

EAST HOATHLY with HALLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the full council held on Monday 27th January, 2020 at 7 pm at Buffalo Bill's (formerly The Forge), Halland.

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

Also in attendance: Malcolm Ramsden (clerk), Verne Heath (rfo) and County Cllr. Nick Bennett.

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

No members of the public present.

2. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

County Cllr. Nick Bennett updated members regarding his recent visit covering pavement widths in Halland and boundary hedge encroachment. With the County budget being presented to Council on the following day members learnt that lobbying would follow for Fairer Funding and a Comprehensive Spending Review and that an extra £1m would be set aside to cover, amongst other things, footways and white line replacement.

In response to Cllr. Ritchie's surprise that some patching had been missed despite contractors being within a very short distance County Cllr. Bennet explained the 'intervention required' policy and reminded members to log pothole problems on the county website. Cllr. Ritchie offered to carry out a review and report as necessary.

In chasing progress relating to the East Hoathly village entrance sign Cllr. Deane would supply the relevant Highways Case No.

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 continuing interest in matters relating to his association with Church Marks Green Management Co. Ltd.

4. APOLOGIES – to receive apologies for absence

Apologies received, and reasons accepted, from Dist. Cllr. Draper and Cllr. Robins.

5. FINANCE

5.1 To approve/note payments payable/paid November, December, 2019
Following a proposal by Cllr. Deane and seconding by Cllr. Magness

0225 **RESOLVED** that members approve/note payments/paid November, December, 2019 (See appendix A) totalling £6,801.32.

6. MINUTES

- 6.1 To resolve that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 25th November, 2019 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman
Following a proposal by Cllr. Deane and seconding by Cllr. Pope
- 0226** **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on the 25th of November, 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 To note County response to items raised
Noted.
- 6.2.2 Vehicle speed reduction
Request logged for matching funds through County scheme to enable the first step in the process, a feasibility study, to be undertaken.
Following a proposal by Cllr. Pope and seconding by Cllr. Deane
- 0227** **RESOLVED** that a sum in the region of £500 be approved in respect of fees for the County Highways feasibility study.
- 6.2.3 To approve actions and costs re. Halland woodland play area
Cllr. Magness reported that progress had been held up awaiting land transfer. Responding to a question from Cllr. Pope, Cllr. Magness estimated the cost of the proposed play equipment would be in the region of £28,000.
- 6.2.4 Telephone kiosk
Members learnt that grouting or using sealant would not be possible but noted that paint was starting to flake. Cllr. Ritchie suggested the addition of a kick-plate.

7. ITEMS DEFERRED FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- 7.1 Election, and co-option, of members
Cllr. Ritchie suggested advertizing the councillor vacancy in the 'Parish Pump' and Cllr. Pope suggested an entry in the Community Facebook page. Clerk to investigate.
- 7.2 Project updates for inclusion on website
No updates received. Cllr. Magness to draft a progress note regarding the Halland play area.

8. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

- 8.1 Neighbourhood Plan (NP) progress update
- 8.1.1 To note progress report
Cllr. Magness referred members to his previously circulated papers and reported that the District Council were to propose, at their next meeting, that the submitted Local Plan be withdrawn. Cllr. Deane remarked that some recently built houses in Uckfeld were not selling and that what was needed was one and two bedroomed properties. Nus Ghani's email regarding government housing policy had been circulated and comments were sought for Council's response.
- 8.1.2 Steering Group meeting minutes
None received.

9. PLANNING

- 9.1 Decisions made by Wealden District Council
Approved:-

Application No. WD/2019/2511/F
DEMOLITION OF EXISTING GARDEN STORE, CONSTRUCTION OF GARDEN ROOM WITH PARTIALLY GLAZED ROOF TO WESTERN ELEVATION.
REPLACING PREVIOUSLY PARTIALLY CONSTRUCTED ADDITIONS

APPROVED BARHAM FARMHOUSE, WALDRON ROAD, EAST HOATHLY, BN8 6QL

Noted.

