



MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Hadlow Down Parish Council
held virtually, via Zoom video conferencing app,
at 7pm on Tuesday 1st December 2020

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

In attendance: Cllr Phil Dixon (WDC), Cllr Bob Standley (ESCC), Samantha Weatherill (Clerk) and one member of the public.

194. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

A member of the public raised three issues: 1. County clean lorries were not using the designated route and also that they go to the waste tip between 5:30 and 6.30 am. JMY added that there was a long standing condition that there was a very specific route that these lorries have to take for safety issues. They stopped using the route due to low hanging branches in Five Chimneys Lane. **Action: Cllr Standley** would do more investigation into these issues and report back to the pc. 2. The road surface at the top of School Lane was riddled with pot holes and there was considerable noise generated by people driving over the potholes but these do not meet the criteria for repair. **Action: Cllr Standley** would discuss this with the Highway Steward to see what could be done. 3. The gully in the westerly direction of A272 is blocked again despite it being emptied because the drainage wherever the water goes is blocked and does not get emptied. **Action: PW** would add this, the ongoing problems with drainage and poor pot hole repairs to the January SLR meeting agenda.

195. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE – ML sent his apologies.

196. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – none.

197. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS held on 3rd November were agreed and signed as a true record (previously circulated).

198. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

- i. **SB/JMY** would investigate what would be required and issues with regard to the creation of a cycle path. *SB would pursue this. Carry Forward*
- ii. **JMY** would talk to Nick Allen about further accessibility work required for the website. *Carry Forward*
- iii. **JMY** would write a letter, cc'd to Cllr Standley to BT encouraging them to bring pressure on ESCC re parking incidents resulting in telephone pole being displaced. *Done*
- iv. **JMY/BF** would try to mend the swing hammock. *Done*
- v. **JMY** would speak to the residents of Lawton about cutting their hedge – *no action had actually been required. Done*
- vi. **JMY** would put up new covid-19 advice signs in the play area. *Done*
- vii. **BF** will sort out the zip wire. *Carry Forward*
- viii. **Clerks report:**
 - a. The Clerk had added an article to the village website updating residents of the fact that Wealden DC will no longer be sending neighbour notification letters informing them of adjacent planning applications.
 - b. The Clerk had actioned Reserves movements as agreed (£225 into Pension Earmarked Reserve and £737.76 from Unallocated Reserves to pay for laptop and accessories (incl. VAT)).
 - c. The Clerk had reported to East Sussex County Council (ESCC) the holly bush opposite the burial ground that is overhanging the pavement.
 - d. The Clerk had reported to ESCC the need for the verge to be cut back to expose the pavement from The Grange to the mouth of the entrance to Waste Wood.
 - e. The Clerk had reported to ESCC the serious drainage issue at Five Chimneys Lane.

199. PLANNING:

i. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

- a. **WD/2020/2135/F – DUNSLAND FARMHOUSE, HEATHFIELD ROAD, CROSS IN HAND, TN21 0UJ** – erection of Edwardian style freestanding greenhouse to be situated in a kitchen garden at the rear of main property. The pc voted 6/0 in support of this application for a period green house located some distance, but in keeping with, the existing property.
- b. **WD/2020/2163/F – 4 GRANGE COTTAGES, MAIN ROAD, HADLOW DOWN, TN22 4HJ** – conversion of the existing house into two self-contained units. The PC voted 6/0 to object to this application as the immediate neighbourhood is already very crowded, and converting the row of four dwellings into five will lead in particular to parking congestion and lack of amenity. Parking

is already a problem which results in people parking on the pavement. Also footpath 29b is likely to be blocked by cars and wheelie bins. This is an overdevelopment.

ii. APPROVED PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

a. WD/2020/1089/F – HADLOW HOUSE FARM COTTAGE, MAIN ROAD, HADLOW DOWN, TN22 4EP – erection of a single-storey rear extension, two-storey side extension and like for like replacement of the roof.

b. WD/2019/2227/FR – GINGERS PATCH AND DRAKES HEAD DEN, LAND SOUTH-EAST OF PIGSFOOT FARM, BRICK KILN LANE, HADLOW DOWN, TN22 4EJ – retrospective application for the retention of two mobile field shelters and one hay store and proposed provision of additional hay store.

Correspondence had been received from a resident who had asked: whether the condition to remove the chimney and the fireplace will be checked? Wealden DC had put in a condition that at the end of tenure when they sell, the tractor shed needs to be demolished within two months, so would this be put in the charges register so that it was not forgotten? **Action: Cllr Dixon** would investigate all this and report back to the pc. **Action: BF and DM** would respond to the resident, via The Clerk, in regard to their questions about the Article 4 directive and when we have had an update from Cllr Dixon.

200. REPORTS FROM CLLR.BOB STANDLEY, ESCC & CLLR PHIL DIXON – both councillors had submitted reports which would accompany the minutes on the website.

