

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 24th September 2024 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 7.55pm after public consultation from 7.35pm.

Present:- Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Brown, Councillor Daly, Councillor Johnson-Cloves, Councillor Levine, Councillor Pakenham, Councillor Price, Councillor Ralph, District Councillor Barnes and County Councillor Kirby-Green.

The Clerk and RFO Anita Maxwell were in attendance along with seventeen members of the public.

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: - Councillor French, (reason approved) and District Councillor Killeen.

2.0 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS: -

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 27th August 2024.

The Chair noted the above included the Planning minutes from the 27th August 2024 which had not been on the planning agenda.

Resolution to approve minutes of the planning committee meeting held on the 27th August proposed by Councillor Daly and seconded by Councillor Levine. **Unanimously approved.**

Resolution to approve minutes of the full meeting held on the 27th August proposed by Councillor Levine and seconded by Councillor Pakenham. **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 declared.

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 Report

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

4.1 To approve September expenditure as listed on the schedule

List of invoices to be paid emailed to Councillors prior to the meeting.

Resolution to approve payments proposed by Councillor Price and seconded by Councillors Daly. **Unanimously approved.**

4.2 To note year to date accounts

Noted.

4.3 To approve bank reconciliations and corresponding bank statements

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

Unanimously approved.

4.4 To note current earmarked reserves and approve transfers

It was resolved to move £4,500 from the earmarked reserves for the neighbourhood plan to cover the B&A builders invoice. **Unanimously approved.**

4.5 To note external auditors report

Noted.

4.6 To note and consider applications for funding from the current CIL grant from RDC

This was noted.

5.0 COMMUNITY Activities and reports.

5.1 Neighbourhood Plan, progress report from steering group representative

The Chair read out Councillor French's report in his absence..

i) To approve any updated documents

Documents pertaining to moving to Regulation 15 had been sent out to all councillors however Councillor Pakenham had not had sufficient time to review them.

In view of this the Chair suggested that an Extraordinary General meeting should be called for the 3rd October to deal with this matter. **Agreed.**

The RFO, Anita Maxwell left the meeting.

5.2 District and County Councillors reports

Councillor Kirby-Green gave her report. Noted the appointment of a new Highways steward for our area and a new Stakeholders Liaison Officer.

Major funding issue due to a 55 million shortfall in the budget.

Councillor Barnes had nothing to report.

5.3 Clerk's report

The Clerk gave her report. Noted that Greymour had been contacted re visit to discuss Foundry Close and Church sites. Questions requested.

5.4 Parish Correspondence and local resident issues

i) To note resident's concern over state of pavements and verges – noted.

ii) PCC survey – noted.

iii) RDC Council Plan 2024-28 consultation – noted.

iv) Annual Parish Conference 11th November -Councillors Levine and Pakenham will attend this.

5.5 Urgent issues requiring attention

Councillor Price handed out a hard copy of her Terms of Reference for the Staffing committee.

To note Clerk had emailed out her document prepared for the previous staffing sub-committee meeting which was cancelled.

To be discussed at the next meeting.

6.0 PARISH COUNCIL ISSUES

To approve Contract of Employment for the RFO

This item was postponed to the next meeting.

To approve the signing of the Allotment lease by current Allotment Association officials

The Allotment society have requested an updated lease signed by current post holders.

It was agreed that this could be done by the Clerk without legal assistance by adding a codicil type document to the original..

Councillor French will scan the original copy and send to the clerk to look at updating.

7.0 TRANSPORT, ROADS & FOOTPATHS

The Chair reported on yet another accident at Ashdene.

Concern expressed by member of the public re the mixed messaging re speed signs near Eggs To Apples. Clerk to email National Highways.

Councillor Kirby-Green left the meeting.

8.0 PLAYING & STAGE FIELDS

8.1 Lodge Field regeneration project

Opening ceremony arranged for the 28th September at 2.00pm with the Chair of Rother District Council, Councillor Richard Thomas attending.

It was unanimously agreed to spend out around £150 for a Candy Floss machine for the event.

Councillor Barnes left the meeting.

Councillor Johnson-Cloves reported that the CCTV cameras would be installed on the 3rd October.

8.2 To consider Risk Assessment needs for all play equipment and approve if needed.

To be discussed at the next meeting after the Clerk has emailed out the previous Risk Assessment document.

The Chair thanked Councillor Pakenham for repairing the fence at the entrance to Lodge Field

9.0 PLANNING, report from planning committee.

Councillor Ralph gave the report..

9.1 To approve updated Terms of Reference for the Planning Committee

Proposed Terms of Reference, recommended by the Planning committee to the full Council for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Pakenham and seconded by Councillor Levine.

Unanimously resolved to approve.

9.2 To consider any planning committee wish to refer to full council

None put forward.

10.0 ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

To be emailed to the Clerk.

11.0 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

An Extraordinary meeting of the Council to take place on Thursday the 3rd October at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

The next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 29^h October 2024 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 7.45pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.55pm.

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. Graham Browne, Chair

Dated 29th October 2024