

## HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in Hurst Green Village Hall on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016 starting at 8:00pm.

**Present:** - Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Cruse, Councillor Funnell, Councillor Harrison, Councillor Janes, Councillor Johnson, Councillor Peacock, District Councillor Prochak (arrived at 8.10pm) and County Councillor Barnes. The RFO, David Hilbourne and the Clerk were in attendance along with 3 members of the public.

**1.0 Apologies for Absence:-** Councillor Duddridge and Councillor Wright.

**2.0 Minutes of the last meeting:-**

To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2016.

**Minutes proposed by Councillor Peacock and seconded by Councillor Cruse.**

**3.0 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct: to receive any disclosure by Members of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.**

Councillor Janes declared an interest in agenda item 4.1 as Company Secretary of the Community Shop.

**4.0 Community Activities and reports:-**

Councillor Browne raised the issue of parking on the green turfed roundabout at the entrance to the Village Hall and Car Park. In particular a white van which was ripping up the turfed area which had been planted by the local Brownies. Councillor Barnes will pursue this on behalf of the Parish Council as deemed dangerous parking and therefore enforced by Sussex Police unlike normal parking infringements, currently unenforced.

**4.1 Parish Council Breakfast Club, instructions re criteria and implementation (Cllr. Janes)**

(Cllr. Prochak arrived) General discussion re set up of the Club. Agreed that the club should meet once a month and be limited to 20 people over 75yrs who are resident in the village. Councillor Harrison noted that it should be established that there is a need for this in the village and that a constitution should then be set up. All agreed that it would need someone to set up and run the club. Councillor Johnson will look into this.

**4.2 BT phone kiosks and adoption of**

After much discussion it was unanimously agreed that the red telephone boxes could be removed as the Council could not think of an alternative use for them and there were concerns about the cost of upkeep if adopted.

**5.0 Planning: -**

Information rec'd from Rother that enforcement action being taken against **Hayes Mill Oast** re non-compliance with prior approved applications relating to use of buildings for ancillary use only has been withdrawn as conditions now being complied with.

A planning appeal has been lodged by Nigel and Nick Watts for **Bantham Farm** re change of use from B1 Art Studio to living accommodation, APP/U1430/W/16/3160183 (RR/2016/329/P2421)

**5.1 RDC Planning decisions**

None rec'd

**5.2 Current Applications**

**RR/2016/2933/P - Boundary Farm House**, London Road, Hurst Green/Ticehurst TN19 7QY. Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of a replacement dwelling (an alternative house design to that approved under RR/2016/350/P). **Supported.**

**RR/2016/2715/P - 52 London Road, Pidgeon House**, Hurst Green TN19 7PN. Part demolition of a modern rear extension, erection of a single storey replacement rear extension & associated works. **Supported.**

RR/2016/2716/L - 52 London Road, Pidgeon House, Hurst Green TN19 7PN. Part demolition of a modern rear extension, erection of a single storey replacement rear extension & associated works. **Supported.**

#### 6.0 Finance/RFO's Report:-

Financial report given by the RFO, David Hilbourne.

##### 6.1 Current financial position

###### Balance of accounts

Community Account (6752)	£16,210.64	as at 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2016
Community Savings (6779)	£2,736.42	as at 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2016
Renewals A/C (6760)	£10,073.47	as at 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2016

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.

##### 6.2 Approval and issue of Cheques

###### Urgent cheques drawn and paid away

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

Cheque No. 100713 - HMRC, remit PAYE collected.	£425.40
Cheque No. 100719 - D G Browne, mowing and topping Stage/Lodge/Drewetts Fields (Sept).	£270.00
Cheque No. 100720 - D G Browne, mowing and hedging Lodge Field (Oct).	£174.00

###### Cheques to be authorised for this meeting

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

Cheque No. 100721 - J Ellis, Clerk's Salary (Nov).	£437.46
Cheque No. 100722 - D Hilbourne, RFOs salary (Nov).	£125.33
Cheque No. 100723 - East Sussex Pension Scheme, re Clerk.	£153.93
Cheque No. 100724 - Pet Waste Solutions, clearance of dog bin waste for November.	£56.33
Cheque No. 100725 - William Smith, repairs to play equipment in Lodge Field (Sept).	£370.00
Cheque No. 100726 - Ernest Doe & Sons, purchase of padlock.	£6.43
Cheque No. 100727 - Active Risk Management, Lodge Field annual play equipment inspection.	£56.00
Cheque No. 100728 - RFO, petty cash account.	£100.00
Cheque No. 100729 - Festive Lights, s137 donation for Village Hall Xmas Lights, agenda item 6.4.	£166.34

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

**Cheques proposed by Councillor Janes and seconded by Councillor Peacock.**

##### 6.3 Application for donation from Citizens Advice Bureau

Correspondence rec'd from CAB re donation. Clerk to give RFO copy of request.

