

## **EAST HOATHLY with HALLAND PARISH COUNCIL**

Meeting of the Full Council on 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 at 7.00pm.

### **MEETING MINUTES**

In attendance: Cllrs. Butcher, Cole, Freezer (chair), Partridge, Pope, and Thatcher.

Also participating: Malcolm Ramsden (clerk), RFO (via. Zoom), Dist. Cllr. Draper and County Cllr. Bennett (part).

*Please note that meetings are recorded.*

#### **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 (subject to any items considered as confidential within the terms of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960).

*None present.*

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

*Dist. Cllr. Draper reported that the Local Plan was on 'purdah hold' between Regs. 18 and 19. Responding to chair's question regarding a proposed meeting with District Council relating to any potential changes in the area, Cllr. Partridge confirmed that his input would be in his personal capacity and not that of Council's.*

*Clerk confirmed to County Cllr. Bennett that his emailed report had been previously circulated to members. In response to a concern from Cllr. Cole, County Cllr. Bennett recommended that she raise the issue of a problem with a passing place near her property as a defect to County Highways. Chair updated the meeting with regard to the strip of land in Church Marks Lane between the churchyard and car park, where Cllr. Thatcher mentioned children had been injured, in that it appeared that the land wasn't registered with the Land Registry although enquiries were continuing regarding ownership.*

*Both District and County Cllrs. agreed to look at which of their respective signage relating to the Church Marks Lane car park needed maintenance.*

*Dist. Cllr. Draper thanked Council for their work looking at the proposed Oakleigh development and stated that, when appropriate, whatever the Parish Council decided regarding any particular planning application, it would have a significant impact on his decision-making process as to supporting or not that application because the Parish Council are the ones with unique knowledge as to the local impact and ramifications of any applications.*

#### **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. and Cllr. Freezer regarding her membership of the Carnival Society. Cllrs. Freezer, Partridge and Pope all declared their interests as directors of the Community Land Trust.*

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

*Apologies received from Cllrs. Magness and Whitlock for personal reasons. Reasons accepted.*

#### **5. MINUTES**

5.1 To resolve that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

- 0702 *Following a proposal by Cllr. Cole and seconding by Cllr. Thatcher*  
**RESOLVED** to approve that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> of May, 2024 be taken as read and be signed by the Chair.
- 5.1.1 Matters arising from minutes not otherwise covered by agenda items
- 5.1.1.1 Church Marks Lane pavement  
*Clerk reported that the items on the snagging list had done been attended to and that he would chase County Highways for an update.*
- 5.1.1.2 80<sup>th</sup> D-Day anniversary events  
*Chair asked that thanks be noted to the Carnival Society for the commemorative beacon lighting and that the caretaker had agreed to water the commemorative oak tree planted in the sports field.*
- 0703 *Following a proposal by Cllr. Freezer and seconding by Cllr. Pope*  
**RESOLVED** to approve that the costs relating to the oak tree be met from s.106 funds.
- 5.1.1.3 Community orchard  
*Clerk noted that in addition to the grant request for £783.32 a further £205.24 had been awarded as not all of the available District Council grant monies had been exhausted. Chair asked that thanks be noted to Mrs. Walker for her major contribution to the grant application process.*
- 5.1.1.4 Councillor laptops  
*A change in understanding occurred regarding which Councillors were still prepared to commit to using laptops. Only two quotes had, so far, been received.*
- 5.1.1.5 Climate change  
*Cllr. Butcher attending the NALC Climate Change meeting. Chair attended a Net Zero meeting. Members covered a number of ways that could reduce Council's emissions and an audit of our 2019 emissions may be required to establish a base line.*

## 6. FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION

- 6.1 To approve/note payments payable/paid April/May, 2024  
*Following a proposal by Cllr. Butcher and seconding by Cllr. Pope*
- 0704 **RESOLVED** to approve/note payments payable/paid April/May, 2024 totalling £13,538.95 (See appendix A).
- 6.2 To note income/expenditure-vs-budget and approve, if necessary, overspends/under-receipts not previously approved  
*RFO noted that the solar farm income was some £910 more than budgeted for and will budget for £3,200 next year. The Cambridge & Counties balance at £116.70 in excess of the FSCS cover was noted.*
- 6.3 Account signatory update  
*RFO updated members regarding progress with the bank account signatory changes and that further minuted evidence of the changes was still required by the Cambridge Building Society. Members learnt that the Cambridge and Counties Bank were reducing the number of signatories to their accounts from two to one which would not be acceptable and if this were the case then the account would need to be transferred away from them.*
- 0705 *Following a proposal by Cllr. Freezer and seconding by Cllr. Pope*  
**RESOLVED** to again minute that it was resolved that following the resignation of Cllrs. Bradley and Vaughan on 30 October 2023 and 26 February 2024 respectively, that Cllrs. Danielle Thatcher and Gary Whitlock replace them as bank signatories with all banking institutions including the Cambridge Building Society. It was also resolved that Cllrs. Thatcher and Whitlock will provide certified copies of their ID documents.
- 0705 *Following a proposal by Cllr. Freezer and seconding by Cllr. Thatcher*  
**RESOLVED** to give notice to Cambridge and Counties to close and transfer their account to Unity Bank if Unity Bank retain two signatories and if the one signatory change on the account by Cambridge and Counties is enforced.
- 6.4 To consider Planning meeting policy amendment

