

## HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 7.45pm after public consultation from 7.30pm.

**Present:-** Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Daly, Councillor French, Councillor Johnson-Cloves, Councillor Levine, Councillor Price, Councillor Ralph and District Councillor Barnes.  
The Clerk and RFO Anita Maxwell were in attendance along with six members of the public.

**1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** - Councillor Brown, Councillor Pakenham, (reasons approved) District Councillor Killeen and County Councillor Kirby-Green.

### **2.0 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETINGS: -**

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024, Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October and the Planning Committee meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> September.

Resolution to approve minutes of the planning committee meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> September proposed by Councillor Daly and seconded by Councillor Ralph. **Unanimously approved.**

Resolution to approve minutes of the EGM held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October proposed by Councillor French 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 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 and noted that the Council now had access to online banking.

#### **4.1 To approve October 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 French and seconded by Councillor Johnson-Cloves. **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 Levine.

**Unanimously approved.**

#### **4.4 To note current earmarked reserves and approve transfers**

Noted.

#### **4.5 Rialtas budget training event on the 4th November, approval sort for RFO's attendance**

RFO no longer needs to attend this at the current time as alternative training attended.

#### **4.6 To set date for Finance Committee meeting re precept budgeting**

It was agreed that the Finance Committee will meet on the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7.30pm

### **5.0 COMMUNITY Activities and reports.**

### 5.1 Neighbourhood Plan, progress report from steering group representative

Councillor French gave the report.

The Council **unanimously reaffirmed** its approval of John Slater as external assessor for the plan.

*The RFO, Anita Maxwell left the meeting.*

### 5.2 Community Orchard Grant scheme

Motion, "In July 2024, Council agreed to support the application to the Coronation Community Orchard Grants Scheme. Our application has been successful and this Council for reasons of enhancing the park and its green space, shall accept a grant of up to £5,000.00 (ex vat) to create a community orchard as a permanent reminder of the coronation of King Charles III, and shall form a working party to oversee its creation." (Cllr. Browne, Brown, French and Johnson-Cloves)

The above motion was proposed by Councillor Browne and seconded by Councillor French.

**Unanimously resolved to support.**

### 5.3 Parish Events- update (Cllr. Levine)

Councillor Levine updated the Council.

Councillor French thanked her for suggesting and booking the candy floss machine for the official opening of Lodge Field playground which was a great success.

### 5.4 District and County Councillors reports

Councillor Barnes noted there would be a presentation of Rother's draft budget on Thursday evening.

### 5.5 Clerk's report

The Clerk gave her report.

i)) to note various meeting dates

Noted that Greymour will be visiting to discuss Foundry Close and Church sites with those councillors who could make it.

A meeting is due to take place with South East water, arranged by our MP for anyone who can attend To discuss the recent water outages.

### 5.6 Parish Correspondence and local resident issues

An email has been rec'd from the agent of Cooks Field development requesting information re the Council's decision to remove the site from the Neighbourhood Plan. The clerk will respond.

### 5.7 Urgent issues requiring attention

None rec'd.

## 6.0 **PARISH COUNCIL ISSUES**

### 6.1 To approve Contract of Employment for the RFO

This item was postponed to the next meeting as the clerk is still waiting to view draft contract before being sent to councillors and RFO for approval.

### 6.2 To approve Terms of Reference for Staffing Committee

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

**Unanimously resolved to support.**

### 6.3 To approve Terms of Reference for Events Committee

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

**Unanimously resolved to support.**

## 7.0 **TRANSPORT, ROADS & FOOTPATHS**

Councillor Daly reported concerns re cars parking on pavements and creating a hazard for both pedestrians and other traffic.

*Councillor Barnes left the meeting.*

Clerk asked to report large pothole in Merriments Lane near Merriments Farm.

7.1 Urban Grass cutting, motion to approve Option 1, 2 or 3  
The Council **unanimously resolved** to select option 2, extra cuts.

## **8.0 PLAYING & STAGE FIELDS**

### **8.1 Lodge Field regeneration project**

Opening ceremony on the 28<sup>th</sup> September at 2.00pm was well attended and very successful.

Noted issue with Zip wire which was attended to and is waiting to be reassembled.

Councillor Johnson-Cloves reported that the CCTV cameras have been installed.

*Motion, "Council to consider the installation of 4 tree's at the front of Lodge Field. (Cllr. Johnson-Cloves)*

Councillor Johnson-Cloves requested that the motion should be amended to 3 trees rather than 4.

Motion to now read, *"Council to consider the installation of 3 tree's at the front of Lodge Field.*

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

**Unanimously resolved to support**

8.2 To consider Risk Assessment needs for all play equipment and approve if needed.  
Clerk asked to get quotes to assess the old equipment.

## **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 26<sup>h</sup> November 2024 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 7.45pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.47pm.

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 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025