



**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Hadlow Down Parish Council
held in Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down
at 7pm on Tuesday 6th August 2019.**

Present: Councillors Sandra Richards (SR) Chair, Julian Michaelson-Yeates (JMY), Peter Weston (PW), Ben Floyd (BF), Rachel Lewis (RL), Sally Blyfield (SB)

Clerk: None

At the start of the meeting, SR explained that the Clerk had resigned with immediate effect on 1st August and that the meeting would be run without a Clerk. The PC were actively looking at recruiting a new Clerk.

117. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

A member of the public asked if the Parish Council (PC) had received correspondence they recently sent to the enforcement team regarding the development that is occurring at the Land Adjoining Old Cart Lodge as well as the erection of field shelters and the erection of a gated entrance off a field in Brick Kiln Lane and it was confirmed that the PC had received it.

A member of the public connected with the field in Brick Kiln Lane explained that the field shelters are fully mobile and on skids. The gated access replaces a 'Taranaki Gate' entrance that had previously been discussed with the Highways.

A member of the public raised the new access way into the field opposite The Toll. This was followed up and passed to Cllr Stanley (present) to chase. They also thanked the Village Fayre Committee for their superb organization of the event and the PC endorsed this.

118. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE – Received from Cllr Michael Lunn.

119. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – None declared.

120. MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on 2nd July 2019 were agreed and signed as a true record (previously circulated).

121. MATTERS ARISING (from previous meetings):

- i. Wilderness Lane: (Note: there was an error on the agenda, as should have been Wilderness Lane not Wilderness Wood.) PW has chased Highways and they have now patched it.
- ii. Kissing gate at the Church - A temporary repair has been carried out and made safe but further work will be required.
- iii. Enforcement notice at Little England Farm – Wealden claim that they do not have the topography survey before the building up of the levels pre the enforcement. They are unable to confirm if the site has been returned to pre-enforcement condition. SR pointed out that Wealden had visited the site at an early stage and also that the PC were still waiting for a written explanation about why it had taken so long to act on the numerous reports that had been made.
- iv. To amend Asset Register with location of litter picking equipment. c/f **PD**
- v. Signs obscured - JMY to cut the branches back from the signs generally in the village. **SR/ Clerk**
- vi. Letter of thanks to HDCC – had been done. **JMY**
- vii. To review the contract with Europlants about extent of maintenance. c/f **SR/ Clerk**
- viii. Playing Field Committee updated about play area – BF has done this.

122. PLANNING

i. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

- a. WD/2019/1602/F – Canters End, Main Road, Hadlow Down, TN22 4HP** - Pair of twin bay garage buildings for domestic use. The Parish Council are in approved this application (6/0). The pair of twin garages allow the appearance of the building line to be broken up running along the hedge line with Hut Lane (6/0).
- b. WD/2019/1453/F – Lynx House Barn, School Lane, Hadlow Down, TN22 4JE** - Amendment to planning approval WD/2016/2925/F to rebuild and extend barn instead of convert and extend. - The Parish Council object to this application (6/0) although they recognise that this application is identical to the approved scheme. The Council's previous comments relating to the approved scheme being inappropriate in terms of scale, location and design for the High Weald AONB still stand.
- c. WD/2019/1005/F – Tree Tops, Wilderness Lane, Hadlow Down, TN22 4HU** - Remodeling of an existing car port outbuilding to include an annexe. The Parish Council approve the application for use as a gym (3/2/1).
- d. WD/2019/0800/FA–BluebellFarm, Burnt House Farm Barns, Brick Kiln Lane, Hadlow Down** - Variation of conditions 3,4,5,6,7 and 10 of WD/2017/2597/F (Demolition of existing buildings and erection of three detached dwellings with associated vehicle access, parking and soft landscaping) in order to allow the plots to be constructed at different times. The PC objected to this variation (0/1/6) due to the fact that the PC considers that retaining the original access to Plot 3 represents a material change that would have caused the scheme not to have been approved under Wealden's Flexible Approach in the first place. The application for Plots 1, 2 & 3 relied on the traffic data for Plots 1 & 2 only which was sufficient to cover all three new buildings.

ii. ENFORCEMENT MATTERS:

a. Update: Little England Farm, Main Road, Hadlow Down – discussed earlier

123. REPORTS FROM CLLR BOB STANDLEY, ESCC&CLLR PHIL DIXON,WDC

i. Cllr Standley reported that ESCC had recently released a new report State of the County which had a lot of useful and interesting statistics about the county. Cllr Standley also reported on the fact that the Government had indicated that they would be levelling up the education funding across the country. Theoretically this meant a minimum of £4K for every primary school child and £5K for every secondary school child but still needed to see how this was going to work in practice. A member of the public had written about the increased traffic from Coppards and Parker lorries and Cllr Standley suggested that the first approach should be from the PC.

