



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 5th September 2017.

Present: Councillors Sandra Richards (SR)(Chair), Helen Bonnick (HB), Damon Wellman (DW), Michael Lunn (ML) and Cllr. Bob Standley (BS)(ESCC). The Clerk Helen Johnson was in attendance.

- 143. PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – a member of the public raised about the hazards caused by the signage for the utility roadworks on the A272 near the Dog Kennel Lane junction and that no work was undertaken. He also advised that there had been an accident there today. *The Clerk will write to ESCC Highways. Clerk*
A member of the public asked whether the meeting on 21st September would be open to the public, the Clerk confirmed that it would be.
- 144. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE** – apologies had been received from Cllrs. Iain Turner (IT) and Julian Michaelson-Yeates (JMY) these were noted. Cllr. Lunn apologized that he would need to leave the meeting early.
- 145. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Cllr. Richards declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in item 148i.
- 146. MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on 1st August 2017 were agreed and signed as a true record (previously circulated).
- 147. MATTERS ARISING (from previous meetings):**
- i. Assets of Community Value – ML confirmed that he had spoken to the Tinkers Park trustees and will be providing them with further information. *He will also speak to the owners of Wilderness Wood.*
ML
 - ii. The Clerks Report was sent to Councillors with the agenda updating them on her action points, this included:
 - a. Tree laying across cable reported to UK Power Networks.
 - b. The Clerk wrote to the Village Fayre committee gifting the gazebo to them.
 - c. The Clerk is due to meet the grounds maintenance contractor at the burial ground regarding the topping up of some sections. *Markers for plots c/f.*
Clerk
The Clerk has written to some plot holders requesting that they secure the headstone on their plot.
 - d. The Clerk has contacted the insurance company regarding insurance for play equipment and for pension deficits and has provided the Parish Council (PC) with an update on their response.

148. PLANNING:

ML chaired item 148i, SR didn't join in the discussion or decision making for this item.

i. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

WD/2017/1663/LDE – OAKSWAY, WHEELERS LANE, TH22 4HR – Use of part of a stable building as a residential dwelling with associated residential curtilage.

The Chair allowed a member of the public to comment on this item.

The Parish Council do not have sufficient evidence of permanent residential use to know whether what the applicant claims in their application, is correct.

In the previous application WD/2009/1379/F for the replacement stabling, conditions were added that the site should only be used for stabling (3/0)

SR chaired the remainder of the meeting.

ii. REFUSED APPLICATIONS:

WD/2017/0913/F – Stone Mill, Dewlands Hill, Rotherfield – Re-use of ancillary class C3 residential annexe for separate class C3 use.

iii. APPROVED APPLICATIONS:

WD/2017/0781/F – Little Tinkers, Scocus Farm, Five Ashes – Change of use from office to one bedroom residential accommodation for 'live in' teacher administrator for nursery school.

149. REPORTS FROM CLLR. BOB STANDLEY, ESCC & CLLR. MICHAEL LUNN WDC

Cllr Standley following the SLR (Strengthening Local Relationships) meeting, advised that he had written to ESCC Highways regarding the damage to Tinkers Lane. He has also requested if the Highways Customer Service Manager could attend future SLR meetings and will be encouraging him to attend some of the Hadlow Down ones. He is awaiting a response from WDC regarding School Lane pavement.

BS updated the meeting on the GCSE results for the area. He confirmed that a campaign has been launched to encourage parents not to take their children out of school in term time and to avoid medical appointments during school time. Special circumstances will be noted.

Cllr Lunn commented on the number of Q class planning applications coming forward. The Local Plan is still awaited.

156. HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY MATTERS:

- i. SLR meeting – a copy of the minutes had been sent to Councillors prior to the meeting. The Clerk updated the meeting on the report from ESCC following their drainage investigation work on Main Road opposite the junction with Tinkers Lane. It was agreed for the *Clerk to contact Highways to find out which gullies will have more frequent cleaning and how frequent this will be.* **Clerk**

The Clerk confirmed that ESCC is arranging for the fingerpost at this junction to be repaired by a private contractor.