Application No. WD/2019/2199/FA

MINOR MATERIAL AMENDMENT TO WD/2017/1290/F (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) INVOLVING VARIATION OF CONDITION 8 TO ENABLE SOME AMENDMENTS TO WINDOWS AND DOORS. THE FORESTERS ARMS, 6 SOUTH STREET, EAST HOATHLY, BN8 6DS

Noted.

Application No. WD/2019/2302F&2303LB

ALTERATIONS TO THE LANDSCAPING APPROVED UNDER WD/2017/1290/F & 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). THE FORESTERS ARMS, 6 SOUTH STREET, EAST HOATHLY, BN8 6DS

Noted.

Application No. WD/2018/2627/F

THE DEMOLITION OF THE DETACHED HOUSE AND BARN AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF SIX NO. 2 BEDROOM SEMI-DETACHED HOUSES WITH ASSOCIATED PARKING AND LANDSCAPING. OLD HARTFIELD, LEWES ROAD, HALLAND, BN8 6PN

Noted.

Certificate of Lawful Development issued:-

WD/2019/2334/LDE

PENLAN, KNOWLE LANE, HALLAND, BN8 6PR
USE OF LAND AS RESIDENTIAL

Noted.

Appeal Decisions:-

Appeal Ref: APP/C1435/W/19/3223599

Land south of South Street, East Hoathly, East Sussex

The appeal is dismissed.

Noted.

9.2 Recent applications

WD/2020/0039/F

Location: KIOWA, EASTBOURNE ROAD, HALLAND, BN8 6PU

Description: SINGLE STOREY REAR BEDROOM EXTENSION

Following a proposal by Cllr. Deane and seconding by Cllr. Pope

0228

RESOLVED that no objection be raised.

WD/2020/0092/F

Location: FLETCHERS COTTAGE, KNOWLE LANE, HALLAND, BN8 6PR

Description: REMOVAL OF EXISTING CONSERVATORY, TO BE REPLACED WITH 2 STOREY REAR EXTENSION. NEW DORMER PROPOSED TO FRONT ELEVATION. INTERNAL ALTERATIONS TO SUIT.

Following a proposal by Cllr. Deane and seconding by Cllr. Pope

0229

RESOLVED that no objection be raised.

WD/2020/0041/F

Location: EAST HOATHLY C OF E SCHOOL, CHURCH MARKS LANE, EAST HOATHLY, BN8 6EQ

Description: 9X9M FLAT ROOF PERGOLA ADJACENT TO CLASSROOM

Following a proposal by Cllr. Deane and seconding by Cllr. Pope

0230

RESOLVED that no objection be raised.

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)

Details of a possible replacement for the existing roundabout were circulated. Members noted that the roundabout bearing had been replaced within the last few years and that a replacement, together with the possibility of repair, be investigated by the clerk.

10.1.2 Play area safety inspection update; Approve costs

Costs had been obtained for the noted maintenance of the basket swing and bolts fixing the toddler swings. Members considered the replacement of only the basket swing chains might be short-sighted and

Following a proposal by Cllr. Pope and seconding by Cllr. Deane

0231

RESOLVED that a sum in the region of £1,600 be committed to the replacement, delivery and installation of a replacement basket, including fixing chains.

10.2 Recreation ground: Drainage and Landraise

10.2.1 To agree costs and contractor for the playing field design/mapping

Discussion concluded that Cllr. Magness would contact Mike Hill regarding the possibility of drawing up a plan containing Council's 'wish list' for the playing field.

Cllr. Ritchie urged that tangible progress be achieved concerning the drainage/landraise project and members agreed that the clerk should learn from Jenny Bergeman what our next steps should be and that Barcombe Landscaping be chased for a quotation and progress update. Chairman recommended that the project steering group meet when responses had been received.

10.3 To discuss and agree pavilion management, bookings, exclusivity and other relevant items

No progress. Chairman and clerk tasked with moving the item forward.

