

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 25th July 2023 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 7.45pm after public consultation.

Present:- Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Brown, Councillor Cloves, Councillor Callan, Councillor Evans, Councillor French, Councillor Levine, Councillor Pakenham, Councillor Price and District Councillor Killeen.

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

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: -

District Councillor Barnes and County Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green.

2.0 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: -

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 6th June and Tuesday 27th June 2023.

Due to some late alterations requested by Councillor Brown these would be held over to the next meeting for approval.

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 gave the report which had been emailed to councillors prior to the meeting.

4.1 To approve expenses and payments for July as itemised on the schedule

Due to being on annual leave in August the RFO had included the standing payments for August in with the July payments for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Cloves and seconded by Councillor French.

Unanimously approved.

4.2 To approve bank reconciliation

Proposed by Councillor French and seconded by Councillor Pakenham.

Unanimously approved.

5.0 COMMUNITY Activities and reports.

5.1 Neighbourhood Plan, progress report (Cllr. Brown)

Councillor Brown gave the report which had been emailed out prior to the meeting.

It was agreed to call a meeting of Councillors to discuss the Neighbourhood Plan in September which Councillor Brown will arrange.

Councillors requested a hardcopy of the latest draft Plan before the meeting and Councillor Pakenham requested a copy of the master plan as well. Councillor Brown to action.

5.2 Community Resilience Plan

- 1) Motion - *To establish a working party of councillors and non councillors to finalize a community resilience plan, which will require engagement with the residents of this parish.*
(Cllr. Cloves)

The motion was proposed by Councillor Cloves and seconded by Councillor Browne.

Councillor Cloves gave a brief history and update on this project.

It was **resolved** to support this motion.

- 2) Motion - *Once completed look to setting up a committee to meet annually to review the plan.* (Cllr. Cloves).

The motion was proposed by Councillor Cloves and seconded by Councillor French. It was **resolved** to support this motion.

The RFO left the meeting at 8.30pm.

5.3 District and County Councillors reports

District Councillor Killeen gave her report.

5.4 Clerk's report

Report emailed to Councilors along with briefing notes prior to the meeting.

5.5 Parish Correspondence and local resident issues

RDC Invitation to Consult on Changes to Our Housing Allocations Policy received.

Taking on buildings for community use- raised by local resident

A21 speed signs - raised by local resident who attended the public consultation session to discuss with the Council concerns over recent changes to speed signage in the Coopers Corner area of the village. Huw Merriman to be contacted.

5.6 Urgent issues requiring attention

Councillor French raised concerns about the 30mph sign (southbound) by the school which was obscured by vegetation. Clerk to report.

Councillor Price reported back on the RALC (Rother Association of Local Councils) meeting that she had attended.

Councillor French raised concerns re a dead ash tree opposite the school. Clerk to check position and report as necessary.

The Chair raised concerns that Stage Field did not have the required notice displayed re the grant funding received for the new entrance project which was part of the requirement of the grant. The Clerk will look into the cost of this as well as the cost to move the existing sign to the new entrance.

6.0 **TRANSPORT, ROADS & FOOTPATHS**

Concern over the misleading speed indicator painted on the road near to Eggs to Apples which states the speed limit is 30mph but which is in a 40mph zone. The Clerk will report.

- 6.1 Motion - *To proceed with securing grant funds for the purchase of automatic speed watch cameras for the A21, and if successful proceed with installation* (Cllr. Cloves).

Issues have arisen re this agenda item that need to be addressed therefore Councillor Cloves requested that this item be postponed to a later date.

- 6.2 To consider charges in relation to verge planting scheme (Cllr. Cloves)

This is still a work in progress and more information is being sort therefore postponed to a later meeting.

7.0 **PLANNING**

7.1 RDC Planning decisions

RR/2023/1056/P - Coppins, Burgh Hill, Hurst Green TN19 7PE. Proposed first floor side extension. **Approved.**

7.2 Planning applications

*Councillor Callan declared an interest in application **RR/2023/1422/P** as he knows the applicant and therefore did not take part in the discussion or vote.*

RR/2023/1422/P - Portland, Burgh Hill, Hurst Green TN19 7PE. Proposed extensions and alterations together with changes to the external finishes.(Alternative to planning permission RR/2022/2853/P). **Supported (majority decision).**

RR/2023/1218/P- Four Hedges, Ticehurst Road, Hurst Green TN19 7QT. Proposed ground floor extension including hip to gable conversion and rear dormer. **Supported.**

8.0 PLAYING & STAGE FIELDS

The Clerk reported that the fly tipped rubbish has now been removed from Stage Field. Councillor Callan reported that there had been a great turn out for the Stage Field working party meeting at the field.

8.1 Lodge Field regeneration project – update

Councillor French and Councillor Price reported on this item.

8.2 Drewetts Field

Motion – to approve use of cricket field by Tunbridge Wells Superkings for 10 matches in 2024.

The Council has been approached by the Hurst Green Cricket Club re the above motion which Councillor Browne proposed and was seconded by Councillor Callan.

After discussion it was **resolved** to support this motion provided the relevant insurance cover was seen and a copy put on file.

9.0 PARISH COUNCILS ISSUES

9.1 *Code of Conduct to adopt updated Code of Conduct based on the LGA model code of conduct.*

The Council **resolved to adopt** the updated Code of Conduct.

9.2 *Motion – to set up an all councillor working party to look at Cllr. Brown’s proposals re Committees and assign councillors as necessary to bring forward for approval at the next meeting. (Cllr. Browne)*

Councillor Browne proposed the motion which was unanimously seconded and the Council **resolved to meet** on Wednesday 9th August at 7.00pm to work on this project.

The Chair asked all the public in attendance to leave the meeting for the next agenda items due to the need for confidentiality.

Minuted on separate page, number 892

10.0 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Financial Risk Assessment

S137 policy

11.0 Date and time of next Meeting

The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 29th August 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.

RDC Councillor Killeen

Signed

Cllr. Graham Browne

Dated

29th August 2023

