



MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Hadlow Down Parish Council
Held in Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down
at 7pm on Tuesday 2nd August 2022

Present: Councillors: Peter Weston (PW) Acting Chair, Sally Blyfield (SB), Ben Floyd (BF), David Munday (DM), Damon Wellman (DW)

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

118. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

One member of the public (MOP) raised the issue of the noise complaint at Wilderness Wood on 27th July where amplified music was played which is in breach of their planning conditions and confirmed that it had been reported to Wealden DC Planning and Enforcement. There had been another noise complaint reported prior to this one.

Another MOP spoke about issues with no. 4 Grange Cottages where the house had been converted into two and every Friday evening there were parties with loud music and also anti-social behaviour which had been reported to the police, Wealden DC Enforcement had been involved. Another MOP concurred with these issues. The Chair updated that the PC had been notified today of a breach of planning condition being served at no. 4 Grange Cottages.

119. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE – were accepted from Cllrs. Lewis and Lunn.

120. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – BF declared a pecuniary interest in Item 123 i. c. and a personal interest in Item 128 ii.

121. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS held on 5th July were agreed and signed as a true record (previously circulated).

122. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

- i. PW had sent a challenge to the decision by ESCC Highways that pedestrian warning signs were not considered a necessity at the location across the A272 between the 'kissing gate' and Waste Wood. This is still with ESCC Highways. **Cllr Standley** would look into this. *PW updated that he now had the name of a road safety representative and of someone who is dealing with the missing signage in the Rights Of Way team and it is also on the SLR meeting agenda so this item would be included in that update at the next meeting. Done.*
- ii. **SB** would liaise with the Deputy Church Warden to discuss a way forward to discourage people visiting the burial ground from using the Church's bins for their rubbish, including establishing a rota for the PC to visit and clear the area at regular intervals. *SB updated that the bins at the Church were still being used by people visiting the burial ground and the signs asking people to take their rubbish home were not working. SB would organise an informal rota. Done*
- iii. **Cllr Standley** would investigate what had happened to the direction sign at the top of Five Chimneys Lane and when it would be replaced. **Carry Forward.**
- iv. ML had asked the equestrian community to email Cllr Standley with their concerns about Waste Wood bridleway, copying in the Clerk. **Cllr Standley** would report back on this. *Cllr Standley updated that whilst ESCC recognise that there is a problem they can only carry out about four or five a year and it is about 20th on the list. This issue will be raised at the SLR meeting for reporting back. Action: DW would look at this bridleway to provide a rough estimate of costs and report back to the PC, copying in Cllr Standley, in order for the PC to consider whether CIL money could be used to do these repairs.*
- v. **Cllr Dixon** would follow up the issue of the Wilderness Wood site bins not being emptied. *They had been emptied. Done.*
- vi. **DW** would email The Clerk with details of grass fly tipping incidents for her to report to Wealden DC Enforcement. *The Clerk had reported these issues and DW updated that an officer had responded to say that they may be able to write to the residents concerned about the issues. Done*
- vii. **Clerks report:** update passed to councillors prior to the meeting.
 - a. The Clerk had responded to GACC's proposed response re Gatwick's Noise Envelope as agreed at the 5th July meeting.
 - b. The Clerk had got in touch with UKPN to invite them to attend the 6th September PC meeting to give an update/explanation regarding the recurring power outage issues in Hadlow Down. However, since then they

had undertaken major tree cutting and were hopeful that the issues had been resolved. They have agreed to keep the dialogue open and to attend a meeting if the issues continue.

- c. The Clerk had transferred £460 from the IT Earmarked Reserve to the current account to cover the cost of the Clerk's printer which had not been budgeted for and also £225 to the Pension Earmarked Reserve as agreed when the precept was set.
- d. The Clerk had written to the HDPFA to confirm the PC's support, in their capacity as landowners of the playing field, of their application for a grant towards the improvement of the ball park area of the playing field.

123. PLANNING:

i. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

The Chair brought forward Item 123 i. b.

- b. **WD/2022/1719/FA – THE ROBINS, STONEHURST LANE, HADLOW DOWN, TN20 6LL** – variation or removal of conditions 1 and 2 of WD/2019/0208/FA (variation or removal of conditions 1 and 2 of WD/2015/2287/FR (change of use of land for stationing of caravans for residential occupation as a gypsy site with associated development (alter access, hard standing, utility shed/day room) – retrospective) to extend or remove the temporary consent period.) To renew consent for site first occupied in 2014 on a permanent basis or for a further temporary period.

The Chair suspended Standing Orders.

A MOP informed that they had submitted an objection letter to Wealden DC and that a number of other residents would also be sending objections letters to them. They added that the site outline on the plan was incorrect as it was bigger than shown and that it was located in an AONB and there were concerns about Stonehurst Lane itself which was already worn down, in addition to the issues caused by frequent flooding.

The Chair reinstated Standing Orders.

The PC voted unanimously 5/0 to object to a permanent change to Planning Condition 1. The PC voted 2 against and 3 abstained to agreeing to a temporary extension to Planning Condition 1. The PC voted unanimously 5/0 against dropping Planning Condition 2. The reasons for this were: as per the reasons for the original request for permanent planning being refused, the site continues to be inappropriate due to it being in an AONB and it would be contrary to the conditions of planning policy DC21 and also due to the potential for acoustic intrusion to neighbours.

