



MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Hadlow Down Parish Council
held in the Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down
at 7pm on Tuesday 6th October 2015.
*Note – this a draft copy to be agreed and amended, if
necessary, at the next Council Meeting.*

Present: Councillors Sandra Richards (SR) (Chair), Damon Wellman (DW), Julian Michaelson-Yeates (JMY), Nathan James (NJ) and Graham Terry (GT) (ESCC). The Clerk Helen Simpson-Wells was in attendance.

Apologies had been received from Cllrs. Roy Galley (ESCC), Toby Illingworth (WDC) and Michael Lunn (WDC).

172. PUBLIC QUESTIONS – a member of the public advised that the dogs at Luvetts had been reported to the police.

A member of the public advised that they had sent details of developments at Five Badgers to the Clerk. They expressed concern over the effect on the sewerage system.

173. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE – apologies had been received from Cllr. Michael Lunn (ML).

174. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – GT declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in 178a.ii.

175. CRIME REPORT – the Clerk updated the Parish Council (PC) on her response from the PCSO who has confirmed that he is no longer able to provide a crime report. He was unable to update on recent speed checks in Hadlow Down.

176. MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on 8th September 2015 were agreed and signed as a true record. Due to the shortage of time from the issue of the 29th September meeting minutes they would be agreed and signed at the 3rd November meeting.

177. MATTERS ARISING (from previous meetings):

- i. Canes by the Village Hall have been removed.
- ii. Neighbourhood Areas – the Chair confirmed that having a Neighbourhood Area doesn't give PCs extra powers, it just gives them the ability to have a Neighbourhood Plan and/or the Community Right to Build.
- iii. Housing needs survey has been sent out with the Parish Magazine. Villagers were encouraged to complete and return it.
- iv. Gully near Five Chimneys Cottage to photograph and report – DW advised that it had been too dangerous to photograph the gully. The Highways steward is due to have a look at it.
- v. Risk assessment for the bonfire night – the Clerk confirmed that the Chair of the Playing Field Committee is arranging for the 2 risk assessments to be sent to her.
- vi. The Clerks Report was sent to Councillors with the agenda updating them on her action points, this included:
 - a. Highways had advised that the potholes in Stocklands Lane would be fixed within 6 months, following a complaint from the Clerk 5 were fixed within a few days.
 - b. The closed session minutes have been added to the website.
 - c. The Clerk has contacted the police about the dogs at Luvetts.
 - d. Following pressure from the PC the loose gully cover on the A272 near the entrance to Little England Farm was being referred by Highways back to the contractor to fix it under warranty.

178. PLANNING:

b. PLANNING MATTERS:

- i. Five Badgers, Stonehurst Lane – The Chair updated the meeting on correspondence that had been received.

The Chair allowed members of the public to respond to questions raised during this agenda item.

It was agreed that the PC will ask ML to request a meeting between a representative from WDC planning, the neighbours of Five Badgers and a representative from the PC. ML

The Chair and Clerk updated the meeting on progress. The Clerk will send a member of the public a summary of the response she had received from Environmental Health, she will also contact South East Water. Clerk

- ii. Wilderness Wood planning application – the Chair confirmed that the PC weren't making a decision on the application as that was made at a previous meeting, they were just looking at the response made by the applicant to the PC's decision and whether the PC should send a representative to the WDC planning committee meeting.

The Chair allowed the applicants to respond to questions raised on this agenda item.

Dan Morrish (DM) confirmed that WDC will decide whether there needs to be a separate application for the second phase of construction of the cabins or whether it would be included in the current application. They also confirmed that WDC will be including in the decision that the cabins can't be sold. The Clerk confirmed that she had received complaints from residents regarding the noise from a recent wedding. The applicants advised that the only temporary event application they have submitted was for an extension of the alcohol licence from 10 – 11pm. Emily Charkin advised that WDC had written to them regarding the complaints they had received from the last wedding and WDC had confirmed that they did finish by the required time. It was agreed that the PC would write to WDC advising that they are still of the view that the number of volunteer cabins should be reduced to four, rather than the proposed larger number. That they appreciate that the applicants have listened to the Parish Council's concern over camping and the containment of noise from the campers. That the Parish Council still feel that amplified noise and public address systems should not be allowed and that the proposal in the applicants response does not address this. The PC would like no amplified noise or public address systems to be a planning restriction.

