

EAST HOATHLY with HALLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Full Council on 28th February, 2022 at 7.00pm.

MEETING MINUTES

In attendance: Cllrs. Bradley, Cole, Freezer, Magness, Partridge (from 7.07pm) and Pope (chairman). Also participating: Malcolm Ramsden (clerk), Verne Heath (rfo) – via 'Zoom', County Cllr. Nick Bennett (from 7.12pm) and one member 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

No feedback so far received in response to Cllr. Cole's question regarding the recent village 'walk'.

2. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

County Cllr. Bennett's report previously circulated. Noted with comment as to how this parish might obtain some of the extra £31m. committed over ten years for road improvements.

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. Cllr. Bradley declared her interest in matters relating to the Community Gardens and Garden Plots with Cllr. Freezer declaring her interest also in matters concerning the Garden Plots.

7.07pm Cllr. Partridge arrives.

4. APOLOGIES – to receive apologies for absence

Apologies received and reasons accepted from Cllr. Vaughan. Apologies also received from PCSO Rosie Farrance.

9. WRITTEN REPORTS FOR APPROVAL, DISCUSSION OR NOTING

9.2 Community Gardens proposal

Members were referred to the previously circulated proposed changes relating to the Community Gardens.

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

0443 **RESOLVED** *that one member of the Community Gardens be appointed as a member of the Garden Plots sub-committee and that the exemptions contained in the 'lease' not be in place for the Community Garden in respect of full size barbecue, camping stoves, the erection and maintenance of a composting toilet, shelter and appropriate fencing, the sale of plants, flowers and produce and charging for courses.*

9.3 Garden Plots Terms of Reference and 'lease' wording changes

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

0444 **RESOLVED** *that the terms of the 'lease' for plotters be amended so as to include the Community Garden exemptions in the above resolution (0443) and that the Terms of Reference include the changes discussed regarding control of the non-Council elements of the Garden Plot finances and bank accounts.*

7.12pm County Cllr. Bennett arrives

2. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS (cont.)

In response to comments as to how the parish might obtain some of the funding (above) County Cllr. Bennett advised initially to report any unsatisfactory roads/pavements to the County Customer

Services team as faults for investigation by the County Highways Steward. For items not determined as faults within the County criteria an application might be made for community matched funding (currently up to 50%).

Discussion covered the determination of what constituted an unacceptable repair (the manhole cover surround in South Street was identified as one such problem) as opposed to a repeat fault with agreement that any repairs considered unacceptable be reported without delay to the County Customer Service team with photographs if possible. In the first instance it is the responsibility of the Highways Steward to 'sign-off' the quality of all repairs. In response to comment regarding the state of Back Lane in Halland, County Cllr. Bennett did ask that members note that the life expectancy of a pothole repair depended very much on the status of the road in question (type A, B, C or unclassified) and the size and weight of vehicles using them as many of our rural roads were not built for a lot of today's heavy traffic and agricultural vehicles. Members noted that work to re-paint many road markings was underway.

5. FINANCE

5.1 To approve/note payments payable/paid January, 2022

Chairman highlighted higher value payments as being legal advice and grass cutting costs.

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

0445 **RESOLVED** to approve/note payments payable/paid January, 2022 totalling £4,703.25 (See appendix A).

5.2 To note income/expenditure-vs-budget and approve, if necessary, over/underspends

Noted.

5.3 To consider recommendations of Finance and General Purpose Committee regarding transfers to reserves.

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

0446 **RESOLVED** to use £6,411 from General non-routine maintenance and £3,000 from Pavilion and Village Hall non-routine maintenance to increase Playground Upgrade EMR by £4,411 to £15,647.15, General Maintenance EMR by £2,500 to £11,625 and Pavilion Build EMR also by £2,500 to £27,500.

6. MINUTES

6.1 To resolve that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 31st January, 2022 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

0447 **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 31st January, 2022 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and be duly signed by the Chairman.

6.2 Matters arising from minutes not otherwise covered by agenda items

6.2.1 Facebook page

Chairman asked that thanks to Cllr. Freezer be noted for her work in setting up Council's 'Facebook' page.

6.2.2 To note developer responses to '3-phase plan' circulation

Noted.

