



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 1st November 2016.

Present: Councillors Sandra Richards (SR) (Chair), Damon Wellman (DW), Julian Michaelson-Yeates (JMY) and Roy Galley (RG)(ESCC). The Clerk Helen Johnson was in attendance.

198. PUBLIC QUESTIONS – a member of the public expressed concern as to whether the soil transferred from the playing field to footpath 27c would be placed next to his boundary. He also expressed concern that the footpath had been referred to as a green lane. The Parish Council (PC) confirmed that it wasn't a green lane and was a footpath.

Another member of the public commented on the amount of work undertaken by volunteers and on how good the path looked. Concern was expressed that a digger moving the soil would damage the surface of the footpath as it needed rain to bond.

A member of the public raised about the surface of Wilderness Lane. The Clerk and Chair encouraged residents to report issues with roads on the ESCC Highways website. The Chair confirmed that Highways were willing to attend a PC meeting and residents could then raise concerns with them. She updated the meeting on the cost of the backlog of Highways work and their annual budget. The PC and Cllr. Galley have raised with Highways regarding the state of Wilderness Lane.

Members of the public asked for an update regarding the hearing for the Land at Five Badgers.

Cllrs Michael Lunn (ML) and Iain Turner (IT) joined the meeting at 7:13pm.

199. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE – none received.

200. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – JMY declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item 204a.i. SR declared a personal interest in 207iii regarding the CAB and Parish Magazine.

202. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS held on 4th & 18th October 2016 were agreed and signed as true records (previously circulated), apart from the minutes of 4th October should have shown in the apologies that Cllr Galley was an ESCC Councillor rather than a WDC Councillor, the minutes were amended.

201. CO-OPTION – Helen Bonnick's (HB) profile had been sent to Councillors prior to the meeting and she had confirmed to the Clerk that she met the qualifications for being a Councillor. All Councillors agreed to co-opt Helen onto the PC and she joined them at the table.

The Clerk advised that WDC have confirmed that they have received no request for an election following Graham Terry's resignation.

The Chair moved the following two items forward:

211 HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY MATTERS:

vi. Footpath 27c – DW updated the PC on his meeting with Bob Lake and representatives of ESCC Rights of Way team at the footpath. The contractor has been required to undertake further work on the footpath and the Rights of Way representatives have agreed for the footpath to remain closed until it has rained, in order for the surface to bond.

Concern was expressed that the digger for the soil work will damage the path surface as there hasn't been any rain since the work was done. *The Clerk will raise with Bob L and will also ask whether any soil will be placed on the south side of the path.*

Clerk

A discussion was held on the use of the footpath for the bonfire night procession and if the path is damaged that it would need rerolling, preferably using funds from the Sussex Community Foundation grant.

The Clerk will contact the Rights of Way team for their suggestions regarding enclosing the Waghorns Lane end to vehicles and in order to prevent flytipping. She will also ask for their comments on the suggestion of a locked five bar gate, a posted opening and post and rail fencing and find out what permissions are required.

Clerk

205. REPORT FROM CLLR. MICHAEL LUNN WDC – ML updated the meeting on the informal hearing for the

Land at Five Badgers and the action being taken regarding the developments at the site. The Chair allowed members of the public to ask questions.

203. MATTERS ARISING (from previous meetings):

- i. School Lane pavement – the Clerk confirmed that the witness statement has been received and has been sent to WDC. There is the possibility of a further witness statement.
- ii. Photographs of bridlepath 25a – c/f SR
- iii. Flooding at the junction of Main Road and Tinkers Lane – RG advised that the drainage team were due and the problem was due to be fixed this week.
- iv. School Lane surface – the PC were advised that it is on the indicative programme for resurfacing in 2018/19. The PC agreed that the matter should be escalated to the Chief Executive of ESCC, providing there were valid reasons for this. *The Chair will speak to the headteacher at the school and if there are felt to be valid reasons for escalation she and the Clerk will draft an email to be sent to Councillors, prior to sending to the Chief Executive of ESCC.* SR/Clerk
- v. Measurements for exclusion zone for the bonfire – the risk assessment for the bonfire night had been sent to Councillors prior to the meeting and concern was expressed that items that had previously been raised hadn't been included. It was agreed that a new risk assessment would be required with changes regarding the distance between the bonfire and the barrier and regarding the lighting of the bonfire, if these changes weren't made, for safety reasons the PC wouldn't allow the bonfire to take place on their land, *the Chair will contact the chair of the playing field committee to discuss.*

**Chair
Clerk**

The Clerk will request a copy of the bonfire insurance.