Members learnt from Cllr. Butcher that where this Council are included as a consultee by Wealden District Council that the response would best be considered at a formal meeting of Council and not by delegated email so as to preserve openness and transparency in our decision making process.

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

**0706** **RESOLVED** to consider all planning applications where Council is listed as a consultee by Wealden District Council in a meeting of either the Full Council, Planning Committee or Finance and General Purpose Committee.

6.5 To approve Developer pre-application meeting policy  
Members agreed with Cllr. Thatcher's comments that a developer pre-application meeting policy would be most useful not only for members and developers but also for members of the public for the avoidance of doubt.

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

**0707** **RESOLVED** that the clerk email a proposed policy to members for comment/approval by email.

6.6 To consider banking arrangements/policy re. FSCS limit  
Clerk reported that the internal auditor's recommendation was to continue our practice of opening a new bank account at such time as the fscs threshold was breached whilst appreciating the difficulties experienced when changing authorized signatories.

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

**0708** **RESOLVED** to continue our practice of opening new bank accounts at such times when the FSCS threshold in place at the time was breached.

6.7 To approve Community Orchard funding  
Following a proposal by Cllr. Thatcher and seconding by Cllr. Freezer

**0709** **RESOLVED** to approve the order for the purchase of community orchard trees, as previously circulated, from Stavertons for delivery in November at a cost of £387.45.

6.8 To approve purchase of three fire baskets  
Members heard from the chair that the Carnival Society had arranged to take delivery of three fire baskets for beacon lightings and have approached Council for funding. Members agreed to support the request if the baskets remained the property of the Council and for the Carnival Society to be the temporary custodians.

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

**0710** **RESOLVED** to approve the payment for three fire baskets at a cost of £750 from the Village Furniture budget subject to production of a receipt for an audit trail and details of how and where they will be stored.

## 7. PLANNING

7.1 Neighbourhood Plan

7.1.1 Update

Members learnt that the purdah period has had an impact on the Plan delivery timetable, but it is still to be hoped that the referendum will take place during August, 2024. Chair asks that thanks be noted to Mr. Walker for ensuring that all of the necessary documents have been supplied to the District Council in a timely manner.

7.2 Discharge of conditions 18 and 19 at Paddock Green  
Chair reported that she understood that the Real Time Control requirement had been met although no formal confirmation of the condition discharge had been seen and the first occupation was thought to be imminent.

7.3 To note District Council and Planning Inspector decisions to date  
Noted.

## 8. PROPOSALS/REPORTS FOR APPROVAL, DISCUSSION OR NOTING

8.1 Correspondence

Noted. (See Appendix B).

8.2 Woodland footpath remedial action update

Potential contractors lined up. Still waiting for the Maydencroft specification.

8.3 K6 'phone box

*Members agreed that the listed 'phone box at the junction of Waldron Road and Mill Lane was in need of re-painting. Clerk to obtain quotes and contact a previous Councillor who was thought to have been involved when the box was last painted.*

8.4 Garden Plots/Community Garden visit

*Chair noted that not all members had had the opportunity to visit the garden plots/community garden and that a visit should be arranged.*

8.5 Halland village sign

*Clerk reported that of the three contractors approached, only one was interested in quoting. Cllr. Thatcher suggested approaching the contractor that had supplied the Frant sign. Both of the Halland Councillors had provided 'apologies' and, as such, were unable to comment. Clerk confirmed that the proposed site opposite Buffalo Bill's to the south west of the roundabout was owned by County Highways and that a licence would be required.*

8.6 Halland street furniture

*Clerk reported his findings that the boundary barrier/fence at Fabric Wonderland was part of the shop and that the footway between the barrier/fence and Eastbourne Road was owned by County Highways.*

8.7 To note Village Hall report

*Cllr. Pope noted that fewer organizations were using the hall and that the committee were looking for new members and that it was likely that two existing members would be retiring within the year. Report noted with the chair reminding members that there was no formal agreement setting out the relationship between the Parish Council and Village Hall Committee.*

8.8 Clerk's progress report

*Cllr. Thatcher listed the items in the report and clerk noted that the fingerpost works had been completed and that South Street bus stops were still an outstanding issue. Noted.*