7. PLANNING

7.1 Neighbourhood Plan

7.1.1 Update

Cllr. Magness reported that in response to the submission to the District Council of the most recent version of the Plan the District Council had revolved around deleting references to the history and background story. It was not felt appropriate to delete as suggested as the history and growth in the community were central to a lot of the content. Concern was expressed that the inspector might agree with District and ask that some content be withdrawn might result in a delay or stall the Plan progress. Cllr. Magness considered the worst outcome would be a delay of a couple of months to re-write the relevant elements and obtain Council approval. A more detailed

'character assessment' is in progress and would be presented to members shortly along with version 13 of the Plan.

- 7.1.2 Assets of Community Value (ACV) and Green Spaces allocation
Clerk to contact owners of ACVs detailed in the Neighbourhood Plan before providing formal notification to Wealden District Council.

- 7.2 To note District Council decisions to date
Noted.

- 7.3 To note 01Dec2021 Parish Panel meeting minutes
Noted.

8. WAR MEMORIAL SPORTS GROUND TRUST (COUNCIL AS TRUSTEE)

- 8.1 To discuss progress regarding drainage/landscaping, including enhancements to playing field equipment, and installations

- 8.1.1 Landscaping/Drainage

- 8.1.1.1 Project update

Chairman suggested approaches be made on behalf of Council and the War Memorial Trust to various grant making bodies including BIFA. Cllr. Freezer added that Sport England, Football Association and National Lottery might also be approached.

- 8.1.2 Pavilion

- 8.1.2.1 Entry arrangements

Chairman referred members to the various options for pavilion access controls that had been previously circulated ranging in price from £3,325 to £95.

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

0448

RESOLVED that the option involving secure lock changes together with key safes be selected at a cost of up to £700.

- 8.1.2.2 Floodlight switching

Members noted that the modifications had been held up due to the difficulties in finding a cabinet conforming to current regulations. Carried forward looking at alternative solutions.

- 8.1.3 Playing field

- 8.1.3.1 Grass cutting for 2022 season

Clerk advised that only two quotations had been received so far and that a third had been expected on the afternoon of the meeting.

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

0449

RESOLVED that the decision be delegated to members by email when the third quote became available.

- 8.1.3.2 Access modifications

Members agreed with the suggestion that options be obtained for ways in which to secure access to the playing field by larger vehicles. The possibility of gates, barriers, ditches and pop-up bollards were to be included.

- 8.2 Play area inspection

Clerk referred members to the previously circulated play inspection report in which no risk levels higher than 'low' had been identified.

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

0450

RESOLVED that the elements of the activity trail beginning to show evidence of rotting be removed and that items requiring maintenance be notified to the grounds contractor for attention.

- 8.3 Tennis court access path

Members were alerted to a request to repair, at the expense of the tennis club, the crumbling elements of the access path to the south of the tennis courts. Further details as to construction, public liability insurance, risk assessment, etc. etc. awaited.

9. WRITTEN REPORTS FOR APPROVAL, DISCUSSION OR NOTING

- 9.1 Correspondence
Noted.
- 9.2 Community Gardens proposal
See above.
- 9.3 Garden Plots Terms of Reference and 'lease' wording changes
See above.
- 9.4 Written contributions to Parish (PCC) Magazine
Chairman invited details of items to cover in his next article which would include an update on the Neighbourhood Plan.
- 9.5 Sussex Lund project
Clerk reported that only one contractor had so far responded to the invitation to tender to carry out the eDNA test to confirm, or provide evidence of lack of, Great Crested Newts in the Parish Woodland. Carried forward.
- 9.6 Young Persons Council.
Discussion concluded that input from younger members of the community might initially be more forthcoming if invited by email rather than face-to-face.
- 9.7 Wildflower verges
Cllr. Freezer to contact residents who had expressed an interest with Cllr. Bradley suggesting more potential sites in South Street and at bus stop verges.
- 9.8 Queen's Jubilee celebrations
*Members agreed that costings be sought for the refurbishment of the East Hoathly village sign together with plaque which prompted discussion around a similar dedication for Halland village.
Following a proposal by Cllr. Pope and seconding by Cllr. Freezer*
0451 ***RESOLVED** that the decision be delegated to members by email when costings had been obtained for any celebration, subject to overall costs not exceeding the allocated budgeted figure.*
- 9.9 Newsletter progress
Dependant on Neighbourhood Plan timetable.
- 9.10 To note Clerk's progress report
Noted, with suggestion to add news of installation of defibrillator at the pavilion to the Council Facebook page.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note that the next meeting of the Full Council will be held on Monday 28th March, 2022 at 7 pm at the Village Hall, East Hoathly.

