

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in Hurst Green Village Hall on Tuesday 27th June 2017 starting at 8:00pm.

Present: - Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Duddridge, Councillor Funnell, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Janes, Councillor Johnson, Councillor Peacock, County Councillor Barnes and District Councillor Prochak
The Clerk and the RFO, David Hilbourne, were in attendance along with three members of the public.

1.0 Apologies for Absence:- Councillor Wright.

2.0 Minutes of the last meeting:-

To sign as a correct record the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the an 30th May 2017.

Minutes proposed by Councillor Peacock and seconded by Councillor Funnell.

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 received.

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:-

None rec'd.

4.1 Breakfast Club, progress report (Cllr. Johnson)

The Breakfast Club will have its first meeting this week..

4.2 Neighbourhood Plan, progress report and to pass any necessary resolutions (Cllr. Janes)

Councilor Janes reported that time has been very tight during the last month and the email rec'd from Feria re what steps to take to start the process was concerning due to its perceived lack of public engagement from the outset with no community representative identified for the steering group.

After much discussion it was **unanimously agreed that Councilor Janes should arrange a community event** to promote the neighbourhood plan and get feedback and residents on board from the outset.

a) **To formally resolve to spend up to £1,000 on Neighborhood Plan**

It was **unanimously resolved to use the £1,000 put by in last year's precept for the neighbourhood plan.**

The Clerk reported that Rother had formally written to acknowledge the Neighbourhood plan area.

4.3 Use of redundant telephone box for defibrillator and to pass and) necessary resolutions in association with this (Cllr. Wright).

In Councilor Wright's absence this agenda item was postponed to the next meeting as Councilors had previously not seen a use for the telephone boxes in the Village and Councilor Janes said that the Responders had suggested the Village Hall as an alternative site to the Shop.

5.0 Planning: -

5.1 RDC Planning decisions

None rec'd

5.2 Current Applications

RR/2017/1403/P - 24 Station Road - Land at, Hurst Green TN19 7PL. Outline: Erection of detached single storey bungalow. **Not supported.**

RR/2017/1200/P - 1 London Road, Lodge Farm Cottage, Hurst Green TN19 7QP. Conversion of existing garage to annexe; incorporating raising of roof, ground and first floor extensions to the rear. **Supported.**

Councillor Browne explained to the meeting that he would not comment on the next application due to his historical links to the site.

RR/2017/1201/P - Wincot, London Road, Hurst Green TN19 7QS. Single storey rear extension. **Supported.**

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

The RFO, David Hilbourne gave the report.

The RFO reported that the Certificate of Compliance from the Pensions Regulator has been received to show that the Council complies with Pension regulations.

6.1 Current financial position

Balance of accounts

Community Account (6752)	£13,787.23	as at 20 th June 2017
Community Savings (6779)	£4,061.99	as at 20 th June 2017
Renewals A/C (6760)	£10,075.80	as at 20 th June 2017

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 Motion to approve invoices.

Proposed by Councillor Funnell and seconded by Councillor Harrison. Unanimously approved.

6.3 Approval and issue of Cheques

Urgent cheques drawn and paid away

Cheque No. 100774 - Floral Boutique (5 th May) for Cllr Cruse.	£48.00
Cheque No. 100787 - Soc. Of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) (9 th June), Clerk's sub.	£108.00

Cheques to be authorised for this meeting

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

Cheque No. 100789 - J Ellis, Clerk's Salary (June).	£440.73
Cheque No. 100790 - D Hilbourne, RFOs salary (June).	£130.44
Cheque No. 100791 - East Sussex Pension Scheme, re Clerk (June).	£158.40
Cheque No. 100792 - HMRC, remit PAYE collected.	£431.00
Cheque No. 100793 - Pet Waste Solutions, clearance of dog bin (3) waste for June.	£84.50
Cheque No. 100794 - Spoilt.	-
Cheque No. 100795 - HG Village Hall, half share of telephone costs	£170.18
Cheque No. 100796 - R Cruse, maintenance of Corner Garden.*	£380.00

Cheque No. 100797 - Hurst Green PCC, donation for churchyard under LGA 1972 s125 (6). (resolution passed 30/05/17, agenda item 7.9)	£1,000.00
Cheque No. 100798 - League of Friends, s137 donation for Hawkhurst Com. Hospital (resolution passed 30/05/17, agenda item 7.8).	£500.00
Cheque No. 100799 - Victim Support, s137 donation (resolution passed 30/05/17, agenda item 7.8).	£50.00
Cheque No. 100800 - Rother District CAB, s137 donation (resolution passed 30/05/17, agenda item 7.8).	£50.00
Cheque No. 100801 - Rural Rother Trust, s137 donation (resolution passed 30/05/17, agenda item 7.8).	£50.00
Cheque No. 100802 - DG Browne, grass cutting for Drewetts and Lodge Fields for May & June.	£240.00

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

Cheques proposed by Councillor Funnell and seconded by Councillor Harrison.

