

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

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

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

The Clerk and the RFO David Hilbourne were in attendance and 6 members of the public.

1.0 Apologies for Absence:- None.

2.0 Minutes of the last meeting:-

To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 24th November 2015.

Minutes proposed by Councillor Funnell and seconded by Councillor Cruse.

3.0 Declaration of Interests: -

None received.

4.0 Community Activities:-

No reports rec'd.

4.1 Red telephone box on the A21 near the Pigeon House.

In poor condition and phone broken on last inspection. Clerk to report to BT.

4.2 County/District Councillors Report

County Councillor Barnes gave an update on the latest County Council budget situation which was worse than expected with £10 million less than anticipated from the Community Grant scheme which will cease altogether in 2020. Council Tax increase of 3.99%.

Councillor Barnes expressed the need to integrate health and social care to keep people out of hospital and get them back into the local community. 50% of public money goes into health and social care so must look at most cost effective way of delivering the service.

District Councillor Prochak reported that RDC had raised the tax by 1.99% in line with other local services. The brown garden waste bin service would be increased to £35 per year. Noted that RDC would get to keep a percentage of business rates but the area does not have the number of big businesses for this to make a substantial difference.

5.0 Planning: -

5.1 RDC Planning decisions

RR/2015/2540/P - 58 London Road, Parkside, Hurst Green TN19 7PN. Proposed two storey extension to replace attached garage and converted garage. **Granted.**

RR/2015/2683/P - Pooks Field Farm, London Road, Hurst Green TN19 7QS. Extension to form annexe for disabled relative. **Granted.**

RR/2015/2681/P - Boundary Farm House, London Road, Hurst Green TN19 7QY. Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of a replacement dwelling. **Granted.**

5.2 Current Applications

A local resident, Mrs Stolworthy, had addressed the Council prior to the meeting to express concerns over the lack of parking provision for the newly approved flats at Colemans Way which was currently being looked at by RDC.

Whilst agreeing there was a serious problem all agreed that there was little to be done as RDC had already approved the conversion of the flats and the latest application was only to do with the number of parking bays that could be fitted in.

RR/2015/3005/L - 44 Station Road, Hurst Green TN19 7PQ. Replacement of front door. **Supported.**

RR/2015/3146/P - 58 London Road, Parkside, Hurst Green TN19 7PN. Variation of planning permission

RR/2015/946/P, conditions 2 and 4. Redesign of garage to provide single garage & domestic storage area. **Supported.**

5.3 Local residents planning concern re unlawful occupation at site known as Hayes Mill Oast

A local resident addressed the Council and provided background papers prior to the meeting which were circulated concerning an enforcement issue and non-compliance with approved planning.

An enforcement order has been made against this property and the owner is currently in the process of submitting a planning application therefore this matter was adjourned until the application is rec'd.

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

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

David requested help from two Councillors to complete this year's Risk Assessment.

Councillors Funnel and Peacock agreed to do this.

6.1 Current financial position

Balance of accounts

Community Account (6752)	£9,519.39	as at 21 st January 2016
Community Savings (6779)	£2,158.39	as at 21 st January 2016
Renewals A/C (6760)	£10,067.88	as at 21 st January 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

20th Dec. - Biffa, waste collection for Drewetts. £40.56

Payments received

17th Dec. - HMRC, Vat reclaimed. £1,468.13

6.2 Approval and issue of Cheques

Urgent cheques drawn and paid away

Cheque No. 100628 - R Pelham, Dog sign holder and fitting.	£50.00
Cheque No. 100629 - Ciber Direct, printer cartridge.	£24.80
Cheque No. 100630 - J Ellis, Clerk's Salary (December).	£416.86
Cheque No. 100631 - D Hilbourne, RFOs salary (December)	£96.00
Cheque No. 100632 - East Sussex Pension Scheme, re Clerk.	£143.85
Cheque No. 100633 - Robertsbridge Gdn Centre, Lodge Field playground cut, July/Aug/Sept/Oct.	£924.00
Cheque No. 100634 - Spoilt	-
Cheque No. 100635 - HMRC, remit PAYE collected.	£390.40
Cheque No. 100636 - HG Community shop, Chairmen's dinner.	£367.50

Cheques to be authorised for this meeting

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

Cheque No. 100637 - J Ellis, Clerk's Salary (January).	£433.06
Cheque No. 100638 - D Hilbourne, RFOs salary (January)	£124.06
Cheque No. 100639 - East Sussex Pension Scheme, re Clerk.	£149.54

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

Cheques proposed by Councillor Cruse and seconded by Councillor Johnson.

6.3 Resolution to approve Precept for 2016-17 at £33,275 as agreed at the working party meeting held on the 12th January 2016

It was unanimously resolved to set the precept at £33,275 for financial year 2016/17 an increase of 3.3%.

7.0 PLAYING FIELDS

A representative of the Hurst Green Junior Football Club thanked the Council for all its help and support and gave a report on the current situation. A very active club that is very well supported.

Councillor Browne reported on the position re getting a new access and parking into Stage Field which would make it available to use by the football club.

Councillor Harrison thanked the club for all the work it was doing for local children.

7.1 Update on repairs to Lodge Field and play equipment

Councillor Janes has emailed Will to do the work and the equipment will be ordered this week.

8.0 Footpaths, Transport & Roads

Councillor Harrison reported that the East Sussex County Council online fault reporting website was excellent.

Concern on the lack of action re the potholes on the A21 near the church. Clerk to chase again.

8.1 Update on Footpath 23 (off London Road by Jesses)

Kent County Council has been brought in as the third party to arbitrate on the matter of the legal line of the path and Andrew Le Gresley is waiting for this independent review before arranging a meeting with the Council.

Councillor Funnell spoke to Ramblers at the weekend who said that it was legal for walkers to stop and picnic on public footpaths. They also claimed that footpaths should be five to six feet wide.

The Rights of Way team have given the landowner of Jesses waymarkers to mark the route but concern was expressed that they are not being correctly put up.

Councillor Barnes will ask County to look into this.

Parish Council to request that the originally stone marker is put back to its original position.

Councillor Barnes noted that the dispute was to do with the route at the rear of the property not the front and that if the Parish Council did not agree with Kent's decision then the only redress was to go to court.

Clerk still has to contact the Chief Constable.

Councillor Barnes said that a Strategic Liaison meeting (SLR) should be arranged with County to review areas of concern.

9.0 Notices and Correspondence:-

Correspondence previously circulated via email

9.1 Urgent issues requiring attention

Councillor Browne reported that the drain cover in the pavement outside the shop was the main sewer therefore connecting to it should be straight forward.

Motorbike parked in Station Road is overhanging the pavement and impeding pedestrians trying to pass. Clerk to report when further details supplied.

Councillor Browne thanked Councillor Harrison for speaking to Maureen Harniman re lost invoices for Village Hall windows.

Concern over damage to historic scout totem and the need for a cabinet to properly display this and the barometer bequeathed to the Council in. Mr Endean to be asked to quote for this.

Concern over dog fouling on footpaths around the village. Councillor Prochak said that more signs could be put up and the Dog Warden contacted but would need to catch perpetrators in the act!

10.00 Items for the next agenda:-

Queens's celebrations- beacon

Friends' community group

12.0 Date and time of next Meeting:-

The next meeting is on Tuesday 23rd February 2016 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Distribution of Minutes: -

Signed

All Parish councillors.

Parish Council Noticeboard.

ESCC Councillor J. Barnes.

Chairman

RDC Councillor S. Prochak.

Dated