

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in Hurst Green Village Hall on Tuesday 25th August 2015 starting at 8:00pm.

Present: - Councillor Browne (Chairman), Councillor Duddridge, Councillor Funnell, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Janes, Councillor Johnson, Councillor Wright, District Councillor Prochak (from 8.20pm) and County Councillor Barnes.

David Hilbourne, the RFO and the Clerk were in attendance.

Nine members of the public attended.

1.0 Apologies for Absence: -Councillor Cruse.

2.0 Minutes of the last meeting: -

To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 28th July 2015.

Minutes proposed by Councillor Funnell and seconded by Councillor Harrison.

2.1 Matters arising from the Minutes: -

No matters arising.

3.0 Declaration of Interests: -

Councillors Browne and Johnson declared an interest in agenda item 6.2, application RR/2015/2059/A as known to the applicants and Councillor Johnson also declared an interest in agenda item 4.3 as a member of the Village Hall management committee.

4.0 Community: - Guest speaker

No guest speaker and no reports rec'd

4.2 Redundant Hurst Green Village sign

Councillors still to liaise with the management committee to work out exact positioning and will report back at the next meeting.

Councillor Johnson declared an interest in the next agenda item and abstained for the discussion and vote.

4.3 Request from Village Hall Management Committee for help with replacement windows

Councillors discussed the need for replacement windows to the original part of the hall. One quote has been provided via the Village Hall Committee who intend to match fund.

Councillor Barnes noted that the Village Hall would have access to Community Grant money for match funding. Details to be passed onto Village Hall Committee and the Council would review at the Precept meeting.

4.4 County/District Councillors Report

County Councillor Barnes reported on the continuing battle to cut costs as East Sussex needs to find savings of £70-£90 million over the next 2/3 years. The exact figure will not be known until later this year. It is hoped to find a further £25 million in savings by the end of next year but front line services will be hit.

District Councillor Browne asked Councillors to give feedback on the Community Involvement Scheme consultation which is available to view on the Rother website and which will affect how RDC deals with planning.

5.0 Parish Council Website

The RFO, David Hilbourne has been putting a lot of work into this and has already uploaded a lot of information on to the site which it is hoped will go live in approximately 2 weeks' time.

Councillor Browne thanked David for all his work on this project.

District Councillor Prochak arrived at 8.20pm and at the invitation of the Chair gave her report (agenda item 4.4) as follows:-

Very quiet at the moment at Rother although there have been a large number of complaints about the Garden Waste service which is not currently working to plan.

Interesting times with the Planning Committee due to the Chair failing to declare an Interest and hence the Ombudsman was involved resulting in the application being re assessed and returned to the Committee for a second time.

Bodiam Parish Council are complaining to the Police Commissioner, Katy Bourne re non-attendance of a police representative at Parish meetings. It is to be noted that Katy Bourne was elected on an election commitment to PCSOs!

Sussex Police are now saying that they will only investigate crime that they think they can solve!

6.0 Planning: -

The appeal for RR/2014/1608/P, Bantham Farm, London Road, re RDC's refusal of permission to the relocation of B1 use (art studio) to an alternative location **has been dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate.**

6.1 RDC Planning decisions

RR/2015/961/P - 31 & 33 London Road Hurst Green TN19 7QP. Front porches. **Granted.**

RR/2015/1577/P - 1 Lodge Farm Cottage, London Road, Hurst Green TN19 7QP. New entrance gates to northern access. Closure of southern vehicular access to remain pedestrian only. **Granted.**

6.2 Current Applications

Councillors Browne and Johnson declared an interest in the next agenda item and abstained for the discussion and vote.

RR/2015/2059/A - Eggs to Apples, London Road, Hurst Green TN19 7QP. Two illuminated free-standing signs at entrance. **Supported.**

RR/2015/2003/T - 15 Acorn Way, Hurst Green TN19 7QG. Works to oak tree. **Supported.**

RR/2015/1908/P - 12 Vicarage Way, Hurst Green TN19 7QQ. Single storey extension to the front elevation. **Supported.**

7.0 Finance/David Hilbourne, RFO's Report:-

Financial report given by David Hilbourne, RFO.