Noted.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Appendix A

Date	Payee Name	Amount
31/01/2022	Natl Allotment Society	£66.00
31/01/2022	Castle Water	£5.00
31/01/2022	Surrey Hills Solicitors	£612.00
31/01/2022	Barcombe Landscapes	£1,296.00
31/01/2022	HMRC	£450.04
31/01/2022	Anthony Read	£180.00
31/01/2022	CPRE	£50.00
31/01/2022	Verne Heath	£254.85
31/01/2022	Malcolm Ramsden	£1,789.36
	Total	£4,703.25

Correspondence: 25th January, 2022 to 18th February, 2022

1. WDC: Wealden vice-chairman visits Alfriston School
2. WDC: Supplement: Presentation Slides for Applications Listed on the Agenda to the agenda for Planning Committee South, Thursday, 27th January, 2022
3. WDC: Supplement: Statements from Local Ward Member Councillor Stedman on Item 7,9 and 10. to the agenda for Planning Committee South, Thursday, 27th January, 2022
4. WDC: Supplement: ELMA COTTAGE, HOREBEECH LANE, HORAM, TN21 0HP - Statement from Local Ward Member, Cllr Bowdler to the agenda for Planning Committee South, Thursday, 27th January, 2022
5. WDC: Supplement: Statements for Interested Parties on Applications Listed on the Agenda to the agenda for Planning Committee South, Thursday, 27th January, 2022
6. WDC: Agenda for Planning Committee North, Thursday, 3rd February, 2022
7. WDC: Supplement: Officer Updates to the agenda for Planning Committee South, Thursday, 27th January, 2022
8. ESALC: Community Governance degree - arranging an event to raise awareness of non-visual disabilities
9. WDC: MyAlerts week commencing 31st January
10. ESALC: Business support available from Edeal
11. ESALC: Finance Training - New Dates! (already forwarded to members)
12. WDC: Supplement: Southern Water presentation to the agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Monday, 24th January, 2022
13. WDC: Supplement: East Sussex County Council presentation on Walking & Cycling and Strategic Highways to the agenda for Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Monday, 24th January, 2022
14. WDC: Newly published decision: Approval of the NNDR1 Form 2021/22
15. WDC: Newly published decision: Estimate of the Collection Fund Surplus for Distribution
16. Village Concerns: Letter to Wealden District Council Chief Executive
17. WDC: Agenda for Cabinet, Wednesday, 9th February, 2022
18. WDC: Wealden District Council holds Southern Water to account over sewer capacity
19. WDC: Press Release - Baton Relay - 01.02.2022
20. WDC: Supplement: Officer Updates and Presentation Slides to the agenda for Planning Committee North, Thursday, 3rd February, 2022
21. WDC: Newly published decision: Housing Allocations Policy - minor update
22. NALC Policy Consultation Briefing - DEFRA Consultation On Its Response to the Landscapes [National Park & AONB Governance] Review.
23. WDC: Media Release - Biff Award - 03.02.2022
24. OpusXenta: Local History as Told by Cemeteries
25. WDC: Minutes for Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Monday, 24th January, 2022
26. WDC: Newly published decision: Homes England audit report of the use of grant funding for Nest Steps rough sleepers accommodation
27. WDC: Minutes for Audit, Finance and Governance Committee, Wednesday, 19th January, 2022
28. WDC: Minutes for Planning Committee South, Thursday, 27th January, 2022
29. WDC: MyAlerts - Week Commencing 7th February
30. Grey Matters Newsletter
31. WDC: Newly published decision: Timetable of Meetings 2023
32. WDC: Decision sheet for Cabinet, Wednesday, 9th February, 2022
33. WDC: Press Release - aids and adaptations policy - 09.02.2022
34. WDC: Press Release - Community grants SLAs
35. WDC: Reply to Letter to Wealden District Council Chief Executive
36. NALC: Levelling Up the UK white paper
37. WDC: Press Release - Council Tax Rise - 11.02.2022
38. WDC: Press Release - National Apprenticeship Week - 11.02.2022
39. NACO Tree Planting Day - Friday 11 March
40. WDC: MyAlerts - Week Commencing 14th February
41. WDC: Gatwick to reopen its South Terminal
42. WDC: Newly published decision: Review of Council's Pay Policy 2022/23 (Recommendation to Council)
43. WDC: LAD 2 fuel poverty funding for energy retrofits