

## EAST HOATHLY with HALLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the full council held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> of November, 2019 at 7 pm at the Village Hall, East Hoathly.

Present: Cllr. David Vaughan (chairman), Cllr. Susan Cole, Cllr. Quinta Deane, Cllr. Chris Magness, Cllr. Tony Pope and Cllr. Carolyn Robins.

In attendance: Malcolm Ramsden (clerk), Verne Heath (rfo), County Cllr. Nick Bennett and five members of the public.

### AGENDA

#### 1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend. The first fifteen minutes of the meeting will be available for the public to express a view or ask a question on relevant matters on the agenda. The public and members of the press are also welcome to stay and observe the rest of the meeting

*A representative of the Speedwatch Group handed the clerk more than a dozen complaints (held on file) from Halland residents regarding traffic concerns and a number of members of the public present alerted members to a number of traffic issues to which, in response, the chairman urged and encouraged that all individuals with concerns should alert the County Highways department.*

#### 2. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

*No reports due to period of purdah.*

#### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are invited to make any declaration of personal or prejudicial interests that they may have in relation to items on the agenda and are reminded to make any declarations at any stage during the meeting if it then becomes apparent that this may be required when a particular item or issue is to be considered

*Cllr. Pope declared his interest in matters relating to his association with Church Marks Green Management Co. Ltd. Chairman declared his interest in payments made (5.1 below).*

#### 4. APOLOGIES – to receive apologies for absence

*Apology received and reason accepted from Cllr. Ritchie.*

#### 5. FINANCE

5.1 To approve/note payments payable/paid September to October, 2019  
*Following a proposal by Cllr. Robins and seconding by Cllr. Deane*

**0216** **RESOLVED** that members approve/note payments/paid September, 2019  
*(Appendix A) totalling £7,458.85.*

5.2 To discuss and approve draft budget, precept and reserves for 2020/21  
*Members considered Cllr. Deane's suggestion that the recent C.I.L. monies might be used towards returning the pavement between the two entrances to the playing fields to its original condition. Discussion included the possibility of widening the area 'marked' for parking and that the County Highways noting that a perfectly good pavement existed on the opposite side of the road meant that it would necessitate users having to cross the London Road twice. Members agreed that research be re-opened and comments sought from users but that the budget was not to include a provision for works at the present time.*

Members noted the proposed budget, precept and reserves for 2020/21 which would result in an increase of 3.5% (an increase of £1.36 per annum to a band D council tax payer when the new tax base is taken into account, which reduces the actual increase to 1.56%)

0217 Following a proposal by Cllr. Magness and seconding by Cllr. Cole  
**RESOLVED** that budget, precept and reserves for 2020/21 be approved and that the precept requested from District Council be £61,958.

Meeting suspended to hear comments from the floor and County Cllr. Bennett.

Members heard concerns from residents neighbouring the playing field regarding the bramble/ivy clearance which the chairman agreed would form part of the discussion within the next item.

County Cllr. Bennett agreed to examine the narrow pavement issue between the A22 Halland roundabout and Knowle Lane (towards Ringmer) but asked that the issue be raised with County Highways using the usual channel.

Meeting re-convened.

- 5.3 To discuss and approve cost of bramble clearance at playing fields  
Members recalled the unfortunate experience relating to work commencing early following a misunderstanding. Comments and views of neighbours were sufficient to conclude that the area only be cleared from behind No. 3 Susans Close to behind No. 20 High Street. Discussion concluded that clearance would need to become an annual event and that there would still be sufficient 'natural' areas for wildlife. New quotes from contractors awaited.
- 5.4 To note outcome of member audit  
Members noted that Cllr. Pope had completed the member audit of Council finances on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November and found all to be accordance with requirements.
- 5.5 To note bank account reconciliation  
Members noted that the chairman had confirmed the reconciliation of bank account balances to Council's cashbook on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November, as at 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2019.
- 5.6 To note expenses re-imburement procedures  
RFO Verne Heath reminded members that, if possible, v.a.t. invoices for re-imbursed items be obtained in the name of Council with purchases on behalf of the Woodland Working Group and Garden Plots being through Council invoicing.
- 5.7 To consider inclusion within Amazon 'smile' initiative (See also 10.8 below)  
Chairman outlined the benefit of one half percentage of the value of items purchased using the Amazon 'smile' initiative being available for use by the Playing Field charity.

0218 Following a proposal by Cllr. Vaughan and seconding by Cllr. Deane  
**RESOLVED** that the chairman sign the charity up for the scheme.