To be considered at Precept working party meeting.

##### 6.4 Resolution to approve purchase of Christmas lights for Village Hall Garden under s137

This was agreed at the last meeting for formal approval at this meeting.

It was **unanimously** resolved to cover the cost of Christmas Lights for the Village Hall under LGA 1972 s137 for a sum of £166.34.

6.5 To decide date for Precept working party and initial request for funding including BACT donation

Much discussion re BACT donation but generally felt that insufficient service to the Village to warrant a donation at this time.

Date for Precept Working Party meeting set for 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017, 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

6.6 Request for donation for Rural Rother Trust

Request rec'd from Rural Rother Trust. **Councillor Browne** noted that the Council usually donated £50 to this but **due to his position on the board he must declare an Interest and abstain from the discussion and vote**. After discussion and Councillor Prochak noting that the Trust had recently helped a Hurst Green resident the Council **unanimously** resolved to donate the usual £50 to this cause.

6.7 Form for donation requests, information to be included

The RFO provided three alternative forms for Councillors to look at via email prior to the meeting.

Some concern that they may be asking for information that not all residents could provide. To be looked at again.

## 7.0 **Playing & Stage Fields**

7.1 Lodge field playground Inspection report, Councillors update of findings

Councillor Janes reported that Councillors had met in Lodge Field and extensively tested all the equipment to test the inspection report findings. All agreed that the equipment felt solid and that their stress tests did not support the inspection findings which were felt to be over zealous but would look into medium term replacement of equipment. It was felt that now alerted to the issue of strimmer damage tree protection guards should be fitted to protect the base of the equipment from further damage. Councillors **unanimously** agreed to this.

Councillor Janes will action.

The one area of concern was the benches which had rec'd significant strimmer damage to their supporting legs.

7.2 Resolution to replace 4 benches for Lodge Field and 1 new bench for Drewetts Field

Due to the damage sustained by strimming it was felt that four benches in Lodge Field should be replaced along with a replacement bench for the damaged one behind the bus shelter at The George and the new memorial seat (Ken Foster) for Drewetts Cricket Field.

**The resolution to purchase and replace the benches was unanimously passed.**

## 8.0 **Footpaths, Transport & Roads**

8.1 Update on Footpath 23 (off London Road by Jesses) and footpath 27

Councillor Johnson walked the first section of footpath 23. He did not consider that the requirements of the section 130 notice had been complied with although there had been some progress. The sheds have been moved but the five bar gate was still impassable.

Councillor Funnell stated his intent to walk the path along with Councillor Peacock and any other available councillors at 9.00am on the forthcoming Saturday. Asked Clerk to write to the owner of Jesses to inform them of this.

Concern expressed of the continuing use of CCTV cameras surveying the Public Right of Way. Clerk requested to look into the legalities of this.

8.2 A21 Street Light replacement meeting

Highways England will send three representatives to the Village (VH) on the 7<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm to discuss the Street Lights on the A21. All available Councillors to attend.

## 9.00 **Notices and Correspondence:-**

*Correspondence previously circulated via email.*

Resident has requested another dog waste bin at the entrance of the footpath into Burgh Wood off of Burgh Lane as no alternative disposal unit in the area. Councillors agreed that this could be instigated. Clerk to action.

9.1 Urgent issues requiring attention

Councillor Browne noted that the annual donation to the British Legion had been missed. The Council agreed in principle to this.

Councillor Browne is planning to attend a Neighbourhood Plan meeting in Ticehurst on Friday the 2<sup>nd</sup> December and invited any available councillors to go with him as he was especially keen to meet the company doing the Ticehurst Plan as he felt, after consideration of other plans, that they appeared to be doing an excellent job. Will get then to quote for a Hurst Green plan.

Commented [J1]:

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

Resolution for donation to British Legion of £50 (*agreed in principle*)

Items to be emailed to Clerk as necessary.

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

The next meeting is on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

The Precept working Party meeting will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> January at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Distribution of Minutes: -  
All Parish councillors.

Signed

Parish Council Noticeboard.

ESCC Councillor J. Barnes.

Chairman

RDC Councillor S. Prochak.

Dated