

## EAST HOATHLY with HALLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the East Hoathly with Halland Parish Council Finance and General Purpose committee meeting held using 'zoom' on **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 at 7pm.**

Present: Cllr. Vaughan (chair), Cllr. Susan Cole and Cllr. Tony Pope.

Also in attendance: Malcolm Ramsden (clerk) and Verne Heath (rfo).

### 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 press are also welcome to stay and observe the rest of the meeting.

*Would members of the public wishing to participate 'virtually' please contact the clerk at least 24 hours before the meeting – 07948 496760 or [easthoathlywithhallandpc@gmail.com](mailto:easthoathlywithhallandpc@gmail.com)*

*No members of the public present.*

#### 2. 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. Vaughan declared his continuing interest in matters relating to Mailing Expert and Pure Cleaning as did Cllr. Pope regarding his continuing interest in Church Marks Green Management.*

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

*None.*

#### 4. MINUTES

4.1 To resolve that the minutes of the Finance and General Purpose Meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

*Following a proposal by Cllr. Pope and seconding by Cllr. Cole*

**FGP0043** **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 be taken as read, confirmed as correct and be signed by the chairman when pandemic restrictions allow.

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

4.2.1 Adoption of NALC standard model of Financial Regulations

*Carried forward.*

#### 5. GENERAL PURPOSE

5.1 To review London Road feasibility assessment

*Cllr. Pope considered the cost of each option to be very high and commented that there had been no recent complaints. In view of the potential overlap with the 'Hesmonds' application clerk to seek comment from both County and District Councils.*

5.2 To review Halland traffic speeding feasibility assessment

*Cllr. Pope expressed surprise at the unusually high cost of the preferred option. In view of potential crossover with 'Bramblebank' planning proposal clerk to seek comment from District Council and County Highways. Members noted that the issue had been clouded with proposals to move the village entry sign.*

#### 6. WAR MEMORIAL SPORTS GROUND TRUST (COUNCIL AS TRUSTEE)

6.1 To consider funding of bramble/ivy clearance for recommendation to Full Council

*Following a proposal by Cllr. Pope and seconding by Cllr. Cole*

**FGP0044** **RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council that a grant of £2,600 be awarded to the War Memorial Sports Ground by way of settling the invoice relating to bramble and ivy clearance.

6.2 To re-consider invoice amounts for hirers for recommendation to Full Council

*Members noted the award of a grant from Wealden District Council relating to covid-19 disruption.*

*Following a proposal by Cllr. Vaughan and seconding by Cllr. Cole*

**FGP0045** **RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council that rents for the Cricket, Tennis and Rifle Clubs and Carnival Society be waived this year.

6.3 To agree recommendation to Full Council relating to insurance apportionment

*Following a proposal by Cllr. Pope and seconding by Cllr. Vaughan*

**FGP0046** **RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council that the scheme to meet £1,000 of the annual insurance premium continue to be met by the Parish Council for the three year term of the insurance.

## 7. FINANCE

7.1 To note payments/receipts against budget

*Noted. Members agreed to the higher than usual amount of the water bill which related to the leak over the summer. Clerk to explore ways in which a leak might be avoided in future.*

7.2 To note bank account reconciliations

*Noted. Parish Council: £150,187.94 - War Memorial Sports Ground Trust: £15,345.24*

7.3 To agree recommendation for Full Council regarding changes to Earmarked Reserve levels

*Members discussed the previously circulated proposal and noted that with a reduced Neighbourhood Plan reserve standing at £534 any unplanned expenditure would require funding from the General Reserve.*

*Following a proposal by Cllr. Vaughan and seconding by Cllr. Pope*

**FGP0047** **RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council to reduce the Neighbourhood Plan Reserve by £20,000 and increase the Pavilion Build Reserve, Pavilion Upgrade Reserve and Maintenance Reserve by £10,000, £5,000 and £5,000 respectively and to transfer £866 from the General to the Election Reserve to increase the latter to £2,500 as had been resolved when approving the current year's budget.

7.4 To consider requirements for 2021/2 budget and reserves

*Minor changes were made to the previously circulated proposal with agreement that proposal to Full Council would be for a zero increase in precept.*

7.5 To note PWLB requirements and process

*Members noted the requirements and process regarding an application for funding from PWLB.*

7.6 To consider Garden Plot request for maintenance of access track to car park

*Members were not clear as to whether the Garden Plot Committee had sufficient funds or volunteers to improve the condition of the access track to the car park. Clerk to investigate.*

7.7 To consider possible use of green energy supplier

*With street lighting costs being met by County and passed on to Parish it was noted that green energy was already being used as is County policy although it was not known if the bulbs in use were the most efficient. RFO to look at using green suppliers when the current pavilion contract became due for renewal.*

7.8 To discuss traffic volume/speed survey at South Street

*Members noted that County Highways and Police would need evidence of a speeding issue before considering action. It was felt that this would be unlikely as there had been no KISS incidents within the last three years. A volume/speed survey would cost in the region of £400 with a likely outcome to be a recommendation to encourage the establishment of a Speedwatch Group. Members agreed to monitor interest in either throughout the community.*

7.9 Member audit

*Carried forward.*

## 8. ITEMS FOR REFERRAL TO NEXT AGENDA OR APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE

*None.*

## 9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

9.1 To note that the next meeting of the Full Council will be held using 'Zoom' on Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 at 7pm

*Noted.*

*Meeting closed at 8.50pm*