The Chair advised that ESCC are looking at additional signage and line changes at the junction of the A267/A272 due to the number of accidents. The Clerk advised that she had been contacted by a resident regarding the danger of drivers not being aware of queueing traffic at busy times on the A272 approaching the A267 junction. It was agreed for the *Clerk to write to ESCC to request warning signage regarding queueing traffic.* **Clerk**

The Chair advised that she had been informed that some residents were raising a petition to request extension of the 50mph heading east out of the village to the junction with the A272. It has been confirmed by ESCC Highways that the PC's request for a 50mph limit on the A272 between Buxted and Hadlow Down has been registered in the second year as part of a 2 year programme for areas where speed limits need to be looked at. There is however no guarantee that this would be done.

It was confirmed that part of Pound Green had now been jet patched, at the SLR meeting the steward advised that he had requested that School Lane also be actioned whilst the jet-patcher was in the area. *The Clerk will find out what is happening with jet patching School Lane.* **Clerk**

Cllr Toby Illingworth joined the meeting at 7:33pm

A Councillor raised about double yellow lines. The Chair asked the WDC representatives about parking in Wealden. As BS is leading on this matter for WDC he responded to the PC. It was agreed for DW to meet with the ESCC representative in Hadlow Down to look at possible sites.

150. BANK RECONCILIATION: – dated 25th August 2017 was agreed and signed.

151. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS :

- i. The PC ratified the payments for Agrifactors (Southern) Ltd £2640 for work at the play area and for Viking £86.35 for stationery, that were signed at the last meeting.
- ii. External audit – the Clerk confirmed that the external auditor had signed off the 2016/17 accounts, no matters of concern were raised. She has arranged for the accounts to be displayed.
- iii. Purchase of defibrillator battery – the PC agreed to ratify the decision made by 2 Councillors prior to the meeting, to purchase a new defibrillator battery.

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

- i. Cllr. Wellman advised that a resident had contacted him regarding Green Lane 24 where a motorcycle club had displayed a notice regarding the use of the Green Lane for their motorbike event. Concern was expressed over the impact to the path surface and to other users. *The Clerk will contact ESCC regarding this matter.* **Clerk**

DW confirmed that work had been undertaken to the drains on Main Road opposite the junction with Tinkers Lane.

- ii. Cllr. Lunn advised that he had been contacted by a member of the public regarding the diesel train at Tinkers Park. It was agreed for the *Clerk to write to the trustees.* **Clerk**

- iii. Cllr Richards gave a report on behalf of Cllr Michaelson-Yeates who advised that at the meeting with the Chairs of some of the village groups, the roles and responsibilities between the PC and the Playing Field committee would need to be reviewed. It was agreed for SR and JMY to meet before this and circulate recommendations to the PC, prior to the liaison meeting with the Chairs. JMY reported that the insurance for the bonfire night was already in place and that the risk assessments that were produced in 2016 would be used in 2017.

153. CELEBRATE:

- i & ii. Grant for opening of football pitch and update on finances – Cllr. Bonnicks confirmed that the end date for the Festival was 24th October 2017. The National Lottery have confirmed that any funds remaining from the grant can be spent on play equipment such as the replacement slide.

The Playing Field committee have asked if the money that was granted to them for the cancelled football pitch opening could be used for flags and the end of Festival party, this was agreed by all. The report on the Festival should be available for the October PC meeting.

