



MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Hadlow Down Parish Council
held in the Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down
at 7pm on Tuesday 8th September 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 Roy Galley (RG) (ESCC). The Clerk Helen Simpson-Wells was in attendance.

- 149. PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – Janet Tourell chair of the Village Hall Committee confirmed that the heaters had been installed in the committee room. She highlighted that canes had been dumped by the Village Hall, *JMY will arrange to remove.* **JMY**
- 150. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE** – apologies received from Councillor Graham Terry (GT) these were accepted.
- 151. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – none declared.
- 152. CRIME REPORT** – none received. A Councillor highlighted that dogs had got out of a garden and had attacked a member of the public, this hadn't been reported by the PCSO. *The Clerk will write to the PCSO requesting reports in future and questioning why the Parish Council (PC) haven't received one recently.* **Clerk**
- 153. MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on 10th August 2015 were agreed and signed as a true record.
- 154. MATTERS ARISING (from previous meetings):**
- i. Parking on the pavement – the Clerk confirmed that GT had spoken to the landlord who understood the problems with exiting Hut Lane and was aware that the pub forecourt extends into what appears to be the pavement.
 - ii. Dead tree – SR confirmed that she has spoken to the landowner and he will arrange for the tree to be cut.
 - iii. Installation of the defibrillator cabinet – the Clerk confirmed that the defibrillator is due to be delivered in approximately 2 weeks time and the South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECAMB) contact has confirmed that once it is received he will install it, if this isn't possible DW confirmed that he would install it.
 - iv. Article regarding East Sussex Fire and Rescue Health and Wellbeing Service was put in the Parish Magazine.
 - v. Article regarding University of the Third Age will appear in the next Parish Magazine.
 - vi. The Clerks Report was sent to Councillors with the agenda updating them on her action points, this included:
 - a. Highways will be installing an apron around the gully on the A272 opposite Tinkers Lane. They carried out further drainage works in School Lane and will be returning to carry out more work including the cutting of roots. They have confirmed that they will send a quote for a new village hall sign. They have a timeframe of up to 1 yr to reset a sign and therefore have until 2/2016 to reset the give way sign in Five Chimneys Lane. They have inspected the gully covers on the A272 east of Tinkers Lane and near Five Chimneys Cottage and have advised that they don't require immediate repair, however they will continue to monitor them and if they deteriorate to the extent that they become a safety issue they will ensure works are carried out. They inspected the gully cover near Hadlow House and installed dampeners to stop the rattling, the Clerk has advised them that it is still rattling and it has therefore been referred back to the steward. Potholes in Five Chimneys Lane are due to be repaired and the steward has inspected the repaired pothole in Stockland Lane and feels it is safe and not failing. *JMY agreed to check the Stockland Lane pothole.* **JMY**

- b. SECAMB have agreed to undertake training on the defibrillator, the Clerk is trying to organize a date for this with them.
- c. The Clerk sent details of the items highlighted on the quarterly risk assessment to the Chair of the Playing Field Committee who has confirmed the action taken by the work parties.

155. PLANNING:

a. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

WD/2015/1736/LB – STOCKLAND OAST, STOCKLAND LANE TN22 4EA – Addition of a new high level window in the annexe – The Parish Council support the application (4/0).

b. APPROVED APPLICATIONS:

WD/2015/1422/F – The Corner Cottage, Wilderness Lane – Dismantle existing summerhouse and replace with larger summerhouse.

c. PLANNING MATTERS:

Five Badgers, Stonehurst Lane – the Clerk updated the meeting on further developments at the site and on correspondence she had received from WDC. Members of the public were allowed by the Chair to comment on this agenda item and a discussion was held. A Councillor advised that at the recent Wealden Parish Planning Panel meeting the Head of Planning had offered to attend PC meetings and it was suggested that the PC invite him to a future meeting, to be discussed further.

156. REPORT FROM CLLR. ROY GALLEY, ESCC: RG advised that following his tour of Hadlow Down with the Chair he received confirmation from the Head of Highways that the manholes east of Tinkers Lane had been repositioned, the Clerk confirmed that one is still rattling. He also advised that the 2 potholes in Five Chimneys Lane had been filled in, the PC confirmed that these had been actioned however there were various other ones that needed sorting. RG advised that Stockland Lane and Brick Kiln Lane have been inspected by Highways and there is some areas of unevenness however they do not require their immediate attention. Five Chimneys Lane is being considered for further capital works in 2016/17. Highways wrote to RG as the wildflower verge at Riverside had been accidentally cut. This area included a population of the Spiked Rampion. The majority of the cut missed the most important areas for the plant so they are hopeful that the population will recover. Highways have been working with the County Ecologist to ensure it doesn't happen again and will be looking to make the wildflower markers more visible at this site.

