

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in Hurst Green Village Hall on Tuesday 25th November 2014 starting at 8:00pm.

Present: - Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Duddridge, Councillor Hampton, Councillor Janes, Councillor Peacock and District Councillor Prochak.

The Clerk was in attendance. Two members of the public attended.

1.0 Apologies for Absence: - Councillor Cruse, Councillor Greenfield, Councillor Wright, County Councillor Barnes and the RFO David Hilbourne.

2.0 Minutes of the last meeting: -

To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 28/10/14.

Minutes proposed by Councillor Duddridge and seconded by Councillor Hampton.

2.1 Matters arising from the Minutes: -

No matters arising.

3.0 Declaration of Interest: -

Councillor Janes declared a possible interest in agenda item 6.3 as Editor and producer of the Hurst Green Magazine.

4.0 Community:-

4.1 Guest speaker

No Guest Speaker.

4.2 Community reports

No community reports rec'd.

4.3 Hurst Green Youth Group presentation and funding request.

No representatives from the Hurst Green Youth Group Attended.

4.4 County/District Councillors Report

District Councillor Prochak reported that the Scrutiny Committee presented two big reports last night, one on Affordable Housing and the other about the upcoming Elections.

Re Affordable Housing, there is a real shortage of housing particularly 1 bedroom homes with the bedroom tax creating increased need. Local Affordable housing schemes are for local people but they do need to register online to be eligible.

Re the Elections in May 2015, these are particularly complicated due to it being a General, District and Parish election on the same day and Government criteria means that counting for the General Election must be started within four hours of the vote closing.

Another meeting was held for prospective councillors which were generally well attended but only one person from the rural areas turned up.

Councillor Prochak also said that she attended an Emergency Event (role play exercise) this morning which was very interesting and highlighted the need for people to have a land line as in an emergency all mobile networks could well go down.

Councillor Prochak noted that Rother staff were very overworked and some service areas were in critical condition.

District Councillor Browne had nothing further to add.

5.0 Planning: -

5.1 RDC Planning decisions

RR/2014/2306/T - Beagles Boundary, Burgh Hill, Hurst Green TN19 7PE. Works to oak tree. **Refused.**

RR/2014/2249/P - Prosperity Cottage, London Road, Hurst Green TN19 7QP. Proposed Conversion of part of garage to create pool room. **Granted.**

RR/2014/1931/P - 11 London Road, The Old Woolpack, Hurst Green TN19 7QP. Proposed conversion of stable block and garage attached to The Old Woolpack into three bedroom five person house. **Granted.**

RR/2014/1932/L - 11 London Road, The Old Woolpack, Hurst Green TN19 7QP. Proposed conversion of stable block and garage attached to The Old Woolpack into three bedroom five person house. **Granted.**

5.2 Current Applications

RR/2014/2505/A - Ashdene Service Station, London Road, Hurst Green TN19 7QR. Renewal of existing permission (application RR/2009/1316/A) for pole for existing position. **Supported.**

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

David Hilbourne provided a financial report which was read out by the Clerk in his absence.

6.1 Current financial position

Direct Debit payments

1 Nov DDGreen CoreClear rubbish	£ 23.92
---------------------------------	---------

Payments received

None rec'd

Balance of Accounts Current balances

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

Community Account(6752)	£ 16727.96 as at 18 Nov 14
-------------------------	----------------------------

Community Savings(6779)	£ 78.27 as at 18 Nov 14
-------------------------	-------------------------

Renewals A/c (6760)	£ 3061.75 as at 18 Nov 14
---------------------	---------------------------

6.2 Approval and issue of Cheques

Copies of all the invoices have already been circulated electronically for viewing so Councillors are fully informed of the expenditure covered by the following invoices together with those already paid.

25 Nov 0530 - J EllisClerk salary November	£ 370.18
25 Nov 0531 - ESCCClerk pension fund contribs.	£ 125.31
25 Nov 0532 - British Legion Trust S137 Donation .	£ 50.00
25 Nov 0529 - R'Bridge Gdn Centre Lodgefield grass Sept & Oct .	£ 384.00

Approval is sought for present issue of Cheques.

Cheques proposed by Councillor Hampton and seconded by Councillor Janes.

6.3 Precept for 2015/2016

David Hilbourne had emailed Councillors his proposed expenditure for the Council based on previous year's expenditure. Councillors discussed this in detail. Clerk noted that the Council should be looking at getting a website set up and running and Councillor Browne expressed the opinion that the Council should be looking at producing a neighbourhood plan either on its own or in conjunction with neighbouring parishes.

AiRS provides free advice on this and grants are available but it would mean a substantial input from the Parish Council.

Working Party meeting to be held in early January to finalise figure to be approved at the Council meeting on the 27th January.

7.0 **STANDING ORDERS**

Resolution to adopt revised Standing Orders

David Hilbourne revisited this and reviewed the latest documents which were adapted from the NALC Model, before emailing to all Councillors before the meeting.

Councillor Browne proposed that the Council resolve to approve these Standing Orders.

The Council unanimously resolved to adopt these Standing Orders.

The Chair gave the Council's thanks to David Hilbourne for all his work in preparing and adapting these for the Council.

8.0 **Playing & Stage Fields:-**

The Clerk handed out checklists for the different Playing Fields in order to make the Risk Assessment process easier to complete during the regular monitoring.

8.1 Update on Lodge Field Play Equipment Inspection report 2014

Councillor Janes reported that he had spoken to a lot of people at Sovereign about this and they had all assured him that their equipment was up to date with the Health and Safety specification required and that any issues were just a matter of interpretation.

Other elements in the report not relating to the new equipment would need to be addressed and replacement parts found.

9.0 **Footpaths, Transport & Roads**

A blocked drain opposite the Village Hall in Station Road was causing concern. The Clerk will chase this up as Sue Endean has already reported it but not rec'd an adequate response.

Concern that the repaired A21 pedestrian crossing sensors are not working correctly. To be looked into.

10.0 **Notices and Correspondence:-**

Correspondence previously circulated via email

10.1 Urgent issues requiring attention

Councillor Hampton reported that the School was very concerned about a dangerous tree overhanging the grounds. Councillor Browne will give them the land agents details and the Clerk suggested fencing off the area as a temporary measure.

The School was also concerned that the Affordable Housing next to it would now overlook the School as the houses were higher than expected.

Councillor Janes was asked if he could put a piece in the Hurst Green magazine about the Community bus and its availability for hire.

11.0 **Items for the next agenda:-**

Precept

12.0 **Date and time of next Meeting:-**

The next meeting is on Tuesday 27th January 2015 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm with public consultation from 7.30pm. Suggested date for Precept working party meeting was the 7th January. To be confirmed.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Distribution of Minutes: -	Signed
All Parish councillors.	
Parish Council Noticeboard.	
ESCC Councillor J. Barnes.	Chairman
RDC Councillor S. Prochak.	Dated