It was stressed by the Chair that at the WDC planning meeting the PC representatives should also stress the positives of Wilderness Wood as well as the PC's response to the planning application. It was agreed for JMY and SR to attend the meeting, speech to be circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. SR/JMY

DM confirmed that they will accept WDC's decision on the application and that they want to work with the village.

- iii. Protection of assets from unauthorised users – GT agreed to look into having a byelaw on PC land, the Clerk will discuss with the solicitor. Clerk/GT

a. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

- i. **WD/2015/2104/F – SHEPHERDS HILL HOUSE, SHEPHERDS HILL, BUXTED, TN22 4PX** - Proposed tennis court and extension to residential curtilage – The Parish Council support the application. (5/0)

Cllr. Graham Terry withdrew from the meeting during item 178a.ii.

- ii. **WD/2015/1737/LB – STOCKLAND OAST, STOCKLAND LANE, TN22 4EA** – Renewal of some existing windows and two external doors in the annexe – The Parish Council support the application (4/0)

179. REPORTS FROM CLLR. ROY GALLEY, ESCC & CLLR. TOBY ILLINGWORTH WDC – no reports received.

180. BANK RECONCILIATION: –for 25th September 2015 was agreed and signed.

181. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS :

- i. The payment of £700 to G.S. Osborne for playing field grass cutting that was signed at the last meeting was ratified at this meeting.
- ii. External audit – the Clerk confirmed that the external auditor had signed off the 2014/15 accounts and that no concerns had been raised. Copies were being displayed on the noticeboards.
- iii. Fingerpost quotes – the quote was agreed for the fingerpost work.
- iv. Youth shelter – c/f.
- v. Precept payment – the Clerk has received notification that the payment is due to go in the bank account.
- vi. Payroll services fees – the Clerk updated the meeting on the increases and will include them in the precept calculations.
- vii. Uckfield Railway Line Parishes Committee – the PC agreed a grant of £25 to the committee for postal and stationery costs.

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

- i. Cllr. Damon Wellman advised that the give way sign at the end of Tinkers Lane had been re-instated. The Clerk will contact Highways to see what is happening with the aprons around the gullies on Main Road opposite Tinkers Lane, which should have been done at the same time. Clerk DW advised that a Main Road resident had highlighted the increased noise from vehicles going over the drain covers on the resurfaced road. The Chair confirmed that she had spoken to the Highways Steward about them and he is due to investigate, she will ask for an update when she sees him this

week.

- ii. Cllr. Graham Terry advised that there had been fly-tipping in Brick Kiln Lane which had been reported to WDC. NJ confirmed that there had also been a problem in Wheelers Lane which had now been cleared.
- iii. Cllr. Nathan James confirmed that the drainage work on the playing field has been delayed due to the heavy rain, he also highlighted the blocked drains on Main Road, the Chair confirmed that these had been reported.
- iv. Cllr. Sandra Richards advised that she had attended the Wealden Parish Conference and has sent notes on it to Councillors. She will produce an article for the Parish Magazine on the cuts that ESCC are having to make. GT informed the PC that the precept will need to be increased if they want work done in the village, the Chair suggested working with other Parish Councils.

183. WDC LOCAL PLAN ISSUES AND OPTIONS – JMY updated the meeting on the briefing session he had attended at WDC. Hadlow Down is listed as a Neighbourhood Settlement which are down to overall receive a 10% increase in size, however this isn't broken down by how many for each settlement. He has asked for clarification on the sustainability criteria and the Clerk has confirmed with WDC that the sustainability appraisal document is still being worked on and will be issued on 19th October at the same time as the rest of the consultation. JMY highlighted major issues. The Chair proposed having a separate meeting to agree the PC's response to the consultation. The Clerk gave Councillors details of exhibitions being held on the plans.