10.4 To discuss and approve cost of bramble clearance at playing fields

Cllr. Pope referred members to his previously circulated report and members agreed that Barcombe Landscaping explain how they proposed to make good the damage and clear the area along part of the field boundary. (ACTION: Clerk) Clerk also to obtain quotes for completion of the work.

10.5 To discuss and agree way forward relating to tennis club proposal

No progress. Clerk to chase Dawson Hart.

10.6 To discuss and agree way forward relating to rifle club proposal

No progress. Clerk to chase Dawson Hart.

11. WRITTEN REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION OR NOTING

11.1 Correspondence

Noted. (See appendix B).

11.2 Parish Woodland

11.2.1 To consider and approve actions proposed in Parish Woodland Working Group report

Members noted the Woodland Group's response to Cllr. Pope's request for bramble and path clearance.

11.2.2 To discuss and agree plan for future

Cllr. Pope referred members to his previously circulated paper and members agreed that the original maintenance schedule for the Parish Woodland should be reviewed for progress with a view to drawing up an implementation schedule.

Cllr. Deane's request that pre-authorization of Woodland Group expenses be delegated to the Parish Woodland Group be discussed at the next meeting of the Full Council.

11.3 To consider and approve village information 'flyer'

Members agreed that a guide as to how to draw attention to East Sussex County Council and Southern Water attention any flooding problems along South Street.

Carried forward to next meeting.

11.4 To note Garden Plots October meeting minutes

Noted, but with comment that contributors names might be used rather than just their initials.

11.5 *No item 11.5*

11.6 To note progress regarding 'Muffins' planter

No progress. Carried forward.

11.7 To note progress regarding drainage ditch between Nightingales and Parish Woodland

Verbal response received that the boundary is in the centre of the ditch. Clerk to obtain quotes.

11.8 To note progress relating to re-surfacing of London Road pavement and associated road layout changes

Cllrs. Vaughan, Magness and Ritchie investigating with a suggestion being made that recently received C.I.L. monies might be used for a feasibility study.

Following a proposal by Cllr. Deane and seconding by Cllr. Pope

0232 ***RESOLVED** that a sum in the region of £500 be committed for the commissioning of a feasibility study.*

11.9 To note Parish Panel meeting reports

11.9.1 November, 2019

Noted.

11.9.2 January, 2020

Noted. (See appendix C).

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, 24th February, 2020.

Noted.

Meeting closed at 9:30 pm

Appendix A

	Payee	Gross Amount	
30/11/2019	Castle Water	15.51	Allotment water
	Wealden Dist Assoc		
30/11/2019	Local	20.00	Annual subs yr ending
30/11/2019	HMRC	260.08	Tax & NI
30/11/2019	Verne Heath	272.08	Salary & Expenses
30/11/2019	Derek Keeley	310.00	Salary & Expenses
30/11/2019	Malcolm Ramsden	950.30	Salary & Expenses
31/12/2019	Wealden District Council	600.00	Bins Oct-Dec
	East Sussex County		
31/12/2019	Council	492.00	Halland speed survey
31/12/2019	Cartridge Discount	25.99	A Pope expenses
31/12/2019	GeoXphere Ltd	120.00	Year's subs to Parish
31/12/2019	Carolyn Robins	16.50	Ink cartridge
31/12/2019	Derek Keeley	310.00	December Salary
31/12/2019	HMRC	237.68	December Tax & Ni
31/12/2019	Verne Heath	179.67	December salary&
31/12/2019	Malcolm Ramsden	973.99	December salary and
31/12/2019	Castle Water	15.51	Monthly dd
			Sept-Dec allotment
31/12/2019	Peter Crawford	180.00	work
31/12/2019	HMRC	260.08	Tax & NI January
31/12/2019	Derek Keeley	0.00	Derek Keeley
31/12/2019	Derek Keeley	310.00	Salary January
31/12/2019	Verne Heath	267.15	Salary January
31/12/2019	Malcolm Ramsden	984.78	January salary & exp
Total		6801.32	