154. PLAY AREA AND PLAYING FIELD:

- i. Public Space Protection Orders – WDC have confirmed that their current Fouling of Land by Dogs Order 2013 is still in force and covers land owned by the PC. WDC will be consulting over the introduction of Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) relating to dog fouling and the clearing of faeces and if this is agreed the PSPO will replace the Fouling of Land by Dogs Order, although the offences and penalties will remain the same. WDC officers will visit the playing field to upgrade and replace signage and will talk to any dog owners on site at that time. The Chair advised that she had been informed that the number of incidents of dog faeces not being picked up had reduced. *The Clerk will find out when it is expected that PSPOS will be in place.* **Clerk**
- ii. Playing Field Lease – the Clerk confirmed that the Deed of Covenant had been signed by the Playing Field Association and has been returned to the Solicitors.

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

- iii. On behalf of JMY the chair advised that he is currently looking into the cost of materials to mend the closed tunnel. 2 villagers have volunteered to do the work.

155. COUNCILLORS ROLES – the Chair proposed and it was agreed for DW to take over responsibility for Highways and Rights of Way. HB will take over burial ground responsibilities, SR and DW will attend the SLR meetings and IT will take over responsibility for police and Neighbourhood Watch. A discussion was held on the fir tree in the cremated remains area of the burial ground, it had needed to be cut down as it was dying. It was agreed to leave the stump due to its position.

156. HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY MATTERS:

- ii. Fingerpost survey – DW presented his survey of the state of the fingerposts, it was agreed for the Clerk to get quotes for the work that would need to be undertaken in the Spring. **Clerk**

157. NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE – The Clerk confirmed that a further grant of £26120 had been obtained by the committee from the Community Buildings Project Support Grant. It was confirmed that Buxted PC have put in a planning application regarding their Reading Room (WD/2017/1401/O). The PC confirmed that the village would be consulted regarding the future of the Hadlow Down Village Hall.

158. ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE – the Clerk confirmed that the New Inn had been registered by WDC as an Asset of Community Value.

159. CLERK'S MATTERS:

- i. The Clerk's hours were agreed and signed, including her hour for Parish Projects
- ii. Clerks review – it was agreed that the review would be undertaken in October by the Chair and JMY.
- iii. Agenda items for September meetings – a discussion was held on the agenda items for the meeting with the Village Hall committee and for the meeting with the Chairs of the Playing Field, Community Centre and Village Hall committees.

160. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- i. Correspondence regarding traffic on A272 approaching A267 junction – discussed at item 156i.
- ii. Wealden Police Surgeries – the Clerk advised of further dates for surgeries. A Councillor advised that he previously attended a surgery and the information that had been promised had not been received, *the Clerk will respond requesting the information.* **Clerk**

164. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA:

- i. Circular walk leaflet.
- ii. Website

Cllr. Lunn left the meeting at 8:29pm

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

- i. Helen Johnson. Salary £842.42 includes £9 mileage and £4.54 expenses, £750 already paid by standing order, therefore cheque raised for £92.42.
- ii. East Sussex Pension Fund £245.47 pension.
- lii & ix. Europlants Ltd £275.12 maintenance of burial ground.
- iv. The Crowborough Rotherfield Art Group £200.00 for hire of screens, to be taken from Celebrate grant.
- v. PKF Littlejohn LLP £360.00 external audit.
- vi. East Sussex County Scout Council £57.40 flyers and posters, to be taken from Celebrate grant. The payee details were changed from those shown on the agenda.
- vii. BT £16.40 telephone and broadband, already paid by direct debit.
- viii. Getmapping Plc £33.60 Parish Online annual subscription.
- x. WEL Medical Ltd £167.94 defibrillator battery

A further payment for Jason Pooley for £545 for the gating and fencing on footpath 27c was signed and will be ratified at the next meeting. *The Clerk will contact Bob Lake regarding the padlock on the*

gate.

Clerk

162. TRAINING AND CONFERENCES:

- i. General Data Protection Regulation Compliance Training – it was agreed that the Clerk could attend once further dates are available.

163. DEFIBRILLATOR BATTERY – the Clerk confirmed that she had checked the defibrillator prior to the meeting and that she was awaiting the delivery of a new battery.

The meeting closed at 8:40pm