RG advised that the Uckfield Town Centre Regeneration project is being considered by the ESCC lead member on Monday.

157. BANK RECONCILIATION: –for August 2015 was agreed and signed.

158. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS :

- i. Financial calendar had been copied to Councillors prior to the meeting, no questions were raised.
- ii. Tax reclaim payment – the Clerk confirmed that a payment of £1270.56 had been received.

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

- i. Cllr. Nathan James advised that a definitive answer is required as to whether fencing is required around the play area. It has been suggested that cars park next to the fence on the south side of the play area. To be discussed at the Parish Council's liaison meeting with the chairs of the Playing Field, Community Centre and Village Hall committees.

NJ highlighted that the directional sign east of Pippins nursery was missing, *the Clerk will investigate.*

Clerk

- ii. Cllr. Damon Wellman advised that the give way sign in Tinkers Lane is still laying on the ground. At the Wealden Parish Planning Panel meeting they were advised that the Issues & Options, which includes the number of houses required, will be announced to members on 17th September. WDC are challenging the granting at appeal of planning permission for the Steel Cross development. WDC have come up with a solution to the restrictions, due to sewerage capacity, on development in the south of the district, this should take place in 2022. WDC will be undertaking planning training JMY, DW and SR were interested in attending, the Clerk will send details to all Councillors once it is received.
- iii. Cllr. Julian Michaelson-Yeates advised that he had attended the planning enquiry for Gatehouse Farm, the outcome should be known in 6-8 weeks' time.
- iv. The Chair advised that she had received a letter from a resident in Dog Kennel Lane regarding his concerns over drainage. She confirmed that the Clerk had previously sent to the resident Highways' response to items when they were previously raised. At the SLR (Strengthening Local Relationships) meeting the Chair will request that a meeting be held between herself, the resident and ESCC.

Cllr. Michael Lunn (ML) joined the meeting at 7:40pm

- v. Cllr. Nathan James confirmed that the Playing Field Committee had dealt with the items raised in the RoSPA play area inspection report and that the drainage work at the playing field had commenced.

