

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 31st May 2022 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm after public consultation.

Present:- Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Brown, Councillor Duddridge, Councillor Janes, Councillor Johnson, Councillor Price and Councillor Wright.

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

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: -

District Councillor Barnes (illness?), Councillor Hampton (hospital), Councillor Kenchington (business conference) and County Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green (holiday).

2.0 ELECTION OF OFFICERS:-

2.1 Election of Chairperson and signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Councillor Browne was proposed by Councillor Wright and seconded by Councillor Price. This was **unanimously supported by the Council**.

2.2 Election of Vice Chairperson and signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Councillor Janes was proposed by Councillor Wright and seconded by Councillor Brown. This was **unanimously supported by the Council**.

3.0 Election of Committees and Representatives

a) Playing Fields, i) Stage Field, ii) Lodge Field, ii) Drewetts Field

Councillor Browne and Councillor Duddridge agreed to cover Stage Field, Councillor Johnson agreed to cover Lodge Field and Councillor Price will check to see if Councillor Kenchington will continue to cover Drewetts Field.

b) Footpaths & Roads

Councillor Johnson agreed to continue to cover this.

c) Community Representatives

Councillor Price agreed to continue to act as Community representative.

d) Representative to Rother Association of Local Councils

Councillor Janes agreed to be the representative for RALC.

e) Representatives to East Sussex ALC (2)

Councillor Price agreed to be the ESALC representative and Councillor Browne will see if Councillor Hampton could be the second representative and if not, he will act as stand in.

f) Tree Warden

Councillor Wright agreed to act as Tree Warden.

g) Neighbourhood Plan representative

Councillor Brown and Councillor Wright agreed to be the Neighbourhood Plan representatives.

4.0 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: -

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the main meeting held on Tuesday 26th April 2022.

Minutes proposed by Councillor Wright and seconded by Councillor Brown.

5.0 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 Browne declared an interest in agenda item 7.2, the Community Shop, as a tenant of the owner.

5.1 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.

6.0 FINANCE/RFO Report

The RFO, Anita Emery gave her report.

6.1 To approve the bank reconciliation

The Council **unanimously approved this.**

6.2 To approve expenses and payments as itemised on the schedule

This was proposed by Councillor Wright and seconded by Councillor Johnson.

Unanimously supported.

6.3 Resolution, to support a grant of £1500 towards the upkeep of the churchyard

It was noted that only £1,000 had been allocated for this in the precept and it was therefore agreed to **support a grant of £1,000** with a view to granting a further £500 later in the year if funds permitted. **Unanimously supported.**

6.4 Resolution, to support a grant of £100 to Victim Support

It was noted that only £50 had been allocated for this in the precept and it was therefore agreed to **support a grant of £50 and this was unanimously supported.**

6.5 Resolution to pay for the clerk's membership to the SLCC (£134)

The Council **unanimously supported this.**

The RFO left the meeting at 8.38pm.

7.0 COMMUNITY Activities and reports.

The Chair moved agenda item 7.2 to be discussed before 7.1 due to public interest.

Councillor Browne declared an interest in the next agenda item and would refrain from any vote.

7.2 Community Shop

Motion, "That this Council should enter into discussions with the owner of the old community shop site re handing back the lease of the site". (Cllr. Price)

Councillor Price withdraw this motion due to further public discussion.

The Clerk handed out and read a pre prepared document outlining the background of the building and the current situation.

There was much discussion and debate with the Chair allowing the public and site owner the opportunity to discuss the current situation and the options available to the Council.

Councillor Brown proposed to form a working party of any interested councillors to meet with Hands of Hope to further understand their proposition and to report back at the next meeting.

Twenty-one members of the public left the meeting.

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

The report was given by Councillor Brown.

Councillor Wright left the meeting at 9.42pm

7.3 District and County Councillors reports
None rec'd.

7.4 Clerk's report
The Clerk gave her report which had been emailed to Councillors prior to the meeting.

7.5 Parish Correspondence and local resident issues
Nothing more to note, covered in Clerk's report.

7.6 Urgent issues requiring attention
Councillor Browne reported that he had arranged for the grounds surrounding the old community shop to be cut which should be done tomorrow.

7.7 Jubilee Celebrations – update
Councillor Johnson gave the update and reported that all was going to plan.

8.0 STANDING ORDERS, adoption of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations
The Clerk has adapted the NALC model standing orders to reflect the parish of Hurst Green and circulated them via email to all Councillors prior to the meeting.
The Council **unanimously resolved to adopt the** Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

9.0 TRANSPORT, ROADS & FOOTPATHS
Manhole cover in the repaired section of the A21 near the church needs resetting as uneven and noise is waking up local residents.
Chair reported that the old fingerpost sign at the road junction near the Stage on the Bodiam road needs to be repaired or replaced. Clerk will look into this and noted that ESCC should meet half the costs.

Councillor Wright returned to the meeting at 9.50pm

10.0 PLANNING
Appeals - RR/2021/1821/O – Silverhill Pump House business Unit. Appealed

10.1 RDC Planning decisions
RR/2022/648/P - Brockhurst, Burgh Hill, Hurst Green TN19 7PE. Conversion of existing detached single garage to ancillary living accommodation, erection of new double garage/cart lodge, construction of Victorian style greenhouse and brick boundary wall with entrance gate and pillars.
Approved.

10.2 Planning applications
*Councillor Browne realised he needed to declare an interest in application **RR/2022/793/P** as he has done work for the applicant and therefore did not take part in the discussion or vote.*

RR/2022/1062/P - 2 Silverhill Cottages, Silverhill, Hurst Green TN19 TPY. First floor rear extension. **Majority decision not to support** (2 abstentions).
RR/2022/793/P - The Granary, Bodiam Road, Silverhill, TN19 7PX. Erection of single storey extension at rear of existing Granary building. **Majority decision to support** (3 abstentions).

10.3 To discuss proposed road name of new development off of Foundry Close
The Council agreed to propose '**Pringles Close**' as its preferred option for the new development and failing that it should just be an extension to the existing **Foundry Close**.

The Council found that the suggested names proposed by the school did not meet council policy.

11.0 PLAYING & STAGE FIELDS

11.1 Lodge Field, new play equipment progress report

Report given by Councillor Janes with current proposed flyer discussed.

Councillor Brown would produce a graphic flyer to be paid for by the Council.

Agreed to proceed and get the approved flyer printed.

12.00 Items for the next agenda

Neighbourhood Plan.

Old community shop building.

Other items to be emailed to Clerk as necessary.

13.0 Date and time of next Meeting

The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 28th June 2022 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm with public consultation from 7.45pm.

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The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.25pm.

Distribution of Minutes: -

All Parish Councillors

Parish Council Noticeboard

Parish Council Website

ESCC Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green

RDC Councillor M Barnes.

Signed

Cllr. Graham Browne

Dated

28th June 2022