*Robin Cruse has sadly noted that he will no longer be able to maintain the Corner Garden after September.

6.4 Resolution to adopt Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

To be postponed to the next meeting.

6.5 Resolution to contribution towards Broadband Expenses for Clerk of £108 and RFO of (?)

The RFO noted that he would not be claiming back half of his broadband costs.

Councillors unanimously resolved to pay half the Clerk's broadband costs, a sum of £108.

7.0 **Playing & Stage Fields**

Councillor Harrison reported that he had attended the RoSPA Risk Assessment visit at Lodge Field on the 21st June with Peter Mann. He reported that Mr Mann had displayed a sensible attitude towards this process and Councillor Harrison was happy with the outcome. Main area for concern was the large swing with one post that needs to be replaced as soon as possible. Mr Mann also recommended that softer landing points should be installed under some equipment. The lack of strimmer guards had also been noted.

Councillor Harrison reported on Drewetts Field and suggested that the entrance gateway could do with a facelift. Thought that the Parish Council should look into updating the lease with the Cricket Club which has not been looked at since 1974.

Expressed concern over the amount of grass cuttings dumped in the field by both the Cricket Club and local residents and thinks that the trees should be assessed again for safety.

It was unanimously agreed that Councillor Harrison should set up a meeting with the Cricket Club to look into the various issues raised.

Councillor Johnson asked if the football club was still interested in Stage Field and was the new entrance really necessary.

Councillor Browne responded that the current entrance was unsuitable due to safety concerns and felt that a new entrance would increase usage by all not necessarily just the Football club.

The Clerk has started work on the grant application for the entrance.

7.1 Repair of Lodge Field damaged play equipment and to pass any necessary resolutions in association with this.

Councillor Janes reported that the bridge play equipment needed to repair the bridge was no longer displayed on the website and would need further investigation. The strimmer guards have arrived and now need fitting.

7.2 Resolution to purchase one more bench and installation costs for Lodge Field to replace broken bench.

Councillor Browne reported that there were more issues re benches as the memorial bench at the bus stop at the entrance to Bernhurst was damaged and needed replacing. Clerk has also inspected the bench at the bus stop at Silverhill and the metal stand has broken in half on this one and the bench needs to be replaced as well.

It was unanimously resolved to purchase 3 more seats with the formal resolution to be put on the next agenda. David Hilbourne to arrange the purchase.

8.0 Footpaths, Transport & Roads

A meeting has been arranged with Karl Taylor, Assistant Director Operations, Community, Economy and Transport, ESCC and Andrew Le Gresley with the Parish Council to discuss the issues raised by footpath 23 and East Sussex's handling of the situation.

The Action Group asked to be informed of the outcome.

The Clerk has sent notices out re overgrown hedges to no. 8 Great Oak, properties along Burgh Hill, No. 33 Ridgeway and the property on the corner of Ridgeway and Station Road.

No information has been rec'd recently re the RDC Car Park situation. Councillor Prochak reported that it was currently taking up a lot of time with many issues raised in Robertsbridge.

9.00 Notices and Correspondence:-

Correspondence previously circulated via email.

9.1 Urgent issues requiring attention

Councillor Janes reported that the cherry trees in the Community Shop's car park are in an unsafe condition and need to be felled. The Council will need to check with Thomas Pakenham re this and will be put on next agenda.

10.00 Items for the next agenda:-

Neighbourhood Plan

Standing Orders and Financial regulations

Items to be emailed to Clerk as necessary.

11.0 Date and time of next Meeting:-

The next meeting is on Tuesday 25th July 2017 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Distribution of Minutes: -

All Parish councillors.

Parish Council Noticeboard.

ESCC Councillor J. Barnes.

RDC Councillor S. Prochak.

Signed

Chairman

Dated