

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 31st January 2023 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 7.45pm after public consultation.

Present:- Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Brown, Councillor Duddridge, Councillor Price, Councillor Wright and County Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green.

The Clerk was in attendance along with five members of the public.

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: -

Councillor Hampton, Councillor Janes, Councillor Johnson, Councillor Kenchington, Anita Emery RFO (all *approved by the 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 29th November 2022.

Minutes proposed by Councillor Price 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.*

None received.

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 had prior to the meeting emailed Councillors with the financial report.

4.1 To ratify December expenditure as itemized on the schedule

This was **unanimously approved** by the Council.

4.2 To approve expenses and payments for January as itemised on the schedule

This was **unanimously approved** by the Council.

4.3 To approve the year to date account

Not all Councillors had sufficient time to view this agenda item therefore postponed to the next meeting.

4.4 To approve precept application of £48,681 for 2023-2024 at approximately 8.06% increase on tax band D.

This was **unanimously approved** by the Council.

4.5 To consider fixed Asset register

It was agreed that this should be updated by the Clerk and RFO.

4.6 To consider grant request re the Churchyard upkeep of £1,500

Due to budgetary constraints the Council **unanimously agreed to support the amount originally budgeted for this of £1,000**. May be reviewed later in the year to see if more funds are available.

4.7 To consider grant request from Victim Support

It was **unanimously agreed to grant a donation of £50** to Victim Support.

4.8 To consider grant request from the Village Hall

It was **unanimously agreed to grant a donation of £1,000** to the Village Hall.

5.0 COMMUNITY Activities and reports.

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

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

5.2 Old Community Shop Building

A date was agreed for councillors to discuss the survey report (07/02/23)

5.3 To consider request for advance funding for defibrillator and renovation of BT box to house it in. All monies spent expected to be recouped via Rother Grant.

A local resident who has been working on this project gave the presentation and provided supporting papers. The Council **unanimously agreed to go with option 2** to purchase an almost new defibrillator for £460 (approx.6 months old and in full working order). Contractor to renovate BT box still to be decided.

5.4 Grant request for Fete of £500 plus additional expenditure re insurance and generators

Fete to be held on the 17th June in Drewetts Field with Lodge Field as back up.

RFO to be asked to look into insurance cover.

The Council **unanimously agreed to give a grant of £500 towards the fete.**

Councillors Browne and Wright will look into the possibility of purchasing generators.

5.5 District and County Councillors reports

Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green gave her report.

Councillor Browne gave his report.

Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green left the meeting at 8.55pm.

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

- i) to consider purchase of Resilience and Emergency Plan template vi ESALC for £120.
A local resident has already done a lot of work on this and will review the offer to see if it offers any benefit.
- ii) notification of the closure of the RDC recycling point in Hurst Green.
Councillor Browne reported that RDC were closing down almost all their Village recycling Points.

Councillor Browne noted the community spirit shown with local residents turning out to help motorists stranded by the sudden snow storms before Christmas.

5.8 Urgent issues requiring attention

Councillor Brown has sourced a notice board and certificate for the granting of the Freedom of the Parish ceremony on the 10th February. A supporting paper was emailed out to Councillors before the meeting.

The Council **unanimously agreed to** pay £195 plus VAT for the board as well as the refreshment costs for the ceremony and scroll.

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

Appealed - RR/2022/1062/P 2 Silverhill Cottages, Silverhill
Rear extension

8.1 RDC Planning decisions

RR/2022/ 2167/P and **RR/2022/2168/L**– Merriments House, Merriments Lane

New access gate and new garage etc. **Granted.**

RR/2022/2888/TN – Windmill Farm, Bodiam road. 3 new antenna replacements.

Formal approval not required.

8.2 Planning Applications

RR/2022/2957/O - 99 London Road, Lynwood, Hurst Green TN19 7PN. Proposed Lawful Development Certificate for a rear infill extension. **No comment to offer.**

RR/2022/2923/L - 56 London Road, Sandstones, Hurst Green TN19 7PN.

Replacement of 6 No. Windows to side and rear elevations. **No comment to offer.**

RR/2022/2853/P - Portland, Burgh Hill, Hurst Green TN19 7PE.

Proposed extensions and alterations together with changes to the external finishes.

No comment to offer.

9.0 PLAYING & STAGE FIELDS

9.1 Motion re Lodge Field regeneration project – To extend the tender deadline to the 21st February as suppliers need a longer timescale to meet the deadline.

This was **unanimously supported.**

9.2 Lodge Field swing replacement

Replacement fittings have been sourced.

10.00 Items for the next agenda

Neighbourhood Plan.

Standing Orders

Other items to be emailed to Clerk as necessary.

11.0 Date and time of next Meeting

The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 28th February 2023 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 7.45pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.50pm.

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 February 2023