- vi. The Clerks Report was sent to Councillors with the agenda updating them on her action points, this included:
 - a. The Clerk has spoken to one of the church wardens regarding the closed burial ground and has written to WDC requesting a survey of the seats and that they be repaired or replaced, she has also requested a slight increase in the budget for the maintenance of the burial ground.
 - b. The Clerk has contacted ESCC to request that they respond to the PC's request for a speed reduction between Howbourne Lane and the entrance to the village.
 - c. The Clerk is liaising with ESCC regarding the criteria for LED speed signs and the costs involved and is enquiring about funding from the police production fund.
 - d. Response has been sent to the DCLG Finance Settlement consultation.

204. PLANNING:

a. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

Cllr. Michaelson-Yeates didn't join in the discussion for item i:

- i. WD/2016/2285/F – GATE HOUSE FARM, STOCKLANDS LANE, TN22 4EA – Redevelopment of site including demolition of industrial farm building, removal of water holding tanks and construction of two detached dwellings with associated works - The Parish Council do not support the application for the following reasons:

The design of the dwellings is not in keeping with the varied rural character of other dwellings in Stocklands Lane. The size of the gardens is also not in keeping with the relevant size of gardens for 4 bedroom houses in the parish. – Policy EN27.

We feel that one of the proposed dwellings will overlook a neighbouring property, resulting in a loss of privacy for the occupants – Policy EN27.

The position of the proposed western driveway will have an impact on the neighbouring property with construction traffic accessing and egressing the site. We feel that the eastern driveway would be more suitable.

If the application were approved we would request the following:

That a contamination survey and an ecological and environment survey (including bats and reptile survey) should be undertaken before any work commences;

That all materials from the demolition and clearance of the site should be removed from there;

Due to the dangerous junction at the western end of Stocklands Lane, we feel there should be a suitable pre-approved plan for access and egress from the site and from Stocklands Lane for construction traffic. (4/0)

- ii. WD/2016/2462/F – ANNES, WILDERNESS LANE, TN22 4HU – Demolition of 2 outbuildings and the erection of 2 new buildings. Additional planting and the minor enlargement of the existing turning head – The Parish Council support the application, however they feel that there should be a condition that the artist studio/study should be used in connection with the main residence and not be used for residential use. There should also be correct disposal of the asbestos (6/0).
- iii. WD/2016/2485/F – STONEHURST COTTAGE, STONEHURST LANE, TN20 6LL – Demolish existing lean-to extension to rear. Replace with new 2 storey extension including pitched roof to existing

dormers and single storey lean-to extension beyond. Extend hard standing to front of house – The Parish Council support the application. (6/0)

b. REFUSED PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

- i. WD/2016/1762/F – Hastingford Fishery, Hastingford Lane – Part change of use from fishing lodge to fishing lodge and live/work unit.

c. APPROVED PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

- i. WD/2016/0949/F – Scocus Barn, Heathfield Road, TN20 6JJ – The construction of a single storey oak framed detached building to be used as a classroom and play area.
- ii. WD/2016/1104/F – Hastingford Farm, Hastingford Lane, TN22 4DY – Part retrospective application for extension of existing approved converted barn to provide holiday let, including upgrading of existing doors and windows.

d. PLANNING MATTERS:

- i. The PC had been contacted by a resident regarding Oaklands in Stonehurst Lane. Planning enforcement have confirmed that there has been no breach of planning. *The Clerk will update the resident.* **Clerk**

205. REPORTS FROM CLLR. ROY GALLEY, ESCC & CLLR. MICHAEL LUNN WDC – RG highlighted that the proposed parliamentary boundary changes cover a different area for Hadlow Down than the proposed county and district boundary changes. The PC have requested that an article go in the November Parish Magazine requesting comments from members of the public, it was agreed that a response would be made to the parliamentary boundary consultation if a response is received from residents. [The article will appear in the December issue].

RG confirmed that ESCC are currently concentrating on budgets. They have got to make about 200 posts redundant.

ESCC Highways have apologized as they said that the work had been done in Riverside and Sheepsetting Lane when it hadn't been, the work will now be done sooner than it would be done normally.

RG advised that he had visited School Lane with the traffic engineer, the roundels will be re-done and there is the possibility of a speed limit of 20mph outside the school being assessed.

