



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

**Held in Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down**

**Tuesday 5th October 2010 at 7.00 pm**

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

Present: Councillors Paul James (Chairman), David Walker, Graham Terry, Lisa Scott, Lucy McConachie and Tony Reid (ESCC). Also in attendance was the Clerk Helen Simpson-Wells. Apologies were received from Cllrs. Norman Buck and Ken Ogden (WDC).

**206. PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – A member of the public advised that the Green Lane from the Main Road to Dog Kennel Lane will be having re-surfacing work undertaken within the next 4-5 months. ESCC are also proposing to impose a permanent seasonal traffic regulation order on this byway between 1<sup>st</sup> October and 31<sup>st</sup> March each year.

**207. PCSO KATIE BREEDS** – Katie attended with PCSO Mark Carter who is replacing Katie. They confirmed that at the recent meeting with the Chief Inspector it was confirmed that the 9 PCSOs in the area would be reduced to 6. 1 crime in the last period – a break-in at stables in Brick Kiln Lane.

**208. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE** – received from Cllr Michael Lunn.

**209. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – none received.

**210. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** held on 13<sup>th</sup> September and the preliminary budget meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September were agreed and signed as true records (previously circulated).

**211. MATTERS ARISING (from prev. mtgs):**

i. WDC have visited the land to the south of the Village Hall and are happy with the work being undertaken there.

ii. Fence adjacent to play area – no longer a problem

iii. Land Registry pack – c/f.

PJ

iv. Article will appear in the November edition of the Parish Magazine regarding future elections

v. LS confirmed that the present village hall committee weren't anticipating any further expenditure in 2011-12 however, they would like the Parish Council (PC) to precept £1000 for emergency work. If it is decided that the hall should stay and a new one not be built, they will be looking at the possibility of purchasing some land to the north of the hall.

vi. Clerks Report: sent to Councillors with the agenda updating them on the work she has undertaken over the last month. It was agreed that GT *would write to ESCC regarding the work in Stonehurst Lane, TR also agreed to speak to them.*

GT

Highways are due to jet the drains at the new entrance to Five Chimneys Farm. Still a problem with surface water on the A272 near Little England Farm, Highways also due to jet there.

212.

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

**WD/2010/1922/LB – HASTINGFORD HOUSE, HASTINGFORD LANE, TN22 4DY** – Proposed repairs to barn – The Parish Council support this application DW left the meeting

**213. REPORT FROM CLLR. TONY REID, ESCC** – TR updated the PC on ESCC budgets and priorities.

Waiting to hear from the government as to what their revenue will be. Also raised about the cancelled plans for the new surgery at Buxted. DW rejoined the meeting

**212. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

**WD/2010/2125/F – 14 STANDEN MEWS, TN22 4HG** – Proposed single storey rear conservatory – The PC fully support this application.

**WD/2010/1295/LB – COLES HALL, HEATHFIELD ROAD, FIVE ASHES TN20 6JJ** – Removal of existing crittall window and installation of double glazed leaded French doors – The PC support this application.

**GRANTED PLANNING PERMISSION:**

**WD/2010/1769/F – QUINCES, WILDERNESS LANE, TN22 4HT** – Addition of a conservatory

**214. BANK RECONCILIATION:** – dated 27<sup>th</sup> September 2010 agreed and signed.

**215. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS** –

i. Payment of £16.82 was ratified, to replace missing cheque that has been cancelled, that was payable to Cllr Graham Terry for expenditure on the installation of the sign at the Playing Field.

ii. CRB checks will need to be done through ESCC. Some interest has been shown in the youth group but no-one is offering to regularly help or run the youth group. *LS to do follow-up article for the Parish Magazine* LS

iii. Final credit of £725 has been received for the Pathfinder Grant

**216. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT** - The following were agreed by all and cheques raised:

i. Helen Simpson-Wells. Salary £642.75 includes £48.00 for mileage, £12.83 expenses, £10.84 training hours, £520 already paid by standing order, therefore cheque raised for £122.75.

ii. Mazars £334.88 for external audit

iii. Dave Potter Inspections £655.00 for design consultations and post installation inspection to be taken from Pathfinder grant

iv. HM Revenue and Customs £806.60

217. **PLAY AREA** – It was agreed that Jason Pooley would be employed for 2 hours per fortnight on upkeep and maintenance of the area until the end of the financial year. At this time the work would then go out to tender.

The state of the kerbing to the east of Wheelers Lane was raised with TR and that it was illogical not to do it at the same time as the work on this section of the A272 next year. TR will raise with ESCC Highways.