Clerk

SR explained that a member of the public had raised again about dangerous parking at the top of Wilderness Lane as a car had been parked on the right side of the lane as well as 4 cars on the left side. Cllr Standley asked for a copy of the photograph and he would look into it.

SR

SR requested an update on the PSPO for parking that had been raised by former Councillor Wellman

Cllr Standley

ii. **Cllr Dixon reported that Wealden had recently declared a State of Climate Emergency** It is aiming to achieve net-zero carbon dioxide emissions by the Council and across the District by 2050. He also reported that the examination of the Local Plan had gone ahead and they were expecting the report within a few weeks about whether it was capable of being made sound. Finally, he reported that the new contractor had taken over the waste recycling and, so far, very little disruption had been caused.

SR/Clerk

124. BANK RECONCILIATION:– c/f

125. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS:

i. The PC agreed to ratify payments of ££1,483.38 to Sovereign for deposit for new play equipment and July staff salary payment of £768.41 that were both paid prior to the meeting.

126. TO CONSIDER HANDLING BANK ACCOUNTS ONLINE - C/F

127. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS (COUNCIL MATTERS AND OUTSIDE BODIES)

i. SB reported that the Village Hall Committee were getting quotes for upgrading the electricity, heaters and getting flame-retardant curtains.

ii PW reported that he was still chasing the contractors at Marlowe House to clear the spill on the footpath between Springwell Cottage and Grange Cottages. A member of the public had very kindly strimmed the footpath to make it passable. Further work would have to be considered to fill in the gully caused by water erosion. He had also reported the flooding at the top of Tinkers Lane. Finally, he had attended a meeting with S E Water who were very keen to get vulnerable and elderly people added to their Priority Services

Register and wanted to circulate this to the village. A member of the public said that this could be raised with TN22 club.

iii BF confirmed he had attended a Playing Field Committee meeting (PFC) and they had been successful with fund raising at the Pop-Ups, Tinkers Park rally. The PFC were going to be looking at what can be done for the drainage on the outfield of the cricket pitch and also considering a path to the football pitch for spectators. He explained that some of the trees belonging to St Marks Trust were now overhanging the path that it was causing an obstruction. SR said that most probably the PC would have to pay for these to be cut.

SR/Clerk

He also reported that the hedge by the layby opposite the church needed cutting badly as it was overhanging the pavement – he will try to contact the owner.

BF

Dog-fouling signage for Playing Field – he has asked the Wealden Street Scenes personnel to approve the signage as it is their PSPO. Cllr Dixon will chase this up.

Cllr Dixon

iv. SB explained that she was concerned about the state of a tree at Marlowe House which appears to have been 'hacked at' and could be dying. She will liaise with the Tree Warden.

SB

v. JMY explained that he will be painting preservative on the bus stop. A question was also raised about the CIL for the village and how this was allocated as the PC had received one small payment but it was not clear from which development and how this had been calculated. Cllr Dixon said he would look into this.

Cllr Dixon

128. TO REVIEW OPTIONS FOR MAINTAINING FOOTPATHS – c/f

129. TO CONSIDER ALTERING THE COLOURS ON THE VILLAGE SIGNS – BF explained that he had been approached to ask for the Martlet sign (at the top of the old village sign) to be changed from red to blue as this was the original traditional colours for the Sussex signs. He will find out the correct pantone colour as it would not be a big job to change it if required.

BF

130. TO REVIEW DRAFT QUESTIONS FOR HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY – RL had circulated questions before the meeting but everyone agreed needed more time to study so will put on next monthly agenda.

131. TO CONSIDER CIRCULAR WALK LEAFLET AND OTHER DOCUMENTS – c/f

132. TO CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL WEBSITE - The resignation of the clerk has resulted in the Parish Council pages of the website not being updated since June. Further discussions on website would be discussed in 3 months' time after a new Clerk had been in place. SR to contact website coordinators to ask to put minutes on and also to say that no contact details appear to be on the website for members of the public to comment if content is not correct.

SR

133. CLERK'S MATTERS:

i. To agree to earlier date for Clerk's entry into Pension Scheme for administrative reasons – no longer needed.

134. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT:

i. Miss H. Johnson –£150.80 - Salary/mileage and expenses.

ii. SSALC - £168 for Councillors' Briefing course.

The following payments were signed and will be ratified at the next meeting:

Lucy McConachie - £40

Europlants - £234.30

ROSPA Play Safety - £111.60

BT - £447.73

135. CRIME & DISORDER ACT 1998 Section 17 - to consider effects (if any) arising from items on the agenda.

136. DEFIBRILLATOR BATTERY—confirm checked.

137. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.40pm.