184. HWCAAG LEAFLETS – JMY confirmed that he will collect the leaflets, the PC agreed for the leaflets to be sent out with the Parish Magazine.

185. SUSSEX POLICE IN 2020 – JMY gave the PC an update on the presentation he had attended by Sussex Police. He gave details on the deductions being made to their costs and on what work a community warden would do. They are raising legislation against Rother and Wealden District Council so that they have to handle civil enforcement of parking. The PC decided to leave the decision on whether to have a Community Warden till a later date.

186. HIGHWAYS:

- i. **SLR MEETING** – the minutes of the meeting had been circulated to Councillors. The Chair questioned whether the PC wanted black and yellow speed posts, it was agreed not to have them at this stage. The Chair confirmed that she had a meeting on Friday with the Highways steward and a resident regarding the drainage in Dog Kennel Lane.
- ii. **CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING SPEED LIMIT IN SCHOOL LANE** – the Clerk had received an email from a resident highlighting schools that have a 20mph limit outside the school and questioning why Hadlow Down didn't have this. The Clerk had responded confirming that the PC had looked into and why it couldn't be proceeded with, she'd also highlighted the work the PC have pushed for Highways to do. Councillors had been copied in on the correspondence. It was agreed for the Clerk to contact the Maresfield PC Clerk about their speed humps.

Clerk
DW

187. RISK ASSESSMENTS – handed to DW to action.

188. CLERK'S MATTERS:

- i. The Clerks hours were agreed and signed.
- ii. Hut Lane drainage to clear out sump – c/f to be actioned after the leaf fall.

The Clerk left the meeting whilst the following item was discussed.

- iii. Grading and Pension – it was agreed to change the Clerks grade to LC2 SCP28 wef. 1st October 2015 and to enrol her in the LGPS pension scheme wef. 1st April 2016.

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

- i. Helen Simpson-Wells. Salary £872.88 includes £22.50 mileage and £103.31 expenses, £620 already paid by standing order, therefore cheque raised for £252.88.
- ii. Compact Cutting £672.00 play area and burial ground maintenance.
- iii. Printmonger Media £78.00 survey.
- iv. PKF Littlejohn LLP £240.00 external audit.
- v. Wealden District Association of Local Councils £20.00 subscription
- vi. Viking £52.60 stationery
- vii. Hadlow Down Village Hall £6.00 deposit for keys
- viii. HM Revenue and Customs £70.34 tax and national insurance.

Further payments of £114 to SLCC Enterprises Ltd for training, £1200 to Wellers Law Group LLP for Playing Field Committee grant for legal fees, £30 to SSALC Limited for Planning Training and £792 to Compact Cutting for burial ground and play area maintenance, were signed and will be ratified at the 3rd November meeting.

190. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- i. SSALC meeting with Chief Constable – nothing to raise.

- ii. Electoral review of East Sussex County and Districts consultation – no response made.

191. TRAINING & CONFERENCES:

- i. The PC ratified the decision to book SR in for the Wealden Parish Conference, DW and JMY for WDC planning training and DW for SSALC planning training.
- ii. The Clerk confirmed that her other PC were paying for her to attend 1 Clerks Networking Day per annum. The PC agreed for her to attend the WDC Clerks Planning briefing and the WDC Clerks Liaison meeting and that in future she can book onto this training as well as 1 SLCC Sussex branch meeting and the remaining Clerks networking day per annum without reference to the PC.
- iii. ESALC AGM & Conference – no-one attending.
- iv. Defibrillator training the Clerk confirmed that the defibrillator and cabinet should be installed on 9th October and that she is awaiting a call regarding training.

192. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA:

- i. WDC Local Plan Issues and Options to appear on the November agenda.
- ii. Precept meeting on 20th October at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9:03pm