

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in Hurst Green Village Hall on Tuesday 25th June 2019 starting at 8:00pm.

Present:- Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Brown, Councillor Duddridge, Councillor Hampton, Councillor Janes, Councillor Johnson, Councillor Kenchington, Councillor Price (from 8.05pm) and Councillor Wright

The RFO, David Hilbourne and the Clerk were in attendance along with four members of the public.

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: - District Councillor Barnes and County Councillor Barnes (*on holiday*).

2.0 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: -

To sign as a correct record the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 14th May 2019 and minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on the 11th June 2019

Minutes proposed by Councillor Kenchington and seconded by Councillor Janes.

3.0 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS, *in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct: to receive any disclosure by Members of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.*

None rec'd.

3.1 APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION – *to consider written requests from Members for Dispensation and to consider the length of time the dispensation should be granted for i.e. as a one-off relating to a matter on this agenda, or ongoing for a set period and relating to any agenda within that period.*

None received.

4.0 COMMUNITY- Activities and reports: -

4.1 Neighbourhood Plan, progress report and to pass any necessary resolutions (Cllrs. Brown & Wright)

Councillor Brown gave the report. (*Councillor Price arrived at 8.05pm.*)

Councillor Brown asked the Council if it was happy to ratify Elaine Ralph's membership to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. This was approved.

It was **proposed that £145** should be spend on advertising for two meetings one for the Neighbourhood plan and one for Speedwatch. Councillor Browne asked for support for this.

Unanimously approved to come out of the Neighbourhood plan budget.

4.2 Community Shop report and to pass any resolutions proposed.

Councillor Janes gave the report. The future of the Shop and Café is very uncertain with the shut down process ongoing. Currently the Breakfast Club is still running as under clause 16.2 of the sublease the shop can grant a license to the Club to run this themselves.

Looking at what is potentially possible and costs so that the data can be analyzed against resources and community input to see if it is possible to re-open.

Noted that the Post Office is now more amenable to reducing opening hours for their services.

i) Financial report and accounts

This has been circulated via email. Currently looks as though the Shop and Café will be around £3,000 in debit when everything is settled.

Councillor Kenchington asked the RFO, David Hilbourne what the financial liabilities and costs implications will be for the Parish Council? The RFO noted that apart from the obvious costs of utilities and insurance this will very much depend on the future of the building.

Councillor Kenchington noted that he thought from the extraordinary meeting that there was a perception of a management failure by the public and if this is not redressed it will become a reality.

Much discussion and concerns expressed as to the way forward with mixed results and conclusions re possibilities. Generally felt that there had been a communication failure re the Shop and the Community as to the threat of the shop closing and that this had not been broadcast early or wide enough in the locality.

Councillors Janes and Kenchington left the meeting at 9.00pm

Councillor Brown suggested that legal advice should be sort re the current and future position and the Council's obligations re the lease. This was **unanimously resolved**.

4.3 Community Infrastructure Levy

Concern expressed that the information re this was not sent out by RDC in time for Parish Councils to gather together all the necessary information needed to put in a grant submission by the deadline given. Strongly believe the deadline should be extended. Clerk requested to contact RDC expressing our disappointment and to consult with RALC.

4.4 Clerk's report – circulated

Report previously circulated by email. No questions rec'd.

4.5 Parish Correspondence and local resident issues

Issues re overgrown hedge on the A21 near the church with a local resident very concerned Aone+ has been notified and will inspect.

Councillor Johnson noted that the Monkey Puzzle tree alongside the pavement to the school would have the branches tied back as cutting them will kill the tree.

4.6 Urgent issues requiring attention

Councillor Browne expressed concern that some of the correspondence sent via email to the Clerk was not acceptable and requested that all remember to 'read before you send'.

4.7 Councillors questions

None rec'd.

5.0 **TRANSPORT, ROADS & FOOTPATHS**

Councillor Johnson reported that Councillor Kenchington had noticed that all the drains along the A21 from Planters to Eggs to Apples are blocked and need clearing and that one BT cover needs attention. Clerk to report.

Councillor Johnson also reported the footpath opposite the Church as the grass in the meadow it crosses is impassable. Clerk to report.

Footpath 6 has been cut back and Councillor Johnson cut back footpath 29 at the request of the Chair after a resident's complaint

5.1 Community Speedwatch Initiative report

Councillor Price gave the report. Major issues with the laser gun as it fails to pick up oncoming cars due to the width of the beam that also covers cars going in the opposite direction therefore cannot differentiate between them and identify the vehicle it refers to.

Councillor Browne suggested we approach Katy Bourne re obtaining a laser gun.

6.0 **PLANNING: -**

APPEALS –

RR/2018/2927/P, Boarzell Cottage, London Road, re extension to existing garage. **Dismissed**.

Bantham Farm, London Road, Hurst Green, Planning Inspectorate Public Inquiry confirmed for the 8th October 2019 re change of use and enforcement action appeals.

6.1 RDC Planning decisions

RR/2019/1012/P - Driftways, London Road, Hurst Green TN19 7QP. Single storey and two storey rear extension to dwelling. **Granted**.

