

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in Hurst Green Village Hall on Tuesday 26th April 2016 starting at 8:00pm.

Present: - Councillor Browne (Chairman), Councillor Cruse, Councillor Duddridge, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Janes, Councillor Johnson, Councillor Wright and District Councillor Prochak.

The Clerk and the RFO David Hilbourne were in attendance and 5 members of the public.

1.0 Apologies for Absence:- Councillor Funnell, Councillor Peacock and County Councillor Barnes.

2.0 Minutes of the last meeting:-

To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 29th March 2016.

Minutes proposed by Councillor Janes and seconded by Councillor Duddridge.

3.0 Declaration of Interests: -

None received.

4.0 Community Activities and reports:-

Stephen Hardy attended the public consultation to talk to Councillors about the work of Rural Rother Trust whose aims are the relief of poverty, advancement of education and any other beneficial purpose in the rural Rother area. Rother District Council are the trustees and one East Sussex councillor and a parish representative, currently from Bodiam, sit on the board. They wish to publicize their work and encourage people in difficulties to contact them for help.

A local resident also expressed concern to the Council about the felling of trees behind Foundry Close. Many complaints have been rec'd especially about the attitude of those carrying out the work. The Forestry Commission and Tree Warden from RDC have been consulted and visited the site.

No further reports rec'd.

4.1 Queen's Celebrations, beacon event, feedback

Councillor James reported that although few people (10) attended the Beacon was lit and those there enjoyed the event although it was very cold. *Councillor Browne thanked those who had arranged it and noted that their work was appreciated.*

4.2 Village Fete

Councillor Johnson reported that Sue Endean had around 15 stalls organized for the fete which will take place on the 4th June. Clerk noted that stall holders would need public liability insurance and the RFO, David Hilbourne requested a full list of participants and events for insurance purposes. Risk Assessment would also need to be done.

4.3 County/District Councillors Report

County Councillor Barnes had not provided a report in his absence.

District Councillor Prochak reported on the Boundary Commission's outcome. Robertsbridge would now be a single member ward and Hurst Green a two member ward going in with Ticehurst.

It was also reported that the Joint Waste/recycling board will now equalize their bulk waste collection charge which will be set at £52.

Councillor Janes asked why RDC has no contact details on their website. Even when phoning the phone shuts down if busy with no options available. Councillor Prochak responded that it was due to staff and funding difficulties.

5.0 Planning: -

5.1 RDC Planning decisions

RR/2016/470/O - 119 London Road, Hurst Green TN19 7PN. Replacement of coal fired rayburn with combi boiler, requiring new meter. **Granted.**

5.2 Current Applications

None received.

6.0 Finance/RFO's Report:-

Financial report given by the Responsible Financial Officer, David Hilbourne.

6.1 Current financial position

Balance of accounts

Community Account (6752)	£21,291.17	as at 25 th April 2016
Community Savings (6779)	£2,159.16	as at 25 th April 2016
Renewals A/C (6760)	£10,069.64	as at 25 th April 2016

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

25th April - Biffa, waste collection for Drewetts. £50.70

Payments received

5th April - Rother District Council, Precept pt.1 and Support grant. £17,954.21

6.2 Approval and issue of Cheques

Urgent cheques drawn and paid away

None.

Cheques to be authorised for this meeting

*Copies of invoices re items below previously circulated via email to all Councillors.**

Cheque No. 100651 - J Ellis, Clerk's Salary (April).	£433.26
Cheque No. 100652 - D Hilbourne, RFOs salary (April).	£124.18
Cheque No. 100653 - East Sussex Pension Scheme, re Clerk.	£149.54
Cheque No. 100654 - Net World Sports, football nets.	£58.95
Cheque No. 100655 - Auditing Solutions, internal Audit fee.	£282.00
Cheque No. 100656 - Cartridge People, printer cartridges).	£52.38
Cheque No. 100657 - East Sussex ALC, subscriptions (ESALC & NALC).	£421.01
Cheque No. 100658 - SSALC, Local Council Review Mag.	£17.00
Cheque No. 100659 - Janet Smith Catering, APA catering.	£212.50

A resolution for approval is sought for present issue of Cheques.

Cheques proposed by Councillor Cruse and seconded by Councillor Wright.

6.3 Resolution to approve the Council's Annual Accounts

6.3.1 Annual Governance Statement

Circulated prior to the meeting and read out at the meeting by the RFO.

The Annual Governance Statement was proposed by Councillor Browne and unanimously resolved to approve by the Council.

6.3.2 Accounting statement

Read out by the RFO.

The Balance of books Accounting Statement was proposed by Councilor Wright and unanimously resolved to approve by the Council.

The Chair, Councilor Browne signed the relevant documents as a true record.

7.0 Playing fields

Councillor Janes reported that the contractor for the repairs to equipment in Lodge Field was to re quote for the work due to the time lapse (a year) in the previous quote and being given approval for the work to be done.

8.0 Footpaths, Transport & Roads

A21, potholes have been patched by the Church.

No update has been rec'd from Huw Merriman about the petition handed to him by local mums concerned about the safety issues of taking children to school along the A21.

8.1 Update on footpath 23 (off London road by Jesses)

Nothing to report at the present time. Andrew Le Gresley will attend the SLR meeting to update the Council as to the latest position.

9.0 Notices and Correspondence:-

Correspondence previously circulated via email

Clerk has been asked by landowner about putting in a foot access onto Burgh Lane from the wood near Fysie junction. Footway will cross a small section of privately owned verge which he was told was owned by the parish council. This is on the boundary of Etchingam and is more likely to be in their parish. Would need to check with Land Registry to see if ownership of this land is registered.

9.1 Urgent issues requiring attention

The Chair reported that the issue of the future of the RDC car park in Hurst Green is imminent and we could lose it if the Parish Council does not take it over. Due to the short time span and importance of the car park the Chair asked if the Council would be prepared to take it over subject to satisfactory reports.

The Council unanimously agreed to this proposal.

To be put on next agenda.

10.00 Items for the next agenda:-

None rec'd

10.1 Items for the SLR (Strengthening Local Relationships) meeting with East Sussex

Footpath 23, Pedestrian crossing on Station Road, parking on Station Road, position of bus stops on Station Road, Junctions with the A21 and HGV signs for Merriments Lane.

12.0 Date and time of next Meeting:-

The next meeting is the AGM on Tuesday 31st May 2016 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Distribution of Minutes: -

All Parish councillors.

Parish Council Noticeboard.

ESCC Councillor J. Barnes.

RDC Councillor S. Prochak.

Signed

Chairman

Dated