



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HADLOW DOWN PARISH COUNCIL
Held in the Village Hall, Hadlow Down
at 7.00 pm on Tuesday September 2nd 2008
Note – this is a draft copy to be agreed and amended, if necessary, at the next Council Meeting

Present: Councillors Paul James (Chairman), Colin James, Graham Terry and Michael Lunn. Also in attendance were Joan Wiltshire (Courier), Jean Holmwood (Clerk) and Helen Simpson-Wells (new Clerk).

Paul opened the meeting by welcoming Helen who is taking over from Jean as the new Parish Clerk.

1. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME:** There is still a problem in Five Chimneys Lane where the pipe is blocked and therefore the water is draining elsewhere. *Clerk to chase ESCC.*
2. **PCSO Tam Bennett:** In her absence Tam sent the following report...
Stocklands Lane – report from local farmer that travellers had vacated his land. Local PCSOs attended regards crime prevention advice. The Community Panel meeting was held on 21st August. The priorities agreed upon are: Speeding, crime prevention and parking. *Graham also attended the meeting.*
PCSO Katie Breeds has now taken over as the PCSO for Hadlow Down. Her profile is available on the Sussex Police Website, where you can find her local updates and current priorities for the Parish. Katie's contact details are: katie.breeds@sussex.pnn.police.uk. I would just like to say a fond farewell to everyone who I have met and been involved with during my time as PCSO for the Parish.
Clerks to send letter to Tam thanking her for all her help in the past and to Katie to welcome her and invite her to forthcoming PC meetings
3. **APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE:** Received from my Cllrs Tony Bonnick and David Walker also from Cllrs Tony Reid (ESCC) and Norman Buck (WDC).
4. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST:** Paul declared an interest in item 11 (i) and Michael in item 7 Coopers Farm.
5. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS** held on 5th and 12th August were agreed and signed as a true record.
6. **MATTERS ARISING:**
 - i. Buxted parking restrictions. *Letter to be sent to Norman Buck, in response to his e-mail. Council felt that as Hadlow Down villagers use Buxted station, they would be affected by the parking restrictions.*
 - ii. Suspected unauthorised persons trying to gain access at Stonehurst Lane. *Neighbourhood Watch article to appear in parish magazine. Villagers to be aware that any valuables especially diesel and scrap metal, should be locked away. 3 men in a dark Mondeo have been quite intimidating to people. Tam has reported that they have now moved on.*
 - iii Clerk's report.
Chris Yarrow has sent us a copy of a letter he sent to Ian Johnson backing up our letter of August 13th. *Clerk to send copy to Councillor Reid and chase up Ian Johnson.*
Response from Graham Kean giving dates for meeting with Councillors regarding footpath diversions. *Dates e-mailed to Councillors and replies collated.*
Quality Council Criteria – *details on SALC website. Login sent to Councillors.*
Burial Ground – *dates forwarded to Tony.*
Helen updated on progress on installing telephone line and broadband at her home, there may be a period of a couple of days when the telephone line is down, however Helen will then be able to take over the present PC telephone number.
7. **MEETINGS:**
A planning meeting was held on August 12th. Minutes circulated to Councillors, and posted on the village notice boards and can be provided to anyone who may be interested via the Clerk.
APPLICATIONS:
WD/2008/2242/MRM Five Chimneys, Curtains Hill: Erection of a 12,000 bird, free range egg laying unit. *We accept the application and trust WDC will ensure that the conditions of the previous approval are upheld.*
WD/2008/1394/RM The Old Store, Main Road: Approval of reserved matters for approved planning application WD/2008/01790/0 – two linked attached houses. *Original comments dated 17th June 08, re-sent to Wealden Council with the addition of 'we feel strongly that storm water harvesting should be addressed at planning stage with planning conditions and not left to building regulations'.*
Michael Lunn left the meeting at 8:05 whilst Coopers Barn application was discussed
WD/2008/2019/F Coopers Farm, Five Chimneys Lane: Erection of a temporary agricultural dwelling to support local "entrant" organic agricultural and sustainable enterprise. *Site visit to be arranged.*
Michael returned to the meeting

GRANTED PLANNING PERMISSION:

WD/2008/0668/F Land at Five Chimneys Lane: Restoration of two small ponds – Pond 1 to be retained for conservation and ecological purposes and Pond 2 to be retained as a traditional watering hole for grazing Sussex Cattle.

WD/2008/1607/FR Wildings Wood, Riverside, Blackboys: Rebuild existing annexe building all as previously approved under WD/2007/1390/F.

REFUSED PLANNING PERMISSION:

WD/2008/1665/FA The Old Store, Main Road: Variation of condition 5 on WD/2008/01790/0

8. REPORT FROM CLLR. TONY REID, EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL: No report in Councillor Reid's absence.

