

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in Hurst Green Village Hall on Tuesday 28th April 2015 starting at 8:00pm.

Present: - Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Duddridge, Councillor Hampton, Councillor Peacock, Councillor Janes, Councillor Wright and District Councillor Prochak

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

1.0 Apologies for Absence:- Councillor Cruse, Councillor Greenfield 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 31st March 2015.

Minutes proposed by Councillor Hampton and seconded by Councillor Peacock.

2.1 Matters arising from the Minutes: -

No matters arising.

3.0 Declaration of Interest: -

Councillor Janes declared an interest in the Community Shop, agenda item 7.0 a).

4.0 Community:-

4.1 Guest speaker

No PCSO present at this time. *See end of agenda item 8.2.*

Sarah Allen gave a presentation to the Council on her latest initiative, 'More for Kids' a Community Interest Company, which is a Not-For-Profit organisation. Its main aim is to provide more support for all children but with a particular focus on those with special needs. Wants to open up employment and training opportunities and aims to set up four groups with two age ranges of 3-8 and 8-16 year olds. Currently looking for venues and funding. Being supported by many major business and organisations who have expressed interest. Councillor Browne suggested that she should contact the Community Shop which currently hosts a youth group meeting.

Sarah Allen was asked to supply a written request of what money she wants with full costings and how it will be spent in order for the Parish Council to consider a donation.

4.2 Community reports

No community reports rec'd

4.3 Council Vacancies

The Clerk noted that the new Council would need to co-opt five new councillors and that this should be done at the next, AGM, meeting. Existing Councillors asked to advertise this and speak to perspective interested parties. Candidates need to live or work in the parish or live within 3 miles of the boundary.

4.4 AiRS Health and Well being project.

The Council has been contacted by AiRS re working with hard to reach groups of all ages within the community who could benefit from opportunities to exercise and improve their health and wellbeing. It was suggested that Sarah Allen may benefit from this.

4.5 County/District Councillors Report

District Councillor Prochak reported that she had nothing more to add to her report given at the Annual Parish Assembly meeting on the 22nd April although she did note that PCSO Iain Thompsett has now gone and been replaced by a new PCSO. New system means that a group of PCSOs will now cover all areas as needed.

5.0 Planning: -

5.1 RDC Planning decisions

RR/2015/543/P - 15 Acorn Way, Hurst Green TN19 7QG. Single Storey Rear Extension. **Granted.**

RR/2015/398/P - 85 London Road, Hurst Green TN19 7PN. Cladding of two storey rear extension with feather edge board (amendment to RR/2013/1270/P). **Granted.**

5.2 Current Applications

RR/2015/762/T - **Southview**, Burgh Hill, Hurst Green TN19 7PE. Various works to Beech tree. Unable to view plans as RDC website down therefore **no comment.**

RR/2015/734/P - **Two Hoots**, Station Road, Hurst Green TN19 7PL. Proposed single storey rear/side extension. **Supported.**

6.0 **Finance/David Hilbourne,RFO's Report:-**

6.1 Current financial position

Balance of accounts

Community Account (6752)	£26,122.08	as at 27 th April 2015
Community Savings (6779)	£690.26	as at 27 th April 2015
Renewals A/C (6760)	£3,062.63	as at 27 th April 2015

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

2 nd April 2015 - RDC, Parish Precept part one.	£16,100.00
2 nd April 2015 - RDC, Council Tax reduction grant.	£1,559.07

6.2 Approval and issue of Cheques

Urgent cheques drawn and paid away

27 th April 2015, Cheque No. 100554 - J Smith Catering, catering for APA.	£200.00
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Cheques to be authorised for this meeting

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

Cheque No. 100555 - Spoilt	
Cheque No. 100556 - J Ellis, Clerk's Salary (April).	£419.26
Cheque No. 100557 - D Hilbourne, RFOs salary (April)	£96.00
Cheque No. 100558 - East Sussex Pension Scheme, re Clerk.	£144.47
Cheque No. 100559 - SSALC, Local Council Review sub.	£17.00
Cheque No. 100560 - ESALC, Subs to ESALC and NALC.	£382.75
Cheque No. 100561 - D Hilbourne, Petty Cash.	£100.00

Approval is sought for present issue of Cheques.

Cheques proposed by Councillor Peacock and seconded by Councillor Janes.

