



MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Hadlow Down Parish Council
held in Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down
at 1pm on Tuesday 11th February 2019.

Present: Councillors Sandra Richards (Chair), Rachel Lewis and Michael Lunn. The Clerk Helen Johnson was in attendance.

Bob Lake attending as representative of the Hadlow Down Community Centre Committee and the Hadlow Down Playing Field Committee. Janet Tourell as representative for the Village Hall Committee and Sarah Prall and Lally Drake as representatives of the Village Fayre Committee.

Nigel Harrison Chair of the Playing Field Committee had sent his apologies.

288. PUBLIC QUESTIONS – none raised.

289. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE – apologies had been received from Cllrs Michaelson-Yeates, Turner and Wellman. These were noted.

290. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Cllr Lunn declared a personal interest in agenda items 292 and 293.

The Chair of the Parish Council opened up agenda items 291 – 299 to the chairs or representatives of the Playing Field, Community Centre, Village Fayre and Village Hall Committees to be involved in the discussions.

291. VILLAGE HALL – Janet Tourell advised that the Committee will have a new Chair, secretary and treasurer and that 1 of the current trustees will be staying on the committee. They have met with a member of the public to see if he can deal with the day to day matters at the hall such as meeting tradesmen, tidying up etc. The Chair commented that Mrs Tourell's contribution to the success of the Village Hall has been exceptional and she was thanked for all that she had done. Mrs Tourell highlighted the contribution of others.

There are Village Hall items that are currently stored by Mrs Tourell that need storing elsewhere and there will be a lack of trustees for the charity.

It was agreed that another liaison meeting should be held in a few months' time so that the new committee could be involved.

Mrs Tourell confirmed that a future major project should be the emergency doors and sorting out the charitable status.

292. PLAYING FIELD – Bob Lake presented a report on behalf of Nigel Harrison, the Chair of the Playing Field Committee. He explained about the use of the football pitch. Questions were asked about the income from the football and cricket pitches and how the Sport England grant would be affected if a football team aren't using the pitch. Mr Lake confirmed that Sport England would need to be advised but he couldn't see this being a problem, they would also probably work with them to produce a development plan. They are due to meet with a local contractor to consider recommendations for work. The remedial work for the cricket outfield will cost £12,000 over 2 years with a predicted income of £3,000 pa. The shortfall will need to be made up from fundraising. A discussion was held on the involvement with the school at the playing field both now and in the future. It was suggested that there be a path that runs from the school direct to the playing field.

Mr Lake confirmed that they were in the processing of preparing a business plan which should be completed by the end of May 2019.

The Committee have received a request from the Village Fayre Committee to consider the siting of a metal storage container on the ball pit area.

Mr Lake confirmed that any deficit for the cricket outfield work will be paid from a grant from a charitable trust.

The Chair expressed the Parish Council's appreciation for the work undertaken by the Committee and was concerned about the repair deficit and the number of people on the committee. Mr Lake advised that the Trustees were upset by comments made by a Councillor at a Parish Council meeting which they refuted. The Chair confirmed that the Councillor had apologized for his comments.

The Chair of the Committee has apologized to the Parish Council for the committee's delay in submitting their grant application.

- 293. COMMUNITY CENTRE PROJECT** – Bob Lake confirmed that the planning application is now live and the deadline for responses to WDC is 15th March. They are putting together a leaflet which will be hand delivered to all residents. Cllr Lunn (WDC) gave advice on action to support the application and will try and get the application in for the April meeting of WDC Planning Committee North. The Chair highlighted that the PC need to be advised of any future grants where the grantor is requesting a charge on the land. She confirmed that the Parish Council have decided not to have a meeting for the application as it is in their name and there have been public meetings regarding it. The Chair thanked the committee for their work.
- 294. VILLAGE FAYRE** – Sarah Prall and Lally Drake advised that they are planning to step down as Co-Chairmen of the Committee once replacements have been found. The Fayre will be held on June 22nd at the Playing Field and will have the theme of Peace Day 100. They would like to get the school more involved. They are looking at getting a grant for the storage container at the playing field and also a grant for new marquees. They confirmed that they receive income from the equipment they hire out. Janet Tourell reminded them to book the hire of the tables from the Village Hall. Mrs Prall confirmed that she had received positive feedback regarding the village website. The Chair thanked Sarah and Lally for all their work.
- 295. PARISH COUNCIL** – Cllr Sandra Richards advised that the 2 picnic tables had been installed. A new lease had been received for the play area which has been agreed by the Parish Council. Numerous complaints have been received from residents regarding dangerous parking and speeding, Cllr Richards gave details on the action taken by the Parish Council and requested that any issues are reported to Operation Crackdown. A member of the public raised about parking on School Lane opposite the junction with Waghorns Lane which makes it dangerous for other road users. It was confirmed that it is illegal for anyone to park within 10 metres of a junction.
- 299. VOLUNTEERING WITHIN THE VILLAGE** – the Chair advised that the Parish Council had put an article in the Parish Magazine regarding elections and had received a response from a member of the public. It was felt that it was more successful to get volunteers by approaching people direct. Suggestions were made to also put articles on Facebook, to have one person collating volunteer vacancies and proactively pushing for people to volunteer and Welcome pack for new residents. Cllr Lunn gave information on what could happen to the Parish Council if it didn't obtain enough Councillors at the election and became inquorate. Lally Drake left the meeting at 2:15pm.
- 296. PURCHASE OF PLAY EQUIPMENT** – the Parish Council have been awarded a grant of £10,000 and will receive £1,000 - £4,000 from the Tesco's Bags of Help Scheme. The money will be used to purchase play equipment that has been chosen by children from St Mark's School. When the full grant total is known a meeting will be organized between the Playing Field Committee, the Parish Council, a resident who has offered to assist and the Contractor. Bob Lake advised that the Playing Field Committee would not like the equipment to go beyond the bund.
- 297. ICY CONDITIONS AT THE VILLAGE HALL** – concern had been expressed by the TN22 Plus club regarding icy conditions around the village hall. Janet Tourell confirmed that there was still grit and salt in the cleaners cupboard which could be spread by users.
- 298. COMMUNITY PAYBACK TEAM** – the Chair updated the meeting on a presentation she and the Clerk had attended that was given by a representative of the Community Payback Team (CPT). The Parish Council felt that the CPT could clear back the verges on the pavements in School Lane and Main Road, improve a bridleway and following the suggestion earlier in the meeting could look at a pathway from the school to the playing field. The Parish Council are looking at obtaining a grant to purchase equipment that would be used for the CPT. It was suggested that the Playing Field Committee may be able to use the CPT and that they might be able to help with the putting up and taking down of the marquees for the Village Fayre.

The meeting closed at 2:35pm