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

- i. Rights of Way, Highways and Footpaths – Paul advised that he had received a telephone call and letter from members of the public regarding Spoods Farm wind turbine. He has visited the area and it would appear that the turbine is in the correct position. *Clerk to write letter to member of the public advising that the PC originally highlighted to Wealden Council the distance from the road of the wind turbine. Will also advise her of the planning application number in order that it can be viewed on the planning website.*
Wilderness Lane verge falling into the ditch just above Wilderness Barns (formerly Cabbages and Kings) on the right, the tarmac is going into the verge. *Clerk to report to ESCC.*
Green lane between School Lane and Stocklands Lane, *Clerk to write to ESCC to see what is happening.* Our Council have continuing concerns regarding the green lane exiting in Dog Kennel Lane, *Clerk to write to ESCC as it needs to be closed for vehicular access due to the amount of rain this year and it is therefore not drying out.* Will ask ESCC for site visit to look at both green lanes.
Overgrown vegetation at the junction of Dog Kennel Lane and the A272 where visibility to the west is only possible by egress onto the A272. Local people have to use other routes after near accidents, especially when confronted by overtaking vehicles. *Clerk to write to ESCC*
Clerk to chase ESCC regarding widening of bridle path entrance on Brick Kiln Lane.
 - ii. Neighbourhood Watch, Emergency Planning, New Village Hall Working Party and Playing Field Committee – Graham advised that there was to be an article in the next PM relating to NHW. Nothing has been heard from the police regarding NW. EP meeting next week. The NVHWP have received replies to their questionnaires, these are presently in the process of being collated. There weren't as many replies as they had hoped for. Looking at alternatives for funding, substantial amounts are available, especially on the youth side. Looking to apply for funds, committee to make recommendations to council. Council will then need to get involved. If site meetings held two councillors to attend. The PFC reported that there is money available to provide an area for children to play, they are in the process of putting an application in for funding. This is for a matched giving scheme for which there is a minimum grant of £10,000. Looking to other organisations to help raise money, council would be willing to give some funding, subject to firm proposal..
 - iii. Burial Ground, Youth Council (to be formed) – No report received in Tony's absence.
 - iv. Village Hall Management Committee, Wealden Association of Local Councils and Safer Wealden Partnership – Colin reported that they have a good active VH committee, Janet the chairwoman will be devoting more time to it. They have come up with a list of work that needs doing and have looked at prices involved. Will need to come to PC for some funding. On October 11th they have a big paint day. PC won't cover the prices that have been quoted, they support the updating of the village hall either through a village working party day or will consider a more sensible priced quote.
 - v. Village Action Plan, Easylink, Sustainable Development and Environment Matters – Michael will contact Trevor Leggo re VAP. Easylink – meetings to be attended. SD and EM, litter in lanes, PC would encourage villagers to pick up litter. *Clerk will advise Joan for the paper and let the Parish magazine know.*
 - vi. Tree Warden - Jo Dummer (former Councillor) – no report received in Joan's absence.
- 10. BANK RECONCILIATION:** – for July was checked and agreed. August statement was not available, so would be deferred to the next meeting.
- 11. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS:**
- i. Proposal from Graham and seconded by Michael and agreed by all to give a donation of £1000 to St Mark's School towards their new extension.
 - ii. Proposal from Graham for PC to give a donation to a proposed Mother and Toddler group - Organiser for mother and toddler group advised that there is a lot of interest in the village for the group. They would like PC to cover 1st 3 months of hall rent (less school holidays), approx. £140. Risk assessments to be undertaken and fire regulations to be reviewed. PC will in principle agree to payment for 1st 3 months, however will need letter from group confirming their proposals for the running of the group. PC wishes the group good luck with their venture.
 - iii. Proposal from Colin for PC to pay ESCC for a sign indicating the Village Hall, cost £188.20 - PC agreed that sign could be ordered. *Colin to check position for sign and if the price quoted included the licence to erect the sign.*

- 12. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:** The following were agreed by all, and cheques signed.
- i. Jean Holmwood. Salary £518.12 and expenses £16 = total £534.12.
 - ii. SALC – £293.75 for recruitment assistance.
 - iii. SALC - £70.50 for new Clerk’s training day.
 - iv. St Mark’s School - £1000 towards new extension.
- 13. CLERK’S MATTERS:**
- i. Hours checked and agreed.
 - ii. Helen started on 1st Sep. and Jean will leave on 12th Sep. however Jean was asked and agreed to do additional hours in an advisory capacity.
- 14. TRAINING:** SALC – details of a Legal and Finance Day in Nov. at Farnham, Clerk to write back to advise that this would be too far for Councillors to travel. Helen to attend Clerks Briefing Day in Sep.
- 15. RISK ASSESSMENT:** nothing received.
- 16. OTHER MATTERS:**
- i. Crime survey – *Graham to complete*
 - ii. Strategic Land Availability Assessment – *Paul to read and respond to if necessary.*
- 17. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED NEEDING A RESPONSE.**
- i. ESCC – North Wealden and Lewes local accessibility assessment. *Passed to Michael.*
 - ii. WDC – removal of public telephone boxes. Response needed by September 15th. *Helen to investigate and find out if Hadlow Down one is affected.*
 - iii. Details of new LINKs scheme, asking for feedback. *No response necessary*
 - iv. Complaint about ragwort in the Burial Ground. Matter discussed. *Removal of ragwort to be included in tender for burial ground and ascertain what action ESCC will take to enforce removal from local fields, such as the one opposite Brick Kiln Farm.*
- 18. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED – FOR FILING OR DISTRIBUTION**
- i. High Weald AONB joint advisory committee annual review 2007-8. *Passed to Michael.*
 - ii. ESCC – roundabout sponsorship scheme. *Not applicable to PC.*
 - iii. WDC - Advance warning of the date of the District/Parish Conference 2008. *To be held at East Sussex Golf Club in Nov. 2 PC members can attend.*
 - iv. WDC – details of funding available for playing fields. *Forwarded to Graham.*
 - v. Easylink – agenda for next meeting. *Forwarded to Michael.*
 - vi. Invitation to joint Southeastern/Network Rail stakeholder forum in Maidstone. *No-one to attend due to distance*
 - vii. WDC – details of electric blanket testing dates. *(details given to Parish Magazine)*
- 19. ITEMS RECEIVED AND AVAILABLE TO FORWARD OR VIEW.**
- i. NHS – Patient Prospectus 2008-9
 - ii. Greymatters newsletter.

The meeting closed at 9:55pm
The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 7th October
at 7:00pm in the Village Hall

Signed..... Date.....