- 5.8 To approve minutes of Finance and General Purpose committee meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2019

0219 Following a proposal by Cllr. Cole and seconding by Cllr. Pope  
**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance and General Purpose committee held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September, 2019 be confirmed as a correct record.

## 6. MINUTES

6.1 To resolve that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman  
*Members noted that the apologies received from Cllr. Cole had not been recorded. Following a proposal by Cllr. Magness and seconding by Cllr. Deane*  
**0220** **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of October, 2019 be confirmed as a correct record. Duly signed by the chairman.

6.2 Matters outstanding from minutes (not listed as separate agenda items)

6.2.1 Telephone kiosk

*Members noted that John Deane had removed some of the earth that had stopped the door closing properly and that further work was required with the use of sealant and tape.*

6.2.2 Vehicle speed reduction

*Members noted that the County Highways recorded speeds for the Heathfield side of the village were not as fast as the speeds recorded on the Ringmer side. Cllr. Deane asked that any additions to her recording of progress be passed to her. Clerk to arrange for a meeting with the County Highways traffic safety manager to explore the most effective methods for reducing vehicle speeds. (ACTION: Clerk).*

6.2.3 To approve actions and costs re. Halland woodland play area

*No update. Appeal decision awaited due to purdah restrictions.*

6.2.4 To discuss Garden Plot issues progress

*Members learnt that the Garden Plots committee had decided not to agree to the siting of beehives within the plots.*

## 7. ITEMS DEFERRED FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

7.1 Election, and co-option, of members

*Members agreed to place an advert to publicize the two current vacancies for Councillors. Chairman to arrange for printing and clerk to obtain prices for an insertion in the parish magazine and include on website. (ACTION: Chairman and Clerk).*

7.2 Project updates for inclusion on website

*No progress. (ACTION: All).*

## 8. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

8.1 Neighbourhood Plan (NP) progress update

8.1.1 To note progress report

*Members learnt from Cllr. Magness that the analysis of data is continuing and will be presented to Wealden District Council before Christmas. Several thousand pounds have been saved with the Group having arranged the recent events following the break with Feria Ltd. Council advised that CLT had made an approach for support regarding Broomy Park.*

8.1.2 Steering Group meeting minutes

*Carried forward.*

## 9. PLANNING

9.1 Decisions made by Wealden District Council

Approved:-

WD/2019/1825/LB – The Foresters Arms, South Street, East Hoathly  
Minor internal and external alterations to the scheme approved under listed building consent WD/2018/0543/LB (conversion of a public house with associated tenant accommodation and a self-contained attached cottage to provide three self-contained residential dwellings with associated gardens and off-street parking).  
*Noted.*

9.2 Recent applications

9.2.1 WD/2019/2334/LDE - Penlan, Knowle Lane, Halland, BN8 6PR  
Lawful Development – Existing Use: Use of land as residential.  
*Following a proposal by Cllr. Pope and seconding by Cllr. Robins*  
**0221** ***RESOLVED** that no objection be made.*

9.2.2 WD/2019/2333/FA - Penlan, Knowle Lane, Halland, BN8 6PR  
Removal of the first schedule (agricultural occupancy condition) from T/1954/11159 (dwelling).  
*Following a proposal by Cllr. Pope and seconding by Cllr. Robins*  
**0222** ***RESOLVED** that no objection be made.*

**10. WAR MEMORIAL SPORTS GROUND TRUST (COUNCIL AS TRUSTEE)**

10.1 Recreation ground: Play equipment (including for adults), fencing and safety surface

10.1.1 Zip wire and other play equipment (including for adults) (on hold pending landraise project)

*Whilst on hold pending the landraise/drainage project, and prompted by the recent submission of a 300 strong petition, members discussed commissioning a consultant to provide a possible layout plan to incorporate the existing play equipment, cricket pitch, rifle and tennis facilities together with a football pitch, jogging track, adult gym equipment, zip wire, skatepark and parking area for more cars. Cllr. Pope reminded members of the agreed need to engage with existing users of the field. Concern was raised that the commissioning of a plan might be taken as a 'set in stone' commitment for future development when there were clearly a number of restraints and obstacles to be overcome, not the least of which was financing any changes.*

10.1.2 Skatepark  
*Included in 10.1.1 above.*

10.1.3 Play area safety inspection update; Approve costs  
*Members noted the Playdale quote for replacement items. Clerk to ask if just the chains can be purchased to replace the worn ones rather than have to replace the whole swing. Clerk to obtain quotes for 'teenager' swing and replacement roundabout. (ACTION: Clerk)*

