

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 22nd February 2022 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm after public consultation.

Present:- Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Brown, Councillor Janes, Councillor Hampton, Councillor Price, Councillor Wright, District Councillor Barnes and County Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green.

The Clerk and RFO Anita Emery were in attendance along with three members of the public.

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: -

Councillor Duddridge (illness), Councillor Johnson (prior engagement) and Councillor Kenchington (unknown).

2.0 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: -

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 25th January 2022.

Councillors felt they had insufficient time to properly review the minutes provided on the morning of the meeting which will now be signed off at the next meeting.

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.*

None declared.

3.1 APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION – *to consider written requests from Members for Dispensation and to consider the length of time the dispensation should be granted for i.e. as a one-off relating to a matter on this agenda, or ongoing for a set period and relating to any agenda within that period.*

None received.

4.0 FINANCE/RFO Report

The RFO, Anita Emery gave her report.

The RFO recommended that a finance committee should be set up for bi-yearly meetings. To be put on the next agenda.

The RFO provided Councillors with indicative costs for a PWLB to support the redevelopment of the children's playground

The internal Audit has been arranged for the 25th April 2022.

4.1 To approve expenses and payments as itemised on the schedule (appendix attached)

The detailed expenses and payments report for February was emailed to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

Approval of Invoices and payments proposed by Councillor Janes and seconded by Councillor Price.

Unanimously approved.

4.2 To approve bank reconciliation

The bank reconciliation was proposed as correct by Councillor Janes and seconded by Councillor Hampton. **Unanimously approved.**

5.0 COMMUNITY Activities and reports.

5.1 Neighbourhood Plan, progress report (Cllrs. Brown & Wright)

The report was given by Councillor Brown.

The RFO left the meeting at 8.27pm

The Council agreed to meet on Tuesday 15th March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall to consider the draft regulation 14 document. To be circulated prior to the meeting by Councillor Brown.

5.2 Former Community Shop Building – latest update and proposals

A meeting is to be held on the 24th February to allow the Hands of Hope charity who have recently re-expressed an interest in the building to do a presentation to the Council.

5.3 Jubilee Beacon Lighting, motion to approve lighting of beacon (Cllr. Browne)

This was **unanimously agreed**.

Councillor Janes will register the event, Clerk will check on WC costs.

It was **unanimously agreed** that the Council should apply to RDC for a grant to cover 50% of the costs.

5.4 District and County Councillors reports

Councillor Barnes gave her report.

Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green gave her report.

The Council asked the Clerk to write to our MP outlying the Council's concerns that during the storm and for some time afterwards, some residents were without working landlines and some of the mobile cell sites were also down, which left residents unable to call for assistance/emergency services.

5.5 Clerk's report

The Clerk gave her report.

In view of the recent extensive power cuts the Clerk suggested that the Emergency Plan should be updated and a generator be considered for the Village Hall. A community resilience working party to be set up to look at this issue.

5.6 Parish Correspondence and local resident issues

Nothing to report.

5.7 Urgent issues requiring attention

Councillor Browne concerned that the road junction light in the middle of the A21 at the B2099 junction was still not working. Clerk to report.

5.8 Motion to support a second defibrillator (Cllr. Browne)

A local resident knowledgeable in this field, has checked our current defib and reported that it was fully functional and ready for use. Although this particular type of unit was no longer in production replacement parts were still available.

They will look into costs of purchasing a second defib with a potential siting being the social club.

Councillor Wright left the meeting at 9.15pm.

6.0 TRANSPORT, ROADS & FOOTPATHS

Councillor Kirby-Green will speak to the ESCC Highways steward re the water running over the road on the top bend of the B2099 re responsibility for this issue.

7.0 PLANNING

7.1 RDC Planning decisions

RR/2021/3059/P - Lady Close, Burgh Hill, Hurst Green TN19 7PE. Replacement of existing windows and external doors, replace the existing tile hanging with weatherboarding; add a single storey front extension; add a two-storey rear extension. **Approved.**

RR/2021/2900/P - 2 Silverhill Cottages, Silverhill, Hurst Green TN19 7PY. First floor rear extension. **Refused.**

7.2 Planning applications

None rec'd.

8.0 PLAYING & STAGE FIELDS

8.1 Lodge Field, new play equipment progress report

Councillor Brown will provide the Clerk with a written document re the delay in being able to take up the RDC grant of £30,000 to support the redevelopment of the playground and to ask for an extension to the take up period while the Council sought to obtain additional project funding.

To be submitted to RDC before the 7th March.

Councillor Janes is experienced in drawing up documentation for tenders and agreed to do this for the proposed play equipment.

Councillor Barnes left the meeting at 9.35pm

The Public left the meeting for the next agenda item.

8.2 Area to be considered for inclusion on Rother's list as an 'asset of community' value

Councillors discussed assets of community value and it was resolved that the Clerk would review the applicability criteria and report back to the Council..

9.00 Items for the next agenda

Neighbourhood Plan.

Other items to be emailed to Clerk as necessary.

10.0 Date and time of next Meeting

The next Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 29th March 2022 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm with public consultation from 7.45pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.04pm.

Distribution of Minutes: -

All Parish Councillors

Parish Council Noticeboard

Parish Council Website

ESCC Councillor J. Barnes

RDC Councillor M Barnes.

Signed

Cllr. Graham Browne

Dated

29th March 2022