The RFO, David Hilbourne noted that he proposed to give projections for next year's spending and finance at the next meeting.

7.0 **Donation requests:**

a) HG Shop for air-conditioning unit

Councillor Janes declared an interest in this due to his connection with the shop and did not take part in this agenda item.

The Council has received a request for help in purchasing an air-conditioning unit for the Community Shop as the premises are getting over hot in the warm weather and the fridges overheat to the extent that food is spoiling and having to be thrown away.

The Council having discussed this agreed that as a Community asset help should be given and as the head lease holder of the premises felt that the Council should be able to purchase the unit as part of an improvement to the building rather than award a grant to the shop. By doing this the Council could reclaim the VAT element of the cost. Clerk to check with SSALC that this can be done.

The Council requested that full costs and tenders be obtained for the unit from different suppliers.

b) HG Cricket Club, £250 towards upkeep of the field.

It was **unanimously resolved to grant a donation of £250** to the Cricket Club under s137 LGA 1972

8.0 Playing & Stage Fields:-

The Clerk reported that an email has been received from a local resident complaining about the build-up of rubbish in Lodge Field and broken glass which he has now cleared up after the Clerk responded re the problems getting rubbish removed from the field and the costs involved. The resident also requested that the Council look at widening the paths, clearing more of the overgrown hedges intruding onto the field and the possibility of a skate park.

Whilst it was agreed that cutting back more of the undergrowth and hedges was a possibility and will be looked into, at the moment widening the paths and putting in a skate park was not a realistic option the latter due to health and safety issues and the high costs involved.

8.1 Update on Lodge Field Play Equipment Inspection report 2014

Councillor Janes provided costs for the replacement play equipment, £29 + Vat for each swing seat, foot supports £10 each (4 needed) plus 2 packs of wet pour for the worn ground surface.

It was agreed that Councillor Janes should order the replacement parts and Councillor Browne would look at getting a quote for the repair work to be done.

8.2 Provision of seating in Drewetts Field

A resident has commented on the lack of seating in Drewetts Field since the old shelter was demolished. Councillor Browne suggested that the memorial seat to Joe Harper that has been vandalised beyond use in Lodge Field should be replaced and re sited in Drewetts Field.

To be put on the next agenda and appropriate seating looked into.

PCSO Georgiou arrived at this time, 9.00pm, and gave a report to the Council at the Chair's invitation.

He reported that Samantha Kemp would be our new designated PCSO.

Reported on burglaries in the Burgh Hill area, a traffic accident in Station Road and cold callers. He asked residents to call 101 immediately if cold callers visited so that PCSOs could act.

Also incidents of fraud and money laundering.

PCSO Georgiou left the meeting at 9.25pm

9.0 Footpaths, Transport & Roads

The Clerk has chased the Highways re the various A21 road issues and asked for an update on speed calming measure. This was done as a FOI request in the hope of getting a response.

The Clerk has also asked ECSS to look at the water flowing over the B2099 near Bellhurst drive as this runs all year round.

A local resident has asked if the Council has any objections to the removal of the old Hurst Green village sign to the north of the village on the A21 as it is obstructing their entrance. Highways England are happy to have it removed as a new sign is already in situ.

The Chair suggested that the sign is stored until a useful home can be found for it as it is part of the Village's history and displays the old Sussex heraldic crest.

This was unanimously agreed. Trevor Croft will store until Council decides on new siting.

10.0 Notices and Correspondence: -

Correspondence previously circulated via email

10.1 Urgent issues requiring attention

BT phone box near the Pigeon House on the A21 is in a bad state of repair and needs maintaining. Clerk to contact BT.

Councillor Hampton has rec'd a complaint by a local resident who was upset by the lack of advertising for the Annual Parish Assembly although notices did go up 3 weeks before the event it was not in the local magazine and no large signs displayed.

Local land owner expressed concern about dying trees outside Orchard Farm on the A21 and asked the Council to contact Highways England due to health and safety issues. Clerk to look into this.

11.0 Items for the next agenda: -

Already noted.

12.0 Date and time of next Meeting: -

The next meeting is on Tuesday 19^h May 2015 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

Cllr Hampton, who is not standing for re-election thanked all the Councillors for their help over her term of office over the last 9 years.

The Chair 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