

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held in Hurst Green Village Hall on Tuesday 26th February 2019 starting at 8:00pm.

Present:- Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Brown, Councillor Duddridge, Councillor Janes, Councillor Johnson, Councillor Price (from 8.22pm), District Councillor Prochak and County Councillor Barnes.

The RFO, David Hilbourne and the Clerk were in attendance. One member of the public was present.

1.0 Apologies for Absence: - Councillor Kenchington (*family commitments*) and Councillor Wright (*unknown*).

2.0 Minutes of the last meeting: -

To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the Tuesday 22nd January 2019

Minutes proposed by Councillor Johnson and seconded by Councillor Browne.

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.

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's gave the report. Housing and parking surveys are in progress and a high level of community engagement is currently going on.

It was reported that the current potential Foundry Close site developers have been asked by Rother to make some changes to their plans and an application will be submitted for the site in the near future.
Councillor Price arrived at 8.22pm.

General discussion on the plans to date and public consultation.

4.2 Community Shop and to pass any resolutions agreed.

Councillor Janes updated the Council on the plans for a small wildlife nature garden in the grounds of the shop. A local Woodland Trust member has applied to the Trust for a small grant to plant ten new trees to help create the area. It would in the future have potential as a woodland school. Further grant money to be sourced if possible, for this project.

4.3 Parish Magazine, motion by Cllr Browne to support a grant of £250 per annum to support this venture.

Councillor Brown seconded this motion and it was **unanimously resolved to approve this grant.**

4.4 To discuss issue of horse straying within the parish and to pass any resolutions deemed necessary

Councillor Browne updated the Council on this issue. The RSPCA cannot help as the horses are in good condition having grazed on neighbour's land during the summer months.

The local PCSO has proved a lot of information re straying animals and what can be done which includes taking on ownership of straying animal provided the correct legal procedures and notices are carried out. Issue is what to do with the animals after ownership is taken on. This is to be looked into further.

4.5 Clerk's report – circulated

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

4.6 Council Elections May 2019

To be postponed to the next agenda.

4.7 Parish Correspondence and local resident issues

Local resident copied Council into email expressing continued concern re the A21 and speeding issues with no enforcement to Huw Merriman MP.

4.8 Urgent issues requiring attention

Local residents unanimously chosen to receive the Community Award this year at the APA..

4.9 Councillors questions

None rec'd.

5.0 To discuss resolution on paying Parish Councillors allowance to compensate them for their time spent on council business, currently £228 per annum (*at present not taken up by HG Cllrs*)

Councillors **unanimously agreed not to take up this option up** at this time.

6.0 TRANSPORT, ROADS & FOOTPATHS

Councillor Johnson noted that parts of the A21 had been resurfaced.

Councillor Browne asked Councillor Barnes if he had rec'd an answer yet re the weight restriction on the Fysie Lane bridge below Burgh Wood? Still a work in progress as it appears that the bridge has never had a weigh restriction applied to it. Councillor Browne noted that it was a very old bridge and should be checked. Councillor Barnes responded that it was not listed on the weak bridges listing.

Councillor Duddridge reported that Silver Birch tree roots were lifting up the pavement and creating a hazard outside numbers 1 & 3 Ridgeway. Clerk to report.

Councillor Johnson raised concerns re the Monkey puzzle tree overhanging the pavement alongside the A21 near the bus shelter(northbound). Clerk to report to Highways England.

6.1 Community Speedwatch Initiative report

Councillor Price reported that the group was still waiting to be contacted re training. Clerk to send Councillors Price's email address to the Etchingham speedwatch co-ordinator Colin Boylett.

7.0 PLANNING: -

7.1 RDC Planning decisions

RR/2018/2977/P - 47 London Road, Hurst Green TN19 7QP. Conversion of ground floor shop/office to studio flat. **Granted.**

7.2 Current Applications.

RR/2019/148/P - Merriments Gardens & Nursery, Merriments Lane, Hurst Green TN19 7RA.

Ground floor conversion and extension of Merriments House to form a new Cafe with use of orangery for daytime functions. Roof extension and external staircase to serve first floor flat. Reopen and alter western access to segregate deliveries from customer parking area. **Not supported in current form.** (insufficient information in the plans)

RR/2019/88/P - Coopers Corner Farm, Merriments Lane, Hurst Green TN19 7RA. Extension of existing single garage to tandem garage. **Supported.**

8.0 Finance/RFO's Report:-

The RFO, David Hilbourne gave his report which had previously been circulated by email.

The RFO has prepared the Asset register and circulated via email. Query re exactly what needs to go on the Asset Register. Clerk to check with SSALC.

8.1 Current financial position

Balance of accounts

Community Account (6752)	£20,280.69	as at 23 rd Feb 2019
Community Savings (6779)	£5,5476.67	as at 23 rd Feb 2019
Renewals A/C (6760)	£10,091.64	as at 23 rd Feb 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

15th Feb - PWLB, parish loan interest and capital. £1,956.25

Payments received

18th Feb - HMRC, VAT recovered. £1,600.93

8.2 Motion to approve invoices and approval and issue of ChequesUrgent cheques drawn and paid away

Cheque No. 1001009 - 4 Jays, Toilet hire for Stage Field event, 11/11/18.* £205.20.

*Replacement for cancelled cheque no. 100987 (28th Nov) due to muddle over VAT element of invoice.

Cheques to be authorised for this meeting

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

Cheque No. 1001010 - J Ellis, Clerk's Salary (February).	£563.38
Cheque No. 1001011 - D Hilbourne, RFOs salary (February).	£148.45
Cheque No. 1001012 - East Sussex Pension Scheme, re Clerk (February).	£164.54
Cheque No. 1001013 - Donna Moles, Neighbourhood plan consultant fees.	£1,340.00
Cheque No. 1001014 - Petty cash, reimbursement of petty cash.	£130.00
Cheque No. 1001015 - Pet Waste Solutions, clearance of dog bin (4) waste for Jan & Feb 2019	£270.38

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 Janes and seconded by Councillor Duddridge.

9.0 Playing & Stage Fields**9.1 Drewetts Field – resolution to support mole control in field**

No further quotes rec'd therefore Councillors **unanimously resolved to go with the first quote** from Nick Oliver who has previously carried out successful mole control in the field.

9.2 Stage Field progress report on grant application and to pass any resolutions necessary

The grant application has now been submitted with all the necessary documentation.

9.3 To discuss rubbish and apparent drug taking debris in Lodge Field

Councillor Johnson updated the Council on this issue which appears to be an ongoing issue which is worse at the weekends.

Concerned that Sussex Police were going to look into this problem but no response has yet been forthcoming.

10.00 Items for the next agenda:-

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

11.0 Date and time of next Meeting and to set date of Annual Parish Assembly:-

The next meeting is on Tuesday 26th March 2019 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

It was agreed to hold the Annual Parish Assembly on Friday 12th April providing the main hall was available

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.05pm.

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

Signed Graham Browne

Chairman
Dated 26th March 2019