- a. **WD/2022/0705/F – DEER LEEP, MAIN ROAD, HADLOW DOWN, TN22 4HH** – alterations to existing property, demolition of existing garage and erection of new two-storey side extension.
The PC voted unanimously 5/0 to support the application due to it being consistent with planning regulations and having no discernible impact on the local community.

BF left the room.

- c. **WD/2022/1827/F – CHERRY TREE COTTAGE, MAIN ROAD, HADLOW DOWN, TN22 4HS** – erection of a gym building.

The PC voted 4/0 to object to this application due to its large size as per policy EN27, visibility from the main road, which was inappropriate and the sky lights which go against light pollution policy EN29, plus it runs counter to the conditions of the recent extension of the main property (i.e. part of the reason that planning consent was granted for the recent extension was to knock down the previous building which was done but now they were requesting for it to be re-built).

BF re-joined the meeting.

ii. APPROVED PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

- a. **WD/2022/0727/F – BRICK KILN FARM, HADLOW DOWN, TN22 4EJ** – upgrading of current non-compliant cess pit. Installation of a new treatment plant in the same position as the current cess pit.
- b. **WD/2020/1605/MAJ – FIVE CHIMNEYS, THE TOLL, HADLOW DOWN, TN22 4DU** – partial demolition and conversion of poultry sheds into 26 no. business units (mixed use E(G)(II) and E(G)(III) and B8 uses, including associated access road, parking and landscaping.
- c. **WD/2022/1330/FA – MOONS MILL, TINKERS LANE, HADLOW DOWN, TN22 4ET** – variation of conditions 3 and 4 of WD/2019/2617/F (construction of new oak framed detached garage.) To use roof space of garage as additional accommodation, add 2 front dormers, a windowless rear dormer, an external staircase and external cupboard to the rear elevation.

124. REPORTS FROM CLLR.BOB STANDLEY, ESCC & CLLR PHIL DIXON – *written reports had been submitted and had been published with the agenda on the village website.*

Cllr Dixon updated that a Breach of Condition Notice had been issued to No. 4 Grange Cottages. **Action: Cllr Dixon** would give an update on Enforcement issues to include Drakes Head Den and The Robins for the next meeting.

The Chair brought forward Item 128.

128. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED:

- i. Planning applications on Alice Bright Lane, Crowborough – the resident who had informed the Clerk of this application had been advised that as it was out of the PC's boundary we would not be asked to comment.

- ii. Noise complaint re Wilderness Wood – the issue had been noted and the complainant advised to contact Wealden DC Enforcement. PW had been to meet the owners who had been apologetic and explained that there had been a camp that week and had said they would talk to them about the noise. **Action: Cllr Dixon** would look into these noise complaints which were in breach of the planning conditions and into the definition of ‘events’ within the permitted limit of six. **Action: DM** would arrange the annual site meeting with Wilderness Wood.
- 125. HIGHWAYS:**
- i. Speed Indicator Signs – including costings for a new retention socket and license. Carry Forward.
- 126. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS (COUNCIL MATTERS AND OUTSIDE BODIES)** – *written reports had been submitted and had been published with the agenda on the village website.*
- 127. HOW TO ATTRACT VOLUNTEERS TO VILLAGE COMMITTEES** – the ‘Together We Can’ Project – The Clerk updated that she had been informed that plans for the big picnic were well underway and the event was being advertised and would be taking place on 11th September 12-6 at the Playing Field. Once the Clerk had sight of the banners/boards being purchased for the village organisations she would consider with RL and ML whether they were suitable for the PC to order for use at future events. The tours would be taking place but potentially a bit later than originally planned.
- 129. RISK ASSESSMENTS**
- i. Quarterly Risk Assessment – BF had completed this. **Action: BF** would deal with the issue identified with the bench between the entrance to the burial ground and the school.
- ii. Annual oiling of bus shelter – thanks were extended to Michael Lunn and a resident who had offered to do this and it was agreed that the cost of the materials required would be reimbursed.
- iii. Review of Assets – there were two benches listed at the burial ground but they could not be found. **Action: The Clerk/PW** would investigate this issue and if they were no longer there would update the Assets Register.
- iv. Burial Ground Annual Risk Assessment – DW had done this and would send the report to the Clerk.
- 130. CLERKS MATTERS:**
- i. Clerks hours for July were agreed.
- 131. BANK RECONCILIATIONS:** - July’s reconciliations were agreed and signed.
- 132. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS:**
- i. Income received: £3.61 from UKPN for annual rent of playing field.
- 133. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT (UT ref = Unity Trust Bank reference number) – PW & DM would authorise.**
- i. Samantha Weatherill - £920 salary paid by SO
- ii. Samantha Weatherill - £172.90 salary & expenses – (UT ref:800835189)
- iii. ES Pension Fund - £300.86 (UT ref: 586776603)
- iv. Lucy McConachie Play area inspection July - £40 (UT ref: 484900669)
- 134. CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998 Section 17** – nothing raised.
- 135. DEFIBRILLATOR BATTERY** – this had been checked on 2nd August.
- 136. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA:**
- Notice of Breach of planning condition
 - Wealden DC Corporate Plan for 2023 to 2027 consultation
 - Assets Register
 - Enforcement Update
 - ROSPA play inspection report

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8:30pm.