Appendix B

Correspondence: 1st January to 24th January 2020

1. Jonathan Walker: cc email to Dist. Cllr. Draper - Wealden Local Plan/Planning Inspector
2. County Cllr. Nick Bennett: Climate Change Action (already forwarded to members)
3. WDC: MyAlerts - Week Commencing 6th January
4. WDC: Minutes for Planning Committee South, Thursday, 19th December, 2019
5. Rural Services Network: The Rural Bulletin - 07 January 2020
6. AirS: Allied Westminster 'Wonderful Villages' Photo Competition
7. WDC: Agenda for Planning Committee South, Wednesday, 15th January, 2020
8. WDC: Agenda for Planning Committee North, Thursday, 16th January, 2020
9. WDC: Agenda for Audit, Finance and Governance Committee, Monday, 20th January, 2020
10. South East Employers: Happy New Year
11. Sussex ALC Bulletin
12. WDC: MyAlerts - Week Commencing 13th January
13. WDC: Supplement: Officer Update to the agenda for Planning Committee South, Wednesday, 15th January, 2020
14. Maresfield Parish Council: A22, Maresfield Bypass
15. Marion Salmon: Planning response email (already forwarded to members)
16. WDC: Supplement: Officer Updates to the agenda for Planning Committee North, Thursday, 16th January, 2020
17. WDC: The January Wealden Parish Bulletin
18. Dist. Cllr. Geoffrey Draper: Apologies (already forwarded to members)
19. Alistair Gubbins and Jessie Willow Steadman: Planning response email (already forwarded to members)
20. WDC: Minutes for Planning Committee South, Wednesday, 15th January, 2020
21. WDC: Newly published decision: Review of Learning and Development Policy
22. WDC: Agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Monday, 27th January, 2020
23. WDC: MyAlerts – Week Commencing 20th January
24. WDC: Supplement: Update on the 2018-19 Statement of Accounts, Audit Findings Report to the agenda for Audit, Finance and Governance Committee, Monday, 20th January, 2020
25. Draft Minutes from the WDALC Meeting held on 15th January 2020
26. WDC: Supplement: Portfolio Holder Updates - Appendix A Housing and Benefits Portfolio Holder Update to the agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Monday, 27th January, 2020
27. Rural Services Network: The Rural Bulletin - 21 January 2020
28. WDC: New Healthy Wealden Facebook Page!
29. WDC: Agenda for Planning Committee South, Thursday, 30th January, 2020
30. Chris Magness: Parish Panel Notes from WDC
31. ESCC: Upcoming Works - A22 Whitesmith
32. WDC: Agenda for Licensing Sub-Committee, Friday, 31st January, 2020
33. WDC: Minutes for Planning Committee North, Thursday, 16th January, 2020
34. WDC: MyAlerts – Week Commencing 27th January

Appendix C

Parish Panel 15th January 2020

Present on the panel: Chris Bending, Anne Newton, Doug Moss, Samantha Pryor.

Chris Bending (CB) opened events stating the examiner had failed the LP on the grounds of non-compliance which covered non-co-operation with neighbouring Councils and Natural England over monitoring of air quality on Ashdown Forest.

CB stated that an interim response would be to withdraw the plan and start again although the final decision would rest with the Full Council held on 18th February 2020. Starting again would mean compliance with the NPPG 2019 rather than the previous NPPG of 2012. This results in a higher number of dwellings to be constructed. WDC figure for meeting housing need under 2012 was 950 dwellings/year and under new figures this would be 1250.

Delegates questioned why the LP could not simply be modified and the examiner's findings challenged. CB stated that a challenge would be expensive to present and as the conclusions of the examination were 'opinion' there was an insubstantial evidence base for a challenge. Additionally, any such challenge would still involve complying with revised figures on delivery (1250) CB remarked that Sevenoaks Council had also failed on their LP submission. Such a challenge would take time and with Wealden not having a 5 year land supply (current figure 3.6 years) it was imperative to act speedily to bridge the shortfall in completions to avert open season for developers contesting position as the 'tilted balance' comes into effect with developers having the upper hand. WDC would need to approve 1723 dwellings asap to meet time schedule and be back on track to meeting 5 year land supply.