RR/2019/982/P - Abertawe Cottage, Silverhill, Hurst Green TN19 7PU. Variation of conditions 2, 3 and 4 imposed on RR/2006/2257/P, to allow existing holiday let to be used as a permanent residential accommodation. **Refused.**

RR/2019/285/P - 47 London Road - land at, Hurst Green TN19 7QP. Proposed bungalow. **Refused.**

6.2 Current Applications.

RR/2019/1228/P - Coopers Corner Farm, Merriments Lane, Hurst Green TN19 7RA. Construction of timber framed garage. **Supported.**

6.3 Planning enforcement and appeal issues, Hayes Mill Oast

Concern was raised over the time being taken by RDC re enforcement issues at Hayes Mill Oast. Councillor Browne has queried this and reported that due to the death of the owner it was being treated sensitively and that some of the enforcement issues had now been complied with. Local resident unhappy that it appears to have been an ongoing issue since 2016 with repeated extensions given.

7.0 **Finance/RFO's Report:-**

7.1 Resolution to approve the donation of £500 to the Village Fete as agreed at the precept working party meeting.

The Council **Unanimously resolved** to approve this.

7.2 Resolution to approve the donation of £1000 to the Village Hall as agreed at the precept working party meeting.

The Council **Unanimously resolved** to approve this.

The RFO, David Hilbourne gave his report.

7.3 Current financial position

Balance of accounts

Community Account (6752)	£31,332.57	as at 23 rd June 2019
Community Savings (6779)	£51.29	as at 23 rd June 2019
Renewals A/C (6760)	£98.28	as at 23 rd June 2019

These figures are the position as at the latest statements received as shown. They do not include monies received or paid away subsequently.

Direct Debit payments

13th March - Information Commissioners Office, Data protection fee £35.00

Payments received

None.

7.4 Motion to approve invoices and approval and issue of Cheques

Urgent cheques drawn and paid away

Cheque No. 1001023 - Spoiled	-
Cheque No. 1001024 - HMRC, Remit PAYE collected.	£107.40
Cheque No. 1001025 - ESCC, Annual Street Light Maintenance	£922.85
Cheque No. 1001026 - DG Browne, Fence repair at Drewetts Field.	£96.00
Cheque No. 1001047 - HG Village Hall, donation towards the fete under s137	£500.00
Cheque No. 1001048 - HG Community Shop, Donation re Breakfast Club for March & April.	£200.00
Cheque No. 1001049 - HG PCC, donation in support of the Village magazine under s137	£250.00
Cheque No. 1001050 - Martindales, Insurance excess on Shop Claim..	£100.00
Cheque No. 1001051 - Zurich Insurance, renewal of PC insurance policy.	£775.16
Cheque No. 1001052 - Spoilt,	-
Cheque No. 1001053 - Clarke & Baker, deposit on Stage Field entrance work.	£12,087.00

Cheque No. 1001054 - Spoilt.	-
Cheque No. 1001055 - DG Browne, Mowing at Drewetts & Lodge Fields.	£144.00

Cheques to be authorised for this meeting

Cheque No. 1001056 - J Ellis, Clerk's Salary (June).	£574.65
Cheque No. 1001057 - D Hilbourne, RFOs salary (June).	£145.83
Cheque No. 1001058 - East Sussex Pension Scheme, re Clerk (June).	£173.91
Cheque No. 1001059 - SSALC, LCR magazine annual sub..	£17.00
Cheque No. 1001060 - HMRC, Remit PAYE collected.	£113.40
Cheque No. 1001061 - Auditing Solutions, Internal audit for year end 2019..	£312.00
Cheque No. 1001062 - Pet Waste solutions, dog waste bin empty (May).	£135.19
Cheque No. 1001063 - Pet Waste solutions, dog waste bin empty (June).	£135.19
Cheque No. 1001064 - Hello Print, printing of booklet for Neighbourhood Plan.	£132.20

A resolution for approval is sought for past and present invoices (*as circulated via email prior to the meeting to all Councillors*) and issue of Cheques.

Approval of Invoices and Cheques proposed by Councillor Wright and seconded by Councillor Johnson.

7.5 Resolution to pay Clerk's subscription to SLCC for a sum of £122.00

It was unanimously resolved to approve this payment.

7.6 Resolution to pay half of Clerk's broadband charge for Council use (£120 per annum

It was unanimously resolved to approve this payment.

8.0 Playing & Stage Fields

8.1 Picnic style benches for Lodge Field and any resolutions necessary in response to this issue

Councillor Johnson was asked to get an accurate figure for what these would cost as the PCSO may be able to help fund this.

8.2 Stage Field progress report

Councillor Browne reported that work was progressing well

9.00 Items for the next agenda

Neighbourhood Plan. Other items to be emailed to Clerk as necessary.

10.0 Date and time of next Meeting

The next Council meeting is on Tuesday 30th July 2019 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm with public consultation from 7.45pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.20pm.

Distribution of Minutes: -
All Parish Councillors
Parish Council Noticeboard
Parish Council Website
ESCC Councillor J. Barnes
RDC Councillor M Barnes.

Signed Cllr. Graham Browne

Chairman
Dated 18th August 2019