

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26th March 2024 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 7.45pm after public consultation at 7.30pm.

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

The Clerk and the RFO Anita Emery were in attendance along with one member of the public.

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: - 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 30th January 2024, Friday 9th February 2024, Tuesday 20th February (Planning Committee members only) and Tuesday 27th February 2024.

Proposed by Councillor Pakenham and seconded by Councillor Levine. Unanimously approved.

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 out to Councillors prior to the meeting.

4.1 To approve March expenditure

Resolution to approve proposed by Councillor French and seconded by Councillor Price.

Unanimously resolved to approve.

4.2 To note year to date accounts

This item was noted.

Councillor Price suggested that a meeting be held with the Village Hall committee to discuss the cost of the hall hire.

4.3 To approve bank reconciliations and corresponding bank statements

Unanimously resolved to approve.

4.4 To note current earmarked reserves

This item was noted.

4.5 To consider grant request from Hurst Green Cricket Club for £350 for 2024/25.

It was proposed by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillor Johnson-Cloves that this grant should be awarded.

It was unanimously resolved to approve the grant request of £350 for the year 2024/25.

4.6 Update re A Frost Design and to approve staged payment

Andy Frost's update and photos of progress to date had not been received by the Clerk although Councillor French noted that he had received it. Payment to be held back until Clerk could check her records and all Councillors had viewed update.

5.0 **COMMUNITY Activities and reports.**

5.1 Neighbourhood Plan, progress report from steering group representative

Councillor French gave the report.

The Council met on the 21st March to discuss the draft plan and it was agreed to look at options in relation to removing housing from the Plan. Councillors Brown and French will contact RDC, and review the text before sending it out to all councillors to review

5.2 Community emergency plan. Motion: "Councillors are asked to approve the 2024 Community Emergency Plan" (Cllr. Johnson-Cloves)

This was proposed by Councillor Johnson-Cloves and seconded by Councillor Brown.

It was unanimously resolved to approve the Plan.

5.3 Resolution – “ The Council is asked to consider the installation of CCTV in the parish for the prevention of crime” (Cllr. Johnson-Cloves).

Councillor Johnson-Cloves reported that Sussex Police do have a grant for this but it is currently closed to application. Will look into other income sources.

Anita Emery the RFO left the meeting at 9.07pm

Councillor Pakenham requested an amendment to the resolution to change the word *parish* to *playground*.. This was unanimously agreed.

Resolution to read that ‘The Council is asked to consider the installation of CCTV in the playground for the prevention of crime’ (Cllr. Johnson-Cloves).

Proposed by Councillor Johnson-Cloves and seconded by Councillor Price.

Majority decision to support this resolution, six in support with one abstention.

Councillor Levine left the meeting at 9.10pm

5.4 Motion – “This Council warmly congratulates the staff and pupils of Hurst Green Primary School and Nursery following the school's key stage 2 results published in December 2023, where 86% of pupils achieved the expected standard in reading, writing and math's - the highest in a rural area, and the 2nd highest in East Sussex". (Cllr. Brown)

Proposed by Councillor Johnson-Cloves and seconded by Councillor French.

It was unanimously resolved to send a letter of congratulations to the school.

Local resident who emailed re this achievement to be thanked

5.5 District and County Councillors reports

Councillor Barnes expanded on the report emailed out by County Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green re B2099. Councillor Barnes gave her report.

Councillor Killeen gave her report.

Councillor Barnes gave her report, noting that Beech Farm (Sedlecombe) had been approved under 11d rather than 84e.

Councillor Killeen left the meeting at 9.20pm

Councillor Barnes left the meeting at 9.22pm

5.6 Clerk's report

The Clerk gave her report.

5.7 Parish Correspondence and local resident issues

Circulated via email to councillors as received.

5.8 Urgent issues requiring attention

i) Vandalism of Community shop

Clerk reported that there was a concern that our insurer's may not pay out on this and the work to be undertaken should be viewed with this in mind.

Councillor Pakenham left the meeting.

The Chair suspended Standing Orders for the rest of the meeting due to overrunning the maximum time allowance

6.0 TRANSPORT, ROADS & FOOTPATHS

Councillor Brown reported that he had used the Flexibus and it was brilliant but the technology needed to be improved to maximise its usage..

7.0 PLAYING & STAGE FIELDS

7.1 Lodge Field regeneration project

Councillor French reported that due to adverse weather conditions Andy Frost did not expect to start work on site until early May due to other projects being delayed.

7.2 Resolution to approve mole treatment for Drewetts Field

It was unanimously agreed that this should be done. Clerk to action.

7.3 Resolution - *"To re-establish the working group relating to leisure activities on Drewetts Field, led by the parish council but in partnership with community groups such as the cricket club, with specific remit to improve the pavilion and leisure (including access) facilities at Drewetts Field through the application of appropriate grants"* (Cllr. Johnson-Cloves)

Proposed by Councillor Johnson-Cloves and seconded by Councillor Brown.

It was unanimously resolved to approve.

8.0 PARISH COUNCIL ISSUES

8.1 Parish Streetlights update

This item was postponed to the next meeting due to time constraints.

8.2 Resolution, *'That this Council should approach Rother District Council again with a view to taking over the control and running of the car park'*. (Cllr. French)

Postponed to the next meeting due to time constraints.

8.3 Resolution – *'To look at further car parking facilities'* (CllrJohnson-Cloves)

Proposed by Councillor Johnson-Cloves and seconded by Councillor Brown.

It was unanimously resolved to approve

8.4 Update re co-option to the Council to fill vacancy

Leaflet still to be printed.

Agreed to print second leaflet to advertise the Annual Parish Assembly on the 10th May.;

The Press and Public were excluded for the next item due to reasons of confidentiality.

8.5 Resolution - *That this Council shall consider a received Freedom of the Parish nomination in accordance with the Council's policy, and if it is so decided, shall convene a separate meeting specifically for the purpose of the consideration, and if appropriate the passing of a subsequent motion relating to the granting of the award.*" Councillor Brown

Proposed by Councillor Browne and seconded by Councillor Brown.

It was unanimously resolved to support this.

9.0 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

To be emailed to the Clerk

10.0 Date and time of next Meeting

The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 23rd April 2024 (*later changed to the 25th April*) in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 7.45pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.03pm.

Distribution of Minutes: -

All Parish Councillors

Parish Council Noticeboard

Parish Council Website

ESCC Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green

RDC Councillor Barnes.

RDC Councillor Killeen

Signed Cllr. Derek French

Dated 25th April 2024