- 156. REPORT FROM CLLR. MICHAEL LUNN, WDC** – ML confirmed that WDC have commenced enforcement proceedings for Five Badgers.
- 160 & 161. NEW COMMUNITY CENTRE & NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA** – It was confirmed that Hadlow Down Community Centre committee (HDCC) had received a grant of £9,000 to cover the cost of a pre-feasibility study, the consultant had met with HDCC and if the study is passed the committee could apply for a £40,000 grant which would cover the pre-planning work. To obtain the second grant a Neighbourhood Plan would need to be produced or alternatively the PC would need to apply for a Neighbourhood Area and then HDCC would apply for a Community Right to Build Order. HDCC have a meeting in October when they will decide which option to take. If it is decided to apply for a Neighbourhood Area for the whole parish the PC would need to have a meeting with WDC beforehand advising that they are applying for the Neighbourhood Area as it then allows them to apply for grants. *SR confirmed that she will undertake further investigation into Neighbourhood Areas.* **SR**
It was confirmed that the community would need to be consulted regarding the Neighbourhood Area and the Community Right to Build. For the Neighbourhood Area it was agreed that an article would appear on the village website and in the Parish Magazine and people would be invited to attend a PC meeting where a presentation would be made.
- 162. HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY** – the survey was agreed. *The Clerk will arrange to get 400 copies printed. Clerk The Chair will arrange for a letter to accompany the survey which will request that responses are posted or emailed to the Clerk, or if they contacted her she will arrange for a Councillor to pick up their response.* **SR**
- 163. HIGHWAYS :**
- i. Fingerpost survey report - NJ updated the meeting on the results of the survey and it was agreed for the Clerk to get quotes from the contractor for 3 of the fingerposts. **Clerk**
 - ii. Highways issues – the Clerk had provided the Chair with the outstanding Highways issues. The main priorities were considered to be: installing an apron at the gully on the A272 opposite Tinkers Lane; clearing of School Lane gully, resurfacing School Lane; resetting of give way signs on Five Chimneys Lane at the junction with Curtains Hill and at the top of Tinkers Lane; resurfacing of Rosers Common and Pound Green Lane.
The Chair will request the dates for gully clearing at the SLR meeting. **Chair**
Concern was expressed that the gully near Five Chimneys Cottage did need work done to it, *DW will photograph it and people were encouraged to report it on FixmyStreet.* **DW**
 - iii. Speeding vehicles and purchase of LED sign – it was confirmed that the police had recently undertaken 2 speed checks in Hadlow Down, the Clerk will contact the PCSO for an update on the results of these. **Clerk**
A contractor had been invited to do a presentation and quote for the Parish Council. Highways have advised the contractor that Kiers have the exclusive contract. *The Chair will raise at the SLR meeting that the PC wish to purchase an LED sign and will request what the criteria is.* **Chair**
 - iv. SLR meeting to discuss items for the agenda – Councillors expressed concern that the A272 isn't wide enough by The Toll for 2 large lorries to pass each other. The agenda items were agreed.
 - v. Correspondence regarding verge cutting at Riverside – discussed at item 156.
- 164. ENTRANCE TO PLAYING FIELD:**
- i. To update on purchase – it was confirmed that the transfer of the land had been completed and it is in the process of being registered with the Land Registry. *The Clerk confirmed that the closed session minutes will be added to the website.* **Clerk**
 - ii. Meeting regarding the boundary – concern was expressed over the boundaries for the land purchased, a trustee, 2 representatives of the PC and the tenant of the land to the south of the play area are due to meet and walk the boundary. The Clerk proposed that the land be measured.
 - iii. Youth shelter – it was agreed for NJ to get a new quote, to be installed in 2016/17. **NJ**
 - iv. Use of land – a Councillor asked whether the village should be asked what they want to use the land for, this wasn't felt necessary as the use hadn't changed, although they may be asked in the future if the Community Centre is built on the site.
- 165. DIGNITY AT WORK POLICY** – signed by all Councillors present, the Clerk will arrange for GT to sign. **Clerk**
- 166. CO-OPTION** – the Clerk advised that she had received no response to the advert for co-option. A Councillor updated the meeting on possible candidates.
- 167. PROTECTION OF ASSETS FROM UNAUTHORISED USERS** – it was highlighted that there had been incidents of unauthorized use of local green spaces and the Clerk had informed the Chair of the Playing Field Committee of these. *It was agreed that the Clerk contact ESCC for guidance.* **Clerk**
- 168. CLERK'S MATTERS:**
- i. The Clerks hours were agreed and signed
 - ii. The Clerk advised that she had resigned from Arlington PC which would mean that the Hadlow Down

PC staff costs would go up as they would be paying for her training and there wouldn't be any shared costs. She advised that the printer needed to be replaced, this was agreed by the PC.

- iii. Liaison meeting with chairs of committees – agenda items were agreed.
- iv. East Sussex ALC Ltd – no-one was available to attend.

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

- i. Helen Simpson-Wells. Salary £756.07 includes £9 mileage, £620 already paid by standing order, therefore cheque raised for £136.07.
- ii. Getmapping Plc £33.60 Parish Online subscription.
- iii. Sandra Richards £25 gift for retired Councillor
- iv. Wellers Law Group LLP £883.20 legal advice.

A further payment for £700 for G.S. Osborne for grass cutting at the playing field was signed and will be ratified at the next meeting. The Clerk confirmed that the legal costs for the purchase of the land at the entrance to the playing field had gone over the amount that had been precepted, it was felt that this was to be expected due to the increased work involved, she will review the figures for the Finance and Precept meeting.

170. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- i. Healthwatch survey – the PC were updated.
- ii. Community Wardens and options for other services from the police – correspondence had been sent to Councillors prior to the meeting. JMY agreed to attend the briefing session. To be discussed further at the next meeting.
- iii. Bonfire Night – the Clerk had received an email from the Chair of the Playing Field committee confirming that they will have better lighting at the road closure points, that they will put out a request for marshalls and that they will be collecting wood from 1st October. *NJ will request a copy of the risk assessment.*

NJ

171. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA: nothing raised.

The meeting closed at 9:10pm