10.2 Recreation ground: Drainage and Landraise  
*Members met with Jenny Bergeman on site and are now waiting for a costed proposal from Barcombes.*

10.3 To discuss and agree pavilion management, bookings, exclusivity and other relevant items  
*Chairman and clerk still to meet. (ACTION: Chairman, Clerk)*

10.4 To consider the future of the pavilion

*Members discussed what maintenance might be needed and if it might be more appropriate to consider replacing the existing pavilion and noted that the recent consultation had included proposals for the future of the building. The soon to be commissioned survey would help with determining the next steps and chairman asked that this item stay on the agenda noting that users would need to be engaged in any project.*

10.5 To discuss and agree way forward relating to tennis club proposal  
*Members asked that Dawson Hart be 'chased' (ACTION: Clerk)*

10.6 To discuss and agree way forward relating to rifle club proposal  
*Members asked that Dawson Hart be 'chased' (ACTION: Clerk)*

10.7 To approve costs relating to pavilion 'deep clean'  
*Agreement reached that a thorough clean of the pavilion was needed and that further, quarterly, cleaning would be appropriate.  
Following a proposal by Cllr. Pope and seconding by Cllr. Magness*  
**0223** ***RESOLVED** that a sum of up to £250 be approved for the initial clean.*

10.8 To consider inclusion within Amazon 'smile' initiative (See also 5.7 above)  
*See item 5.7 above.*

## **11. WRITTEN REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION OR NOTING**

11.1 Correspondence  
*Noted. (Appendix B)*

11.2 To consider and approve actions proposed in Parish Woodland Working Group report  
*Members noted from the report that it was thought that an offer for a portion of Moat Wood had been made and that the 'ring of oaks' TPO had been granted. Cllr. Pope urged that a survey of the paths blocked by undergrowth be carried out during out the winter months and that funds be put aside for any clearance required.  
Following a proposal by Cllr. Pope and seconding by Cllr. Deane*  
**0224** ***RESOLVED** that an amount of up to £500 be approved for clearance work identified in the survey.*

11.3 To consider and approve actions proposed in Village Hall report  
*Members noted that, amongst other things, new taps were required, some of the flooring was in need of attention, sensor lights were required and improvements were needed to the pavement. Chairman reminded members that any work required regarding the pavements would need County Highways approval.*

11.4 To consider and approve actions regarding leaking bus shelter  
*Members agreed to take no further action regarding the small leak but that the clerk continue to explore whether, or not, s.106 monies could be used to improve the Church Marks Lane pavements. (ACTION: Clerk)*

11.5 To note progress regarding trees in High Street pavement  
*No progress. County Highways plans for drains, utility pipes and cabling awaited.*

- 11.6 To note progress regarding 'Muffins' planter  
*Cllr. Pope proposed replacing the existing planter with something more durable but just as pleasing on the eye. Mr. Tarry has agreed to investigate what might be possible. Comment was made that a local business might support the venture.*
- 11.7 To note progress regarding drainage ditch between Nightingales and Parish Woodland  
*Church Marks management company had responded that there were no funds left for them to use for the ditch clearance. Clerk to continue to investigate where the boundary falls as there is no mention of it in the original District Council agreement (ACTION: Clerk)*

**12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 12.1 To note that the next meeting of the Full Council will be held at 7pm at the Village Hall, East Hoathly, on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2020.  
*Noted.*

*Meeting closed at 9:30 pm*

## Appendix A

30/09/2019	BW Patience & Sons	1427	£696.00
30/09/2019	Keven Costello	1428	£258.00
30/09/2019	Mailing Expert Ltd	1429	£458.40
30/09/2019	Barcombe Landscapes Ltd	1430	£858.00
30/09/2019	PKF Littlejohn	1431	£360.00
30/09/2019	Pump House maintenance	1432	£48.75
30/09/2019	ASDA	1433	£13.50
30/09/2019	J Ritchie	14334	£15.83
30/09/2019	Mailing Expert Ltd	1435	£1,018.80
30/09/2019	CAME Insurance	1436	£1,000.00
30/09/2019	Verne Heath	BACS	£280.47
30/09/2019	Malcolm Ramsden	BACS	£891.42
30/09/2019	Derek Keeley	BACS	£310.00
30/09/2019	HMRC	BACS	£268.45
30/09/2019	Wealden District Council	DD	£365.72
30/09/2019	Castle Water	DD	£15.51
30/09/2019	Wealden District Council	DD	£600.00
	<b>Total Payments:</b>		<b>£7,458.85</b>

