

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26th July 2022 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm after public consultation at 7.45pm.

Present:- Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Brown, Councillor Duddridge, Councillor Hampton, Councillor Janes, Councillor Kenchington, Councillor Price and District Councillor Barnes
The Clerk and RFO were in attendance along with four members of the public.

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: -

Councillor Johnson and County Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green, reasons for absence approved by Council and Councillor Wright whose reason for absence was unknown was not approved.

2.0 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: -

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28th June 2022
Minutes proposed by Councillor Hampton and seconded by Councillor Duddridge.

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 Browne declared an interest in agenda item 7.2, Planning application, RR/2022/1526/P as a tenant of the owner and current user of the site

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.

It was noted that the RFO was still chasing up the Valuation Office re challenging the old community shop's rating but was having trouble getting a response.

The RFO requested a meeting of the Finance Committee, (Councillors, Browne, Brown and Wright) in October. This was agreed. Councillor Price will act as reserve for the Finance Committee if needed.

4.1 To approve the bank reconciliation

Proposed by Councillor Janes and seconded by Councillor Price. **Unanimously approved.**

4.2 To approve expenses and payments as itemised on the schedule

The expenses and payments as itemised were proposed for payment by Councillor Hampton and seconded by Councillor Duddridge. **Unanimously supported.**

5.0 COMMUNITY Activities and reports.

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

Councillor Brown gave the report and read out a motion for the Council's consideration.

Motion: - That this Council for reasons of progressing the development of its Neighbourhood Development Plan, shall following careful consideration at its meeting of 28th June 2022 and also with representatives of Rother District Council, shall undertake the required Regulation 14 consultation from 9am on the 27th July 2022 until the 17th of September 2022 at 5pm.

Motion was proposed by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor Kenchington,

Unanimously supported. Councillor Brown will put consultation details on the parish website.

The RFO left the meeting at 8.30pm.

5.2 Old Community Shop Building. – working party report

Working party is in the process of seeking a follow-up meeting with the charity, Hands of Hope, to clarify their proposition, for the subsequent consideration by the Council.

5.3 Community Defibrillator

A local resident gave the update on this project. Two defibrillators have been purchased and a third will be independently funded by central Government for the school

Motion - This Council acknowledges and gratefully accepts the grant from Rother District Council for the purchase of an additional defibrillator unit to be sited in the parish of Hurst Green. The Council further instructs the Clerk and the Responsible Financial Officer to Progress any administration and or purchase order to facilitate the acquisition of the unit at the earliest opportunity. (Cllr. Janes)

Motion proposed by Councillor Janes and seconded by Councillor Browne.

Unanimously supported

5.4 District and County Councillors reports

Councillor Barnes gave her report and drew particular attention to the implications for the High Weald in giving planning consent to the development at Beech Farm Sedlescombe

5.5 Clerk's report

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

5.6 Parish Correspondence and local resident issues

Nothing more to note, covered in Clerk's report.

Councillor Kenchington left the meeting at 9.00pm.

5.7 Urgent issues requiring attention

Water outage had created serious supply issues and raised the need again to look at creating an updated Emergency plan. Councillors expressed their outrage at South East Water's response to the recent water outages that left the parish without a water supply, and their failure to provide bottled water to all residents, as during previous incidents

It was agreed to set up a community resilience group. To be put in The Hurst magazine.

The Council asked the Clerk to write to the SEW's CEO, expressing its disappointment and asking what improvements would be made to ensure this didn't happen again.

6.0 **TRANSPORT, ROADS & FOOTPATHS**

Nothing to report.

7.0 **PLANNING**

7.1 RDC Planning decisions

RR/2021/2055/P - Cross Keys House, London Road, Hurst Green

Erection of outbuilding for use as office. **Granted.**

RR/2021/2056/P - Cross Keys House, London Road, Hurst Green

Bi-Fold Doors and 2no Sky Lanterns within existing extension. **Granted.**

RR/2022/793/P - The Granary, Bodiam Road, Silverhill, Hurst Green

Erection of single storey extension at rear of existing Granary building. **Refused.**

Councillor Barnes left the meeting at 9.30pm.

7.2 Planning applications

RR/2022/1526/P - Land east of London Road, London Road, Hurst Green TN19 7PN.

Development of 36 dwellings (including affordable housing) with associated open space, access, parking (including community car park), drainage, landscaping and other associated works.

This was postponed to the next meeting on the 30th August when the developers will be present to answer questions.

8.0 **PLAYING & STAGE FIELDS**

8.1 Lodge Field, regeneration progress report.

Motion – *To approve survey response and action accordingly (Cllr. Browne)*

The results of the survey were approved, 97 for, 9 against and 5 ineligible forms.

The RFO had provided an outline of current expenditure and forecast for 2023/2024 to enable a draft precept to be drawn up re additional expenditure needed for the project.

RDC to be informed and an extension requested for the £30,000 grant to the end of March 2023.

8.2 RoSPA inspection report.

Motion - to action any urgent remedial work as necessary.

No immediate action needed although some ground work needed to be done as soon as possible on areas where equipment had already been removed and fencing to be secured back to anchor points.

8.3 Stage Field, condition report and to pass any motions re upkeep and maintenance.

The working party is still waiting to meet.

Clerk to investigate removal of the illegally dumped waste in the field.

8.4 Drewetts Field.

Motion – To investigate the siting of a waste bin at the entrance to Drewetts Field.

(Cllr. Browne)

It was **unanimously agreed** that the Clerk would look into provision of a waste bin at the entrance to the field.

9.00 **Items for the next agenda**

Neighbourhood Plan.

Old community shop building.

Other items to be emailed to Clerk as necessary.

10.0 **Date and time of next Meeting**

The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 30th August 2022 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm with public consultation from 7.45pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.00pm.

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

27th September 2022