

## HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2024 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm after public consultation at 7.30pm.

**Present:-** Councillor Brown, Councillor French (Vice-Chair), Councillor Johnson-Cloves, Councillor Levine, Councillor Pakenham and Councillor Price..

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

**1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** - Councillor Browne, County Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green, District Councillor Barnes and District Councillor Killeen.

*In Councillor Browne's absence Councillor French chaired the meeting.*

**2.0 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** -

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

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

Councillor Pakenham declared an interest in agenda items 4.0 to 5.2 inclusive as the agent of the landlord.

**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.

*Cllr. Pakenham left the meeting for agenda items 4.0 to 5.2 inclusive due to his interest as the landlord's agent.*

Councillor Brown proposed the **motion**, 'that the meeting should be closed to the press and public for the next agenda items due to the commercially sensitive and confidential nature of the business to be discussed. **Unanimously supported.**

*The public left the meeting for the next agenda items.*

**4.0 FORMER COMMUNITY SHOP** – To receive the report and consider the recommendations of the Former Community Shop working party.

**4.1 Motion**, '*resolution to approve the recommendations of the Former Community shop working party*'. (Cllrs. Brown and French)

Councillor French read out the recommendations.

Motion proposed by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillors Levine and Johnson-Cloves.

**Unanimously supported.**

**5.0 FINANCE/RFO Report**

*The RFO's report moved to after agenda item 5.2 when the meeting was reopened to the public.*

**5.1 Resolution** – '*to approve the use of reserve funds to support the maintenance works needed to the Former Community Shop as per the Landlord's surveyor's report and the Council's legal obligations under the terms of the lease*'.(Cllrs. Brown and French)

Proposed by Councillor Levine and seconded by Councillor Price. **Unanimously supported.**

5.2 **Resolution** - 'to release funds assigned to the Neighbourhood Plan to support the maintenance works needed to the Former Community Shop as per the Landlord's surveyor's report and the Council's legal obligations under the terms of the lease'. (Cllrs. Brown and French).

The RFO, Anita Emery agreed to move over £9,670

Proposed by Councillor Johnson-Cloves and seconded by Councillor Price. **Unanimously supported.**

*The press and public were allowed back in to attend the rest of the meeting.*

## 5.0 FINANCE/RFO Report

The RFO, Anita Emery gave the report which had been emailed out to Councillors prior to the meeting.

5.3 To approve April expenditure as listed on the schedule

Resolution to approve proposed by Councillor Johnson-Cloves and seconded by Councillor Levine. **Unanimously resolved to approve.**

5.4. To note year to date accounts

Not available as unable to close down as awaiting audit.

5.5 To approve bank reconciliations and corresponding bank statements

Resolution to approve proposed by Councillor Johnson-Cloves and seconded by Councillor Levine **Unanimously resolved to approve.**

5.6 To note current earmarked reserves

This item was noted.

5.7 Update re A Frost Design and to approve staged payment

No payment due. Next staged payment due when installation starts on site. Councillor French to check on progress.

*Councillor Pakenham returned to the meeting.*

## 6.0 COMMUNITY Activities and reports.

6.1 Neighbourhood Plan, progress report from steering group representative

Councillors Brown and French have been making updates to some areas and hope to have an revised draft to report on soon.

6.2 District and County Councillors reports

No reports in Councillors absence.

6.3 Clerk's report

The Clerk gave her report.

6.4 Parish Correspondence and local resident issues

Circulated via email to councillors as received.

6.5 Urgent issues requiring attention

Nothing to note.

## 7.0 TRANSPORT, ROADS & FOOTPATHS

Potholes to report in Burgh Lane near to Cooks Field. Clerk will report.

Noted that the repair to the A21 near to Eggs to Apples by UK networks was very poor.

Proposed Parish pavement, footpath and road survey should take place over the week of the 17<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> June and should encompass fixtures and fittings in the vicinity.

## 8.0 PLAYING & STAGE FIELDS

### 8.1 Lodge Field regeneration project

Discussed under finance..

### 8.2 Resolution to approve quote for mole treatment for Drewetts Field

It was unanimously **resolved** to approve the quote of £350 for treatment.

## 9.0 PARISH COUNCIL ISSUES

### 9.1 Parish Streetlights update

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

### 9.2 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.

*The RFO Anita Emery left the meeting.*

### 9.3 Update re co-option to the Council to fill vacancy

Leaflets have arrived and councillors asked to take away and distribute.

### 9.4 Resolution to look into repairs needed to the Lych Gate War Memorial and investigate avenues of funding for restoration works

Postponed to the next meeting in Councillor Browne's absence.

## 10.0 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

To be emailed to the Clerk

## 11.0 Date and time of next Meeting

The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2024 (*later changed to the Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May*) in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 7.45pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.42pm.

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, Vice-chair

Dated 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024