They can arrange some training for whichever Councillor is appointed to be responsible for the Youth Council, when appointed. They will send details.  
Paul has spoken to the lady about the war memorial engraving. Need to make contact with the Church Wardens to arrange to have the brass plaque removed for engraving. *The Clerk will write and make enquiries about the actual engraving.*  
Mike Ford has confirmed that the Trustees have given permission for the lease for the land access to the planned new Village Hall. He will make contact with Graham to call a meeting.  
Bridle Path gates – Wheelers Lane – Brick Kiln Lane. Fay Pattinson at ESCC hadn't checked it out but will do so this week. Tony suggested that we write to Vicky Lawrence on the matter.  
Nothing back from Insurers yet! Have chased up and they say they will respond soon. (Think they have been inundated!)  
Councillors' resignations – we have to inform WDC when the actual dates have passed and resignations received and accepted by the Chairman. They then advertise etc. If no election is needed we can co-opt new Councillors. *(At this time Marian gave the Clerk her formal letter of resignation for the Chairman.*  
Potential re-route of school bus. Spoken to Geoff Shaw at C and S. Says must speak to Chris White at ESCC– keep getting an ansaphone. Message left.  
Letter drafted to residents of Hut Lane – presented for approval. *Cllrs. agreed with the content. The Clerk will deliver them.*  
Update on the arrangements for the Annual Meeting – recycling etc. *The Clerk gave an update on the proposed timings etc on the day.*

- iii. Green Lanes. A resident of the village had sent the Clerk some excellent information about Green Lanes. It was agreed that this should make the basis of our letters to ESCC. Tony said to send it to Vicky Lawrence, and it was agreed to send copies to Charles Hendry as well as Tony.

**7. PLANNING MEETINGS**

A planning meeting was held on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Minutes have been circulated to Councillors, and posted on the village website and notice boards.

**8. REPORT FROM CLLR. TONY REID, EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL**

Tony reported that expenditure had increased by 3.9% with 3.5 expected next year. The Government had granted an increase of 3% (with other counties receiving 2%). A more formal programme was being produced with regards to climate change, with Council buildings trying to reduce their CO2 emissions. It was agreed that master planning was needed. They were also looking at housing. A suggestion of shared services, overheads and resources within County and District Councils was being looked at.

Tony spoke about a deer having been injured and asked for opinions of how such matters should be dealt with. DEFRA are looking into a scheme. A discussion followed. The main agreed that owners of deer, where applicable, should keep them under control.

Paul asked Tony about planning. Tony replied that they are still waiting for the Government to confirm how many homes will have to be built by 2026 and where they will be built. ESCC are making plans for schooling and waste. Tony advised that the new waste depot at Maresfield should be open in late summer.

Paul commented that St Mark's school had received the funding to add another classroom and other related rooms. He thanked Tony for his report and support.

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

- i. Village Action Plan, Rights of Way, Highways and Footpaths – Vicky just commented on the state of the road at Jason's Keep. The Clerk will chase up ESCC..
- ii. Neighbourhood Watch, New Village Hall Working Party and Playing Field Committee – Graham had nothing further to report..
- iii. Burial Ground – Marian reported that the metal gates were very tatty. Paul also advised that one of the piers had been knocked down. The benches also are in need of some TLC. . Paul will speak to the contractor. Paul also stated that the diocese land was in an appalling state. The Clerk will write to the Church Wardens to ask if the vegetation which is encroaching on to the PC's land could be cut back. The matter of risk to people parking was discussed and it was agreed that anyone parking on the PC's ground was doing so at their own risk.
- iv. Village Hall Management Committee and Parish Emergency Plan – Details of the new Chairman of the Village Hall committee, Janet Tourle, were given to the Clerk, who will make contact. Also Eddie Westfield had taken over as Chairman of the Emergency Plan Committee, so the Clerk would forward any correspondence to him.
- v. Wealden Association of Local Councils and Safer Wealden Partnership – Cllr. Colin James. No report in Colin's absence.