## *Appendix B*

### **Correspondence: 21<sup>st</sup> October to 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2019**

1. East Hoathly & Halland Tennis Club - successful summer season
2. Local Government Association: Improvement and innovation bulletin October 2019
3. County Cllr. Nick Bennett: 5 G Consultation (already forwarded to members)
4. WDC: Newly published decision: Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Driver Licensing - Criminal Convictions Policy
5. WDC: Newly published decision: Horam Parish Council: Application for designation as a Neighbourhood Area for the purposes of preparation of a Neighbourhood Development Plan
6. Verne (from CPRE): Final few spaces left for CPRESx courses: Affordable Housing and Building Beautiful (already forwarded to members)
7. WDC: Supplement: Officer Updates to the agenda for Planning Committee South, Thursday, 7th November, 2019
8. WDC: Agenda for Planning Committee North, Thursday, 14th November, 2019
9. Charity Commission: Election Special (already forwarded to members)
10. Gatwick Airport: Airspace & NMB Annual Public Meeting - 3 December 2019
11. Ruth Maddison: Retirement home residents share their talents...
12. WDC: Decision sheet for Cabinet, Wednesday, 23rd October, 2019
13. WDC: Minutes for Licensing Sub-Committee, Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2019
14. Came & Co: Council Matters Autumn 2019
15. WDC: Minutes for Planning Committee North, Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2019
16. Parish Online News & Updates
17. WDC: MyAlerts – Week Commencing 28th October
18. Sussex Police: New Rural Crime PCSO for Sussex Police
19. SSALC Training Programme 2020/21
20. WDC: Agenda for Planning Committee South, Thursday, 7th November
21. WDC: Minutes for Audit, Finance and Governance Committee, Wednesday, 25th September, 2019
22. Active Places: Newsletter November 2019
23. WC: MyAlerts – Week Commencing 4th November
24. CPRE: BIG NEWS: Fracking campaign win
25. SSALC: General Election Resources
26. Parish Online News & Updates
27. WDC: Agenda for Licensing Sub-Committee, Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2019
28. WDC: Supplement: Supplementary Report - Taxi Issue to the agenda for Licensing Sub-Committee, Friday, 15th November, 2019
29. WDC: Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Monday, 18th November, 2019
30. WDC: Minutes for Planning Committee South, Thursday, 7th November, 2019
31. Parish Online News & Updates
32. WDC: MyAlerts – Week Commencing 11th November
33. Marion Salmon: Philip Cowling
34. WDC: Wealden Local Plan
35. SSALC: Councillors Briefing & Awareness Training
36. Letter from Countrymans to the Parish Council
37. WDC: Supplement: Officer Updates to the agenda for Planning Committee North, Thursday, 14th November, 2019
38. WDC: Supplement: Officer Updates - Confidential to the agenda for Planning Committee North, Thursday, 14th November, 2019
39. WDC: This month's Parish Bulletin and Wealden Police Engagement Newsletter
40. WDC: Supplement: Supplementary Statement - Taxi Issue to the agenda for Licensing Sub-Committee, Friday, 15th November, 2019

41. AirS Village Halls and Community Buildings Bulletin - Social Media Training
42. Vacancies at Uckfield Town Council
43. WDC: MyAlerts – Week Commencing 18th November
44. WDC: Message from Helen Marwick, Community and Regeneration Manager
45. WDC: Minutes for Planning Committee North, Thursday, 14th November, 2019
46. Rural Services Network - The Rural Bulletin - 19 November 2019
47. WDC: Supplement: Planning Portfolio Holder Update Report to the agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Monday, 18th November, 2019
48. WDC: MyAlerts - Week Commencing 25th November
49. WDC: FW: VE Day 75 May 2020
50. WDC: Agenda for Full Council, Wednesday, 27th November, 2019
51. WDC: Minutes for Licensing Sub-Committee, Friday, 15th November, 2019
52. WDC: Supplement: Public Questions and Responses to the agenda for Full Council, Wednesday, 27th November, 2019
53. WDC: Newly published decision: SDNPA Arboricultural Advice SLA Contract Authorisation
54. CPRE: Fwd: ELECTION ACTION: Ask your candidates to back the countryside
55. SSALC: Sussex ALC Bulletin