Cllr Standley added that the tier arrangements had been approved by Parliament and Wealden are in tier 2. Also that more money would be put into refreshing road markings and that they had received money in order to continue to provide free school meals for those who need them. He had been notified that the pothole in Tinkers Lane had been inspected and would be repaired. **Action: PW** would add 'road markings' to the SLR agenda and query that the roundalls on the A272 entering both ends of the village had been reinstated but without the red backing which makes them less visible.

Cllr Dixon – the initial local plan document has been published and the consultation is live- everyone is urged to respond as all ideas and opinions will be considered. With regard to the notifications to neighbours for planning applications stopping, this is an expensive thing that most council's have stopped. He urged people to sign up to Wealden 'my alerts'. **Actions: The Clerk** would forward the link to the consultation to the Cllrs and Cllrs would forward their comments to DM for him to collate and this would be discussed at January's meeting. DM pointed out that Wealden my alerts would only alert people to applications within 1km of their property. **Action: The Clerk** would look into the option of posting planning applications onto the website.

201. HIGHWAYS

i. Speed Indicator Signs (SID) proposal – PW ran through his report. Five options had been put forward but the main consideration is whether it will have an impact on reducing speeding and it does for a period of time and also provides statistics which we could put forward to ESCC. After the first year there is the option to go with a maintenance fee of £287 per year but other councils have not done this. Also insurance will need to be increased at a cost of approx. £11 extra per year. The pc voted for going with ESCC's all inclusive package for poles, licensing, installation and traffic management and Option C and the approximate cost of £6,000 would be paid for from CIL money. **Action: PW** would look into licensing the sites for discussion at January's meeting.

ii. Proposed diversion of footpath Buxted 81a/Hadlow Down – The pc was supportive of this proposal and has no comments to add.

202. MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR PLAYING FIELD AND BURIAL GROUND – the pc voted for Contractor A.

203. MAINTENANCE CONTRACT FOR VERGES – pc voted for Contractor A **Action: The Clerk** would speak to the contractor who was awarded both contracts to see if he would like to do a 2 year contract (as per tender offer letter) at the price tendered with a review at end of next year.

204. TENDERS FOR REPLACEMENT OF MATTING AT PLAY AREA – the pc voted for Contractor A. **Action: The clerk** would advise the contractor to speak to BF before he starts the work re where matting should stop.

205. NOTICEBOARD ON MAIN ROAD – the pc voted to replace the notice board. **Action: The Clerk** would investigate the options for an oak wooden board for discussion at January's meeting.

206. BANK RECONCILIATIONS: - November's reconciliation was agreed and signed.

207. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS

i. Website – carry forward

ii. HP Printer Ink price increase – pc voted to continue with this as there would still be a saving.

iii. Agree Reserve Movements – no change.

iv. Precept to be approved – adjustments to the price of printing and the agreed contracts for maintenance of burial ground and play area were made and the precept agreed.

v. Assets Register – agreed and signed.

vi. The following payments were ratified: The Computer Studio for laptop + memory upgrade, Office 365 £589.80 + VAT; SSALC for councillor training - £30 + VAT; BT for telephone & broadband £130.56 + VAT.

208. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS (COUNCIL MATTERS AND OUTSIDE BODIES) – a written report from councillors had already been circulated and would be included with the minutes on the website.

209. DISAPPEARANCE OF ROADS FROM GOOGLE MAPS – carry forward

210. EMERGENCY PLAN UPDATE TO INCLUDE SE WATER ISSUES – carry forward

211. COMMUNITY PAYBACK – carry forward

212. DIGNITY AT WORK POLICY – REVIEW – this was approved.

213. STANDING ORDERS POLICY – REVIEW – this was approved.

214. DOCUMENT RETENTION & DISPOSAL POLICY – REVIEW – this was approved.

215. RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT – REVIEW – this was approved.

216. RISK ASSESSMENTS

- i. Quarterly risk assessment – **Actions:** **SB** would look at the burial ground wall; **JMY** would look at the pathway that runs between the concrete posts and the entrance to the back of the burial ground.

217. CLERKS MATTERS:

- i. Clerks hours for November were agreed.

218. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – JMY & DM would authorise the payments.

- i. Samantha Weatherill - £920 salary paid by SO
- ii. Samantha Weatherill - £352.10 salary & expenses, includes £14.39 for Zoom (UT ref: 243572264)
- iii. Lucy McConachie for October play area inspection - £40 (UT ref: 379582938)
- iv. ES Pension Fund - £406.97 (UT ref: 631559325)
- v. PWLB loan payment- £567.07 paid by DD 16/12/2020
- vi. Rialtas – moving software to new laptop £25 + VAT (UT ref: 770345831)

219. CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 Section 17 – nothing raised.

220. DEFIBRILLATOR BATTERY – Action: **BF** will check.

221. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA

- The renewal of the old village hall planning application - DM
- SID proposal – licensing - PW
- Direction of travel from local plan consultation – DM
- Options for noticeboard replacement – The Clerk

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9:05pm.