

## HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 7.45pm after public consultation.

**Present:-** Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Brown, Councillor Duddridge, Councillor Hampton, Councillor Janes, Councillor Johnson, Councillor Kenchington, Councillor Price and County Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green (*from 8.50pm*).

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

### 1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: -

Councillor Wright (*approved by Council*) and District Councillor Barnes.

### 2.0 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: -

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

Minutes proposed by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor Janes.

**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 items 4.6 as a fund raiser and 5.2 as a tenant of the site owner.

**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 the financial report.

#### 4.1 To approve the bank reconciliation

Bank reconciliation was emailed to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

**This was unanimously approved.**

#### 4.2 To approve expenses and payments as itemised on the schedule

Expenses and payments schedule was emailed to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Hampton and seconded by Councillor Price.

**This was unanimously approved.**

#### 4.3 To note/discuss budget recommendations for 2023/24

The Finance committee, Councillors Browne and Janes had met with the RFO to discuss the parish requirements. It was agreed that a precept of £48,681 would be needed for 2023/2024.

#### 4.4 To note interim internal audit report

This was noted.

#### 4.5 To consider grant request from the Village Hall for a community flagpole

This agenda item was withdrawn.

*Councillor Browne declared an interest in the next agenda item along with agenda item 5.2 and it was agreed to move item 5.2 up the agenda to be discussed after 4.6. Councillor Browne left the room and Councillor Janes took the Chair.*

#### 4.6 To consider the reinstatement of the Poppy appeal grant (Cllr. Janes)

Councillor Janes proposed that the annual grant of £50 towards the poppy appeal should be reinstated. This was seconded by Councillor Hampton. **Unanimously approved.**

*Councillor Janes moved agenda item 5.2 up the agenda whilst Councillor Browne was absent from the meeting. The Chair suspended Standing Orders for this agenda item.*

### 5.0 **COMMUNITY Activities and reports.**

#### 5.2 Old Community Shop Building

- a) Motion - To relinquish the lease on the former catholic church building at the earliest opportunity and instruct our solicitor accordingly. (Cllr. Price)

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

*A recorded vote was requested.*

**Councillors Duddridge, Hampton, Johnson, Kenchington and Price voted in support of the motion, Councillors Brown and Janes voted against.**

**Motion carried by five votes to two.**

- b) To review quotes rec'd re condition survey of building and any motions to move forward with this.

Three quotes rec'd, £875 (GTA), £995 (Metcalf Briggs Surveyors) and £1,800 (Brackets). **It was unanimously agreed to go with the quote for £995** as this quote fully covered the content of the survey required. Councillor Kenchington would meet the surveyor on site.

*Councillor Browne rejoined the meeting and took over the Chair.*

*County Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green joined the meeting.*

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

Councillor Brown gave the report which had been distributed before the meeting.

#### 5.3 Motion - to consider supporting the setting up of a weekly drop in centre in the Village Hall (Cllr. Price)

*The Chair suspended Standing Orders for this agenda item.*

To be run by volunteers and funding to be looked into as necessary. ESCC is currently offering grants to Village Halls for this type of initiative.

Councillor Price proposed the motion which was seconded by Councillor Browne.

**Unanimously supported.**

#### 5.4 Update re potential sites for Defibrillators

Ashdene Garage has agreed to site a defib and the BT box which now officially belongs to the Council can be used for a second defib.

Clerk to write to the school to see if they are intending to take up the new Government initiative re a grant to all schools to site a defibrillator.

#### 5.5 District and County Councillors reports

Councillor Browne gave his report.

Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green had emailed her report to Councillors prior to the meeting.

#### 5.6 Clerk's report

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

#### 5.7 Parish Correspondence and local resident issues

Nothing more to report.

5.8 Urgent issues requiring attention

None reported.

**6.0 COUNCIL ISSUES**

6.1 Review of Standing Orders

To be postponed until the next meeting.

**7.0 TRANSPORT, ROADS & FOOTPATHS**

No new issues to report.

**8.0 PLANNING**

8.1 RDC Planning decisions

**RR/2022/ 2230/P** - The Quarries, Ticehurst Road, Hurst Green. Replacement agricultural dwelling.  
**Granted.**

8.2 Planning Applications

**RR/2021/2798/P** - London Road - Land West of, Hurst Green Development of site to provide 26no. dwellings with associated hard standing, car parking, landscaping, public open space and provision of a car park for the Church. **Supported updated scheme.**

**9.0 PLAYING & STAGE FIELDS**

9.1 Motion re Lodge Field regeneration project - This Council agrees the content and conditions of the tender document and requests that the tender is issued to suppliers as soon as practicable. (Cllr. Janes)

This was **unanimously supported.**

9.2 Lodge Field swing replacement

Councillor Janes will look into sourcing replacement fittings and Councillor Browne will look at sorting out the repair.

**10.0 Closed session** – Press and public excluded due to confidentiality.

**11.00 Items for the next agenda**

Neighbourhood Plan.

Standing Orders

Other items to be emailed to Clerk as necessary.

**12.0 Date and time of next Meeting**

The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 7.45pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.30pm.

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

31<sup>st</sup> January 2023

