

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present: - Councillor Cruse, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Janes, Councillor Peacock and Councillor Wright and District Councillor Prochak. The Clerk and the RFO David Hilbourne were in attendance along with 13 members of the public.

1.0 Apologies for Absence:- Councillor Browne, Councillor Duddridge, Councillor Funnell, Councillor Johnson and County Councillor Barnes.

In Councillor Browne's absence Councillor Janes took the Chair.

2.0 Minutes of the last meeting:-

To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 28th June 2016.

Minutes proposed by Councillor Cruse and seconded by Councillor Peacock.

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 declared.

4.0 Community Activities and reports:-

Councillor Peacock reported that he had gone to a Hurst Green Football Club event and all seemed to enjoy themselves even though it was very hot.

4.1 County/District Councillors Report

District Councillor Prochak reported that she has attended the Police briefing event in Battle about the changes that are taking place. Very poorly attended but very useful and informative. No PCSOs will be allocated to Villages with the focus being on known trouble spots and will respond only to reports of crime.

They aim to have teams of people answering the phone and fielding the calls to the correct person to deal with it. The PCSOs will no longer have an office base and will be agile working. Threat, harm and risk will be their areas of focus.

The Police will never police parking again and in the whole of the country only 17 councils are not dealing with civil parking issues this includes Rother and Councillor Prochak thought Wealden. It takes about two years for district councils to set up to police and enforce parking infringements. In Tunbridge Wells they have found that the fines cover the running costs. Some parking issues in Hurst Green but Robertsbridge have more serious issues with this. There are working groups looking at Public Realm and they have found that if areas are well looked after and maintained then other people and residents tend to take more care of them and look after things better.

Councillor Prochak also reported that she had attended two very good planning training sessions.

The previous SHLA is now called Development and Site Allocation (DASA). The new figure for Hurst Green is 75 new homes by 2028.

It was reported that Caravan Tech is relocating so Rother are looking at the site for potential housing. The question mark is the infrastructure and road safety in Hurst Green.

5.0 Planning: -

5.1 RDC Planning decisions

RR/2016/241/P - Merriments Barn, Merriments Lane, Hurst Green TN19 7RQ. Conversion of Grade 2 Listed barn to residential dwelling. Erection of new four bay garage and pool building. Change of use from agricultural to residential. **Granted.**

RR/2016/242/L - Merriments Barn, Merriments Lane, Hurst Green TN19 7RQ. Conversion of Grade 2 Listed barn to residential dwelling. Erection of new four bay garage and pool building. Change of use from agricultural to residential. **Granted.**

RR/2016/1209/P - Jesses, London Road, Hurst Green TN19 7QS. Single storey rear extension and roof lights. **Granted.**

5.2 Current Applications

RR/2016/1859/P - The Oaks, Burgh Hill, Hurst Green TN19 7PE. Single storey rear extension with flat roof. **Supported.**

RR/2016/1577/P - Foundry Close - Land at, Hurst Green TN19 7QW. Residential development of site to provide 60 dwellings. **Not supported.**

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)	£11,379.65	as at 24 th July 2016
Community Savings (6779)	£2,735.87	as at 24 th July 2016
Renewals A/C (6760)	£10,071.40	as at 24 th July 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

None.

Payments received

None.

6.2 Approval and issue of Cheques

Urgent cheques drawn and paid away

Cheque No. 100669 - Cajun Dawgs, Band for Fete.	£300.00
Cheque No. 100680 - Heathfield Hire, generator and leads for fete.	£77.40
Cheque No. 100681 - HMRC, replaces cheque 679 previously authorised for incorrect amount of £417 instead of £417.60.	£417.60
Cheque No. 100682 - G Browne, grass cutting for April, May and June	£360.00

Cheques to be authorised for this meeting

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

Cheque No. 100683 - J Ellis, Clerk's Salary (July).	£450.86
Cheque No. 100684 - D Hilbourne, RFOs salary (July).	£125.13
Cheque No. 100685 - East Sussex Pension Scheme, re Clerk.	£157.48
Cheque No. 100686 - Robertsbridge Gdn Machinery Centre, cut Lodge Field March-June.	£924.00
Cheque No. 100687 - Active Risk Management, playground inspection 2015.	£56.00
Cheque No. 100688 - PKF Littlejohn, external audit fees for 2016.	£240.00
Cheque No. 100689 - R Cruse, maintenance of Corner Garden.	£380.00
Cheque No. 100690 - J Ellis, Clerk, broadband cost contribution.	£99.50
Cheque No. 100691 - D Hilbourne, RFO, broadband cost contribution.	£99.50

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

Cheques proposed by Councillor Wright and seconded by Councillor Cruse

Councillor Cruse left the meeting at 8.55pm

6.3 Resolution to pay for the Kaspersky anti-virus software for Clerk and RFO

Resolution proposed by Councillor Peacock and seconded by Councillor Wright. Unanimously supported.

6.4 Resolution to adopt the recently revives NJC pay scales and subsequent 1 % pay rise for Clerk and RFO

Previously agreed and in Standing Orders to be implemented by RFO.

7.0 **Playing & Stage Fields**

Councillor Janes reported that Councillor Browne has brought in the plans for the proposed new entrance to Stage Field along to the working party meeting and that they were approved and will be submitted.

7.1 Lodge field Playground repairs

Councillor Janes reported that the repairs to Lodge Field had been finished but did have an issue with the sizing of replacement pieces.

Councillor Cruse returned to the meeting.

A problem was discovered during the repairs to the flooring of the toddler rope bridge which was worse than expected so this will need more work done to it.

8.0 **Footpaths, Transport & Roads**

Councillor Harrison reported back to the Council on his investigations re the issues and costs around the Parish Council taking over the cutting of the verges. Generally felt that this was a nonstarter due to all the issues involved with this. Councillor Harrison also noted that the second cut was much better than the first and looked more professional.

Issue with overgrown holy and apple trees on the corner of Station Road and Ridsgeway overhanging the pavement. Clerk to report.

8.1 Update on footpath 23 (off London road by Jesses) and section 130 notice

Section 130 notice served and receipt rec'd.

8.2 Equipment and tools for footpath work (Cllr. Johnson)

It was reported that Councillor Johnson wanted to know if the Council could purchase a scythe for cutting back overgrown footpaths. Generally this was not thought to be a good idea due to all the issues re health and safety and insurance. Would need much more information on the implications of this first.

9.00 **Notices and Correspondence:-**

Correspondence previously circulated via email.

9.1 Urgent issues requiring attention

Churchyard was still very overgrown and residents have complained. To be looked into.

Councillor Peacock asked the Clerk to report the condition of the telephone box outside the Pigeon House again.

10.00 **Items for the next agenda:-**

Feedback on this year's fete and Burgh Wood footpaths

11.0 **Date and time of next Meeting:-**

The next meeting is on Tuesday 30th August 2016 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Distribution of Minutes: -

All Parish councillors.

Parish Council Noticeboard.

ESCC Councillor J. Barnes.

RDC Councillor S. Prochak.

Signed

Chairman

Dated