## **9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

To note that the next meeting of the Full Council will be held on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 at 7.00 pm at the Village Hall, East Hoathly

*Noted.*

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE E-MAILED COPIES OF THIS AND FUTURE AGENDAS  
PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK (07948 496760) and/or  
[clerk@easthoathlywithhalland.org.uk](mailto:clerk@easthoathlywithhalland.org.uk)

Meeting closed at 8.35pm

*Background papers that are available can be found on the Parish Council website:  
<https://easthoathlywithhalland.org.uk/>*

## Appendix A

Date	Payee	Amount	
01/04/2024	East Hoathly/Halland WM grant	£5,000.00	
01/04/2024	Wealden District Council	£60.00	Parish Conference
01/04/2024	ESALC Limited	£48.00	Cllr. training
01/04/2024	Ashdown Solutions Ltd	£198.24	IT support
01/04/2024	Rialtas Business Solutions	£230.40	Annual support fee
09/04/2024	HMRC	£547.34	Tax/NI
09/04/2024	Satswana Ltd	£180.00	Data Protection fee
09/04/2024	Salaries/Expenses	£2,768.13	
09/04/2024	Clark Jacqueline	£64.93	Village plants
09/04/2024	Clark Jacqueline	£23.98	Plant baskets
09/04/2024	Mulberry and Co	£136.50	Audit fee
09/04/2024	NALC	£52.04	Climate event
31/05/2024	HMRC	£666.26	Tax/NI
31/05/2024	East Hoathly Village Hall grant	£850.00	
31/05/2024	Mailing Expert Ltd	£97.00	Parish Assembly
31/05/2024	Ashdown Solutions Ltd	£99.24	IT support
31/05/2024	Salaries/Expenses	£2,516.89	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£13,538.95</b>	

## Appendix B

### Correspondence: 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 to 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2024

1. Safety of Lithium ion Batteries and e-bikes and scooters
2. EH resident: Area at the village sign (already forwarded to members)
3. ESALC: LNRS: briefing Parish & Town Councillors on Monday 26th Feb @ 6pm
4. WDC: media release: Funding given to Wealden organisations to deliver physical activities
5. WDC: media release: Funding received to stamp out fly-tipping in Wealden
6. WDC: Media release: Temporary partial closures of Cuckoo Trail ahead
7. WDC: Re. Meeting cancelled - 05/06/2024, 10:00, Cabinet
8. WDC: Wealden Weekly Commencing May 27
9. WDC: Agenda for Licensing Sub-Committee, Tuesday, 4th June, 2024
10. NALC: STAR COUNCIL AWARDS 2024
11. NALC NEWSLETTER (29May2024)
12. AJG: Read our latest edition of Community Matters
13. WDC: Media release: Book now for Energy Champion training in Wealden
14. WDC: media release: Streets of Wealden performances are a great success
15. CPRE Sussex: Wealden Local Plan Consultation Regulation 18 - submitting a response .....
16. Media release: Over 1m to be invested into improving Wealden's sports facilities
17. New NALC Micro Councils Network (MCN)
18. WDC: Media release: Funding approved to improve hockey facilities at Hailsham Community College
19. ESALC & Mulberry & Co.
20. NALC: STAR COUNCIL AWARDS 2024
21. WDC: Media release: A new health centre and community hall in Mayfield takes step forward
22. 3va: micro grants and volunteer support for warm spaces and similar projects
23. WDC: Newly published decision: Transfer Incentive Scheme
24. Hallmaster Newsletter | May 2024
25. Wealden Weekly Commencing 3 June
26. WDC: Funding Opportunity for Community Projects
27. ESALC: Village Hall Grants
28. Vanguard Way Association: AGM and VGW News
29. WDC: Newly published decision: Completed Housing Ombudsman Statutory Self-Assessment
30. NALC events: 04Jne2024
31. Parish Online Newsletter #50
32. NALC NEWSLETTER (05Jne2024)
33. WDC: Agenda for Planning Committee South, Thursday, 13th June, 2024
34. NALC bulletin (06Jne2024)
35. Wealden Weekly Commencing 10 June
36. WDC: Minutes for Licensing Sub-Committee, Tuesday, 4th June, 2024,
37. NALC events: 11Jne2024
38. NALC bulletin (13Jne2024)
39. WDC: Minutes for Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Monday, 20th May, 2024
40. Wealden Weekly Commencing 17 June
41. Vanguard Way Association AGM report
42. Halland resident: Planning application meetings
43. NALC events: 18Jne2024
44. NALC NEWSLETTER (18Jne2024)
45. NALC bulletin (18Jne2024)
46. WDC: Minutes for Full Council, Wednesday, 15th May, 2024
47. ESCC: Wealden Events and Bus – BSIP
48. WDC: Wealden Weekly Commencing 24 June