218. **RISK ASSESSMENT** – PJ offered to do the risk assessments PJ

LS and LM are due to visit the play area and do a risk assessment LM/LS

The Clerk updated the PC on what RoSPA charges for an annual inspection and the cost with a risk assessment, it was felt to be a good idea to also have the risk assessment. The Clerk is also waiting to hear whether WDC do inspections.

219. **REPORT ON THE OAK TREE AT THE PLAYING FIELD** – The Clerk has inspected the deeds and there is nothing in there regarding who is responsible for the tree. The Chair proposed that 3 quotes be obtained to reduce the tree by 30%, this was agreed, Clerk to organise. Clerk

The hedge that had been removed has still not been replanted. Clerk to contact WDC. Clerk

220. **UNCONSECRATED PART OF BURIAL GROUND** – a discussion was held regarding what could be done with this piece of land, it was decided that the Clerk would look into whether it could be used for allotments, although with the proviso that it would need to be turned back into an extension of the burial ground once the present one is full. Clerk

222. **WINTERFEST** – GT advised that it will be a smaller bonfire this year as it can't be too close to the roadway or play area. He will ensure that there is a marshal to direct people once they have put their torches on the bonfire. The play area will be shut off. The owners of gates onto the playing field will be informed that they will need to be locked for the event.

223. **WEBSITE** – The Clerk has spoken with Gwyn Carwardine who has agreed to create a website for the Parish Council. The majority of the PC agreed for GC to set up the website. The only charge should be for the domain name which will be about £10 per annum. Clerk to liaise with Chair regarding PC's requirements for a website Clerk/PJ

It was raised that the meeting for the precept wasn't advertised, however as notices appeared on the boards and the date for the precept meeting was shown at the bottom of the previous meetings minutes it was legal and above board.

The Clerk has diarised to ensure that next year a notice appears in the Parish Magazine.

A Councillor was contacted by a villager complaining about the adverse comments on the village website relating to Tinkers Park, this has created a bad image of the village for potential homebuyers.

224. **NEW VILLAGE HALL** – GT encouraged people to attend the showing of the school film on 15<sup>th</sup> October together with the designs for the new community hall.

225. **VILLAGE ACTION PLAN** – ML has advised the Clerk that this will be completed next year as he is still awaiting information from other people. It has been suggested by the Clerk that some of the chasing up be delegated out to help speed up the process.

226. **LOCAL DEMOCRACY WEEK** – 11<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October, Clerk to contact organisers of film and community hall designs evening to see if the PC can have a table to encourage people to become involved in the PC. LM and PJ offered to help on the evening. Clerk

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

Neighbourhood Watch, Old Village Hall, Emergency Planning and Youth – Cllr. Lisa Scott – LS raised that there is still no chair for the Emergency Planning Committee. She will put an article in the Parish Magazine.

LS Tree Warden, Rights of Way, Highways and Footpaths – Cllr. David Walker – nothing to report

Burial Ground – Cllr. Paul James – nothing to report

New Village Hall Working Party and Playing Field Committee – Cllr. Graham Terry – GT raised the concern that the gate at the playing field is being locked. It was proposed that the gate be moved up to the oak tree this would help alleviate the problem where people are driving onto the field, also considered having a moveable bar to stop high vehicles going in. GT advised that there is also a problem exiting the site and proposed that the hedge be cut back and that planting be undertaken inside the fence. GT to obtain quotes. GT

It was agreed that the PC should show their support for a new surgery in Buxted. Clerk to write to Charles Hendry regarding the decision not to have a new surgery, to also write to Buxted PC offering our support. Clerk

GT to create a pro-forma letter that can be put on the website and used by villagers objecting to the decision not to open a new surgery. GT

Neighbourhood Watch and Wealdlink – Cllr. Lucy McConachie – nothing to report

228. **CLERK'S MATTERS:**

- i. Hours checked agreed and signed.  
ii. Laptop – DW advised that he has looked at the Clerks laptop and has identified that it is very old and far too slow. He updated the PC on the costs involved in purchasing a new one. Clerk to contact WDC regarding procurement cost for a laptop and to then liaise with DW. Clerk

229. **TRAINING AND CONFERENCES:**

- i. ESFRS special meeting of the fire authority in October – no-one to attend  
ii. Wealden CAB AGM and annual report – no-one to attend

230. **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR DISTRIBUTION**

- i. SALC annual report and accounts  
ii. Exploring East Sussex  
iii. English Rural Housing Association bulletin  
iv. Waste and Minerals Core Strategy – analysis of comments  
v. SALC Autumn bulletin  
vi. NALC ebulletin  
vii. South Downs National Park newsletter

Meeting closed 9:10 pm  
THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
WILL BE A PRECEPT MEETING  
on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at 7pm.