'Any delay in getting to the structure of a 5 year land supply could result in the government imposing an inspector from Bristol to do the job for us' (CB)

In the development of a new plan the Planning Team would be reviewed.

Non-compliance to manage un-met housing need from Eastbourne hinged on development of housing at Polgate which the examiner had posited could have shown 750 more houses. Now co-operation with Eastbourne may involve an additional 400 dwellings per year to be met by Wealden bringing the total to 1650 per year in Wealden.

After the decision at Full Council there will be a new call for sites. All previously submitted sites will be re-addressed and new sites are expected to be submitted for evaluation. Parishes will be asked to nominate sites. All sites proposed will be assessed and development proposed. These become windfall sites in the absence of a Local Plan (LP). This means that previously stated windfall allocations in parishes are no longer valid; all development in this situation is to be classified as windfall.

Extensive and detailed account of infrastructure funding was delivered concerning the framework of how CIL payments (yet to come) would be used along with funding, on a funding- matched basis by County Council, to improve roads throughout Wealden. When it came down to it this appeared to be comprehensively focused on the Bowship roundabout. Emerging from this detail of CIL funding and spending was the item that 180k had been allocated to development of EH school.

CB realised that Parishes would be receiving multiple applications now as previous applications which had be held by WDC are released. These are to assess if previously submitted applications upon which consultation statements had been submitted are still valid or need to be modified. However, to questions of where applications had been measured against the submitted LP were concerned, these would have to be judged against previously adopted 2003 LP or earlier retained plans (1997).

Neighborhood Plans

Many parishes are in the process of producing neighbourhood plans and CB assured all delegates (in a T. May manner) that nothing had changed. The whole purpose of NPs, stated CB was to get acceptable development not less. All NPs in progress had been checked against the Core Strategy of WDC which had not changed.

However, as an aside, conservation areas were mentioned as a separate issue that had been undergoing examination by a team at WDC and although separate from the LP, would re-assess conservation areas and details on their work to date could be found on the WDC website.

With the failure of the LP, designated Core Areas no longer exist and in a rather confusing message, it appears that although development boundaries still exist, boundaries have not changed since 1998 but 'do not have any relevance to new housing requirements' (CB)

Significance to Ashdown Forest of LP failure means that 400 metre protection area still exists but development within 7 km zone will be permitted if accompanied by SANG. Strategic Access Monitoring (SAM) will be put in place. Importance to EHWH was the announcement that villages/settlements will be reviewed for sustainability. Sustainability was a particularly vexed question raised over Stone Cross with applications for 3000 houses. Other delegates cited services (water. Power, buses, etc)
MSOA no longer exists.

Comment

Although the meeting lasted two hours, it was rushed and insufficient time was given for delegates to pose questions or clarify statements. The proceedings were followed at pace and delegates shut down when it was thought enough time had been given to a particular thread. No member of the Planning Team was present and no explanation was given as to why the guidelines or protocols had not been followed. Outcomes were simply brushed aside as one opinion against another.

The development of a new plan with more time and expense is extremely concerning and the position of WDC to make up the gap between current housing starts and completions and demonstrate a 5 year land supply ; 1723 houses, suggests that a degree of haste from a position of weakness could see applications approved for development without due consideration.

WDC now has to make a plan for twenty years from now; 2040. This is an enormous task while having to counter any developmental pressure in the interim. Perhaps a revisit to options recently released by WDC:

(cut and paste)

file:///C:/Users/user/AppData/Local/Packages/Microsoft.MicrosoftEdge_8wekyb3d8bbwe/TempState/Downloads/A8._SA_Addendum_-_2019%20(1).pdf

will now be made. This could mean that EH could be back to the position of the proposed 761 houses.

Considerable concern, frustration and despair was evident in the hall yesterday with the feeling that WDC had lost their grip and hadn't properly consulted.

Chris Magness 15 January 2020