

## HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in Hurst Green Village Hall on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2015 starting at 8:00pm.

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

The Clerk was in attendance and 3 members of the public.

**1.0 Apologies for Absence:** - Councillor Funnell, District Councillor Prochak and the RFO David Hilbourne.

**2.0 Minutes of the last meeting:-**

To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

**Minutes proposed by Councillor Peacock and seconded by Councillor Johnson.**

**2.1 Matters arising from the Minutes: -**

No matters arising. Councillor Peacock noted that this does not need to be on the agenda and should be left off future meetings. Agreed.

**3.0 Declaration of Interests: -**

Councillor Wright declared an interest in agenda item 7.3 as he has submitted a quote.

**4.0 Community:- Guest speaker**

No guest speaker.

**4.1 Community Reports**

None rec'd.

**4.2 County/District Councillors Report**

**County Councillor Barnes** reported that the budget and the savings to be made should be known by the end of November. Legislation dictates that some services are statutory and cuts to them will be limited but 2 million will be cut from the library service with the mobile library being very vulnerable as cutting this service will save around 1 million. A new joint venture with Surrey, Orbis, links up services and now covers the 2 counties making staff savings but 200-250 further front line jobs will have to go. Some money may be released from property. Parishes will be asked to contribute more to services and the County wants local communities to take more responsibility for the socially isolated.

The Boundary review is ongoing but it looks unlikely that the County Council's boundaries will change much but local areas will see changes with Hurst Green, Salehurst, Flimwell and Ticehurst linked as a Rother area. Stonegate will be included with Etchingham and Burwash. Boundaries are changed depending on population with roughly the same amount of voters in each area.

**District Councillor Browne** reported that changes to the council tax reduction scheme means everyone will pay 20% of the council tax regardless of means.

**5.0 Planning: -**

**5.1 RDC Planning decisions**

None rec'd.

**5.2 Current Applications**

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

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

Financial report prepared by David Hilbourne given by the Clerk in the RFO's absence.

**6.1 Current financial position**

Balance of accounts

Community Account (6752)	£18,696.79	as at 2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2015
Community Savings (6779)	£690.50	as at 2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2015
Renewals A/C (6760)	£10,066.10	as at 2 <sup>nd</sup> October 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 noted.

Payments received

None noted.

- Resolution proposed by Councillor Browne to donate £1,000 towards the maintenance of the Churchyard under LGA 1972, s.125(6). **Unanimously supported.**
- Resolution proposed by Councillor Browne to donate £500 to the Friends of Hawkhurst Cottage Hospital under LGA 1972, s137. **Unanimously supported**
- Resolution proposed by Councillor Browne to make a donation to the Royal British Legion under LGA 1972, s137. **Unanimously supported to donate £50.**

6.2 Approval and issue of ChequesUrgent cheques drawn and paid away

Cheque No. 100614 - HG Parochial Church Council, donation for upkeep of churchyard to be formally agreed at this meeting.. £1000.00

Cheques to be authorised for this meeting

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

Cheque No. 100610 - East Sussex Pension Scheme, re Clerk.	£143.85
Cheque No. 100611 - J Ellis, Clerk's Salary (October).	£416.66
Cheque No. 100612 - D Hilbourne, RFOs salary (October)	£96.00
Cheque No. 100613 - Hawkhurst Cottage Hospital (friends of)	£500.00
Cheque No. 100615 - HG Village Hall, Share of telephone costs.	£142.30
Cheque No. 100616 - HG Village Hall, rent for meetings.	£260.00
Cheque No. 100617 - Russell Electrical Group, electrical work for HG Community Shop Aircon	£387.60

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

**Cheques proposed by Councillor Cruse and seconded by Councillor Peacock.**

*\* Some Councillors reported that they had not seen the invoices. Clerk noted that they had been sent out very early and may have been missed.*

**7.0 PLAYING FIELDS and Corner Garden**

Problem in Drewetts Field with irresponsible walkers not clearing up after their dogs. Notices put on gate have been removed. More robust signs to be put up and site monitored.

7.1 New Lodge Field Playground inspection Report

New report highlights outstanding issues as well as more urgent work that needs doing. Councillor Janes noted that the equipment met all health and safety regulations at time of installation and that this is still relevant to the equipment unless changes are made.

7.2 Resolution to accept quote for Lodge Field play equipment repairs Second company contacted for quote failed to get back to the Council. Councillor Janes outlined all the work that the existing quote would cover which

includes the perimeter fence. Councillor Harrison asked what standard the insurance cover needed. Councillor Janes replied that as the play equipment met all standards at time of installation we would be cover provided the equipment was well maintained.

**It was unanimously resolved to accept the quote rec'd. Councillor Janes will action.**

**7.3 Resolution to accept quote for disabled access to Drewetts Field and siting of memorial seat to Ken Foster**

*Councillor Wright declared an interest in this item and did not take part in the discussion.*

Two quotes rec'd although not strictly comparable as one included disabled access and the other covered 2 seats being installed. **It was resolved to go with the cheapest quote.** Clerk to check for cost of installing 2 seats and disabled access to be left for future meeting when second quote rec'd.

**8.0 Footpaths, Transport & Roads**

Overgrown hedge on footpath that runs alongside Stage Field. Clerk to report.

Unacceptable repair to drain cover in pavement by School. Clerk to chase.

Issues with bus stop outside Village Hall obscuring exit onto road and parking on bend making sights lines for passing vehicles very difficult. Councillor Barnes will look to see if stop can be moved to more suitable site.

**8.1 Footpath 23 (off London Road by Jesses)**

Councillor Barnes thanked Claire Barrett for all her work re footpath 23 and noted that it was quite clear that the footpath never ran close to the boundary with Alma Cottage. Noted that the footpath waymarker should be moved back to its original position.

Councillor Barnes has rec'd an informal report from Andrew Le Gresley and asked that the Clerk chase up the Parish liaison meeting. Feels that the landowner is trying to enforce the alternative route as the definitive way.

Claire Barret thanked Councillor Barnes and reported that they are hoping to have another meeting with the Ramblers to fill out a definitive map order form which will prove the fact of the line.

It was noted that a written statement goes with the definite map and this states the route follows the drive.

The problem of the line of the path has escalated with a local resident receiving a police caution as a direct result of the landowners obstruction of the disputed footpath with dog excrement smeared onto the five bar gate of the adjoining property. Some confusion as to whether ESCC gave information to the Police about it being private land.

Clerk to write to East Sussex County Council.

Councillor Barnes suggested that a petition should be raised.

**9.0 Notices and Correspondence:-**

*Correspondence previously circulated via email*

Request rec'd from Rother Rural Trust for a donation. To be put on the next agenda.

**9.1 Urgent issues requiring attention**

No urgent issues.

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

Footpath 23 and Rother Rural trust

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

The next meeting is on Tuesday 24<sup>h</sup> November 2015 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Distribution of Minutes: -

Signed

All Parish councillors.

Parish Council Noticeboard.

ESCC Councillor J. Barnes.

Chairman

RDC Councillor S. Prochak.

Dated