7.1 Current financial position

Balance of accounts

Community Account (6752)	£4,990.14	as at 22 nd August 2015
Community Savings (6779)	£690.42	as at 22 nd August 2015
Renewals A/C (6760)	£10,064.89	as at 22 nd August 2015

These figures are the position as at the latest statements received as shown. They do not include monies received or paid away subsequently.

Direct Debit payments

None.

Payments received

None.

7.2 Approval and issue of Cheques

Urgent cheques drawn and paid away

Cheque No. 100599 - DG Browne, Cut grass in August.

£120.00

Cheques to be authorised for this meeting

Copies of invoices re items below previously circulated via email to all Councillors.

Cheque No. 100593 - East Sussex Pension Scheme, re Clerk.	£143.85
Cheque No. 100594 - J Ellis, Clerk's Salary (August).	£416.66
Cheque No. 100595 - D Hilbourne, RFOs salary (August)	£96.00
Cheque No. 100596 - Glasdon, Bench seat for Drewetts.	£423.60
Cheque No. 100597 - E Doe, Padlock for Stage Field.	£32.95
Cheque No. 100598 - Robertsbridge Garden Mc Centre (3 months),	£720.00

A resolution for approval is sought for past and present issue of Cheques.

Cheques proposed by Councillor Peacock and seconded by Councillor Duddridge.

David Hilbourne reported to the Council that the new bank mandate had been signed but all Councillors still needed to visit HSBC to confirm their identities and addresses before it was a legal document.

The Audit report has just been rec'd and all appears to be correct. Only 2 minor comments made which conflicted with information given at last report!

8.0 PLAYING FIELDS and Corner Garden

8.1 Proposed Memorial seat sites

Councillors decided after much discussion that the seat for Drewetts Field should be placed just up from the entrance near the trees and back gardens of the houses as this would be easily accessible for disabled users.

Councillors agreed that a second site for a similar bench would be at the bottom of Ridgeway as the existing bench was in need of replacement and was well used. A memorial bench still to be decided on.

Resolution for the next agenda.

8.2 Update on Lodge Field play equipment repairs

Still looking to source a second quote for the work to be done. Councillor Johnson to supply details.

8.3 Disabled access to Drewetts and Stage Field

Councillors **unanimously resolved to open up the side gate into Drewetts Field to provided wheelchair access.** Clerk to get quotes for work.

Councillors **resolved to leave the access to Stage Field as it is at present.**

9.0 Footpaths, Transport & Roads

Consultation with Highways England ended on the 31st July and as yet no speed reduction signs have appeared. Clerk to chase if no signage appears soon. Noted that new Hurst Green sign is not upright.

9.1 Footpath 23 (off London Road by Jesses)

Councillor Barnes has met with Andrew Le Gresley, Team Manager of ESCC's Rights of Way & Countryside. Councillor Barnes reported that the footpath marker needs to be restored and that the new way should be marked as discretionary. Believed originally a cart track associated with the dwelling that then accidentally got marked down as a footpath. Concern that if enforcement action is taken the footpath might be lost. Best solution is to obtain an official diversion if all parties can get together and decide on a line.

Claire Bennett addressed the meeting, at the invitation of the Chair, with her concerns and reported on the history of the path as far as she was aware.

It was noted that the new line taken by the landowner would incur extra maintenance costs due to its enclosure.

Alan Fisher asked if ESCC had given permission for the new line. Councillor Barnes replied that they had not and that an application to divert the path was being submitted. The Parish Council has rec'd no notification of this.

Alan Fisher said that the landowner said that he moved the path after consultation with ESCC.

It was agreed that further meetings and discussion need to take place on this issue.

10.0 Notices and Correspondence:-

Correspondence previously circulated via email

10.1 Urgent issues requiring attention

No urgent issues.

11.00 Items for the next agenda:-

Footpath 23.

12.0 Date and time of next Meeting:-

The next meeting is on Tuesday 29^h September 2015 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Distribution of Minutes: -

Signed

All Parish councillors.

Parish Council Noticeboard.

ESCC Councillor J. Barnes.

Chairman

RDC Councillor S. Prochak.

Dated