Further to his earlier report ML advised that the Local Plan has been delayed.

206. BANK RECONCILIATION: –for October 2016 was agreed and signed.

217. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- i. East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service survey – response agreed, IT to send.

207. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS :

- iii. Draft precept proposals – to be discussed at December meeting.

- i. The payment for £70 to Mr P Anderson for fingerpost work that was paid at the last meeting was ratified at this meeting.

- ii. Internal auditor appointment – the Clerk had sent details of the quotes and profile of the internal auditors to Councillors. It was agreed to appoint Mark Mulberry.

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

- i. Cllr Damon Wellman advised that there have been reports of 8 sheds broken into in the North Wealden area. The police are looking for a silver Peugeot.

212. RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR AND COUNCILLORS RESPONSIBILITIES – Graham Terry resigned from the PC after the last meeting. The following responsibilities that were previously undertaken by him were allocated to the following Councillors:

Strengthening Local Relationships meetings, Village Hall and pension liaison – Cllr Bonnick;

Hadlow Down Community Centre – Cllr Lunn;

Burial Ground – Cllr Richards;

Playing Field – Cllr Michaelson-Yeates;

Annual review of risk assessments and bank signatory – Cllr Turner

Graham Terry has agreed to continue to produce the PC newsletter and annual report.

JMY and HB will be the representatives for Celebrate.

209. CELEBRATE – meeting to be held between Rachel Lewis, the PC representatives and the Clerk, a meeting will then be organized to which other interested parties will be invited. The Clerk updated the meeting on the options for the role of sessional worker, she has strived to find 3 options.

210. RISK ASSESSMENTS – *ML confirmed that the quarterly risk assessments had been completed and he will arrange for them to be delivered to the Clerk.* **ML**

The Clerk advised that Nathan James has confirmed that he will clear the culvert in Hut Lane once the leaves have fallen.

211 HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY MATTERS:

- i. Dog Kennel Lane ditching – to consider action – c/f.

- ii. Parking in Wilderness Lane – to discuss – c/f

- iii. ESCC Highways report – to discuss options – c/f
 - iv. Signage regarding HGVs – to update – c/f
 - v. Riverside and Sheep Wash Lane – update provided at 205.
- 213. STANDING ORDERS** – to agree – c/f.
- 214. PROPOSED PARLIAMENTARY BOUNDARY CHANGES** – discussed at item 205.
- 215. NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE** – the Chair advised that Bob Lake has done a draft application to MyLocality which has been sent to committee members for their comments. The Clerk has sent her comments to the Chair and a response will be made to Bob..
- 216. CLERK'S MATTERS:**
- i. The Clerks hours were agreed and signed.
 - ii. Hours for Parish Projects – the PC agreed to the Clerk undertaking 15 hours extra for work on Celebrate. The Clerk will also undertake archiving in January which it was agreed will also need to be done under extra hours. The Chair asked Councillors to encourage people to fill the current Councillor vacancy.
 - iii. Clerks annual review – the Clerks annual review had been completed by SR & JMY and was signed.
- 217. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:**
- ii. Friends of the Keep Archives report
 - iii. SSALC meeting with the Sussex Chief Constable – nothing raised.
 - iv. Review of polling stations – no response made.
- 218. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:** the following payments were agreed and cheques were signed:
- i. Helen Johnson. Salary £843.69 includes £27 mileage, £750 already paid by standing order, therefore cheque raised for £93.69.
 - ii. Hadlow Down Playing Field £269.73 grant for work at playing field.
 - iii. East Sussex Pension Fund £240.36 Clerk's pension.
 - iv. Hadlow Down Village Hall £839.10 grant for work on Village Hall.
- Further payments of £78 for SSALC Limited for Clerks training, £259.20 for Wellers Law Group LLP for legal work and £336 for Compact Cutting for playing field and burial grounds maintenance were also signed and will be ratified at the December meeting.
- 219. TRAINING AND CONFERENCES:**
- i. Action in rural Sussex discussion session.
 - ii. Sussex 'get ready for winter event' – it was agreed for IT to attend.
 - iii. SSALC 2017 training.
- 220. DEFIBRILLATOR BATTERY** – the Clerk confirmed that she had checked the defibrillator prior to the meeting.
- 221. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA** – consultation regarding removal of phone box or possible adoption.

The meeting closed at 9:08pm