**10. BANK RECONCILIATION** – The bank statement was checked with the figures presented by the Clerk, agreed and signed by the Chairman.

**11. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS:** None to report

**12. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:** The following were all agreed and cheques signed

- i. Jean Holmwood. Salary £567.38 and expenses £31.20 = total £598.58
- ii. Village Hall Hire for Parish Council 2007 - 8 - £250
- iii. Village Hall Hire for Youth Club 2007 – 8 - £150.
- iv. Viking – stationery – £148.60.
- v. WDC – Risk assessment training Day - £20. (retrospective)

**13. CLERK'S MATTERS:**

- i. Hours checked agreed and signed.
- ii. Request to attending a meeting with WDC and Clerks in April to discuss procurement and other items. *Agreed.*
- iii. Request to attend SLCC AGM at Southwater in March. *Agreed.*
- iv. Request to attend SALC meeting at Billingshurst in March. *Agreed.*

**14. TRAINING**

- i. Details of SALC training sessions to be held in East Sussex in 2008. The Clerk will make further enquiries for the content of the Chairman's day. There will be training available for new Councillors appointed after May.

**Note. David Walker left the meeting at 8.20 pm.**

**15. OTHER MATTERS** – (Advised to the Clerk in advance of the meeting – other matters may be discussed but decisions may be deferred to the next meeting)

- i. From Marian – the problem with children having no lockers at school (follow on from the problems with no bus shelters). While the Council agreed with Marian's concern, it was agreed that it was not a matter that the Council could get involved with.
- ii. From Colin – Consideration of contractor's account of £78.58 plus VAT for the repair of the lane adjacent to the Village Hall. The members discussed the matter and agreed to pay half towards it on receipt of a copy of the receipt. They commented that it might have been more favourable if they had been consulted in advance of the work being done.
- iii. Graham – It had been reported that a large stable was being erected at Lynx House. Details had been forwarded to WDC.
- iv. Graham – Report on meeting with Kelvin Williams, Head of planning Control WDC. Graham gave brief details of a meeting he had. The main point was that we must be very careful how we word planning comments.

**16. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED NEEDING A RESPONSE.**

- i. Correspondence from a villager requesting attention to the A267 near the junction with the A272. Noted and agreed that we can only continue with our request to have the road surface repaired. Also to ask Colin Clarke to keep us informed of any proposals they may have in the future.
  - ii. Email and accounts from Ned Neill regarding the Parish Magazine. The Clerk to write to Ned and make him aware that the PC does precept for an annual payment to the Parish Magazine for the publication of their minutes and other notices. If this amount is not required then we will discontinue including it in the precept.
  - iii. AiRS - Invitation to the East Sussex Rural Forum in March at Hailsham. Noted – no-one able to attend.
  - iv. Details of Operation Tap from Tam. Forwarded to Colin for the attention of the Village Hall Committee.
  - v. NALC Conference to be held in Sussex in May. Open to Clerks and Councillors.
  - vi. Concern from resident about the Postal Address of Hadlow Down, in relation to Uckfield.
  - vii. Sussex Air Ambulance Fund. Request for funding. It was agreed to give £150 to the charity and to precept the same amount in future. A cheque was written.
  - viii. SDCVS/EAVS Wealden Support Partnership. Invitation to a community networking event. No-one able to attend.
- 17 **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED – FOR FILING OR DISTRIBUTION**
- i. Details of "Enjoy England" to celebrate St Georges Day. Noted
  - ii. AiRS – details of the Village of the Year competition. Noted.
18. **ITEMS RECEIVED AND AVAILABLE TO FORWARD OR VIEW.**
- i. PCT Newsletter for February 25<sup>th</sup>.

**The meeting closed at 8.50 pm.  
THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE  
on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2008 at 7.00 P.M**