

## HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

**Present:-** Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Brown, Councillor Daly, Councillor French, Councillor Johnson-Cloves, Councillor Ralph and District Councillor Barnes.

The Clerk was in attendance along with seven members of the public.

### 1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: -

Councillor Pakenham, Councillor Levine, Councillor Price, the RFO, Anita Maxwell, District Councillor Killeen and County Councillor Kirby-Green.

**2.0 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.

**2.1 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.

### 3.0 Rother District Council LOCAL PLAN Response

#### 3.1 To discuss and agree response re site allocation within the parish.

The working party, consisting of councillors and residents presented their findings and draft response to the Council.

The Council thanked the working party and the residents involved for all the work they had put into this. Councillor Johnson-Cloves expressed his view that it was a balanced response.

After debate it was agreed to modify the response to include the items below,

1. HGPC supports the allocations at HG1 and HG2 (already approved by RDC - no further action needed).
2. HGPC supports the principle of HG3, subject to reduced density, improved levels of parking, the addition of public parking, and local connection affordable housing.
3. HGPC objects in the strongest terms to HG4 and requests its deletion from the Local Plan - unconditionally and without qualification.
4. HGPC does not propose any alternative or replacement sites for HG4.
5. HGPC does not endorse any specific housing number for Hurst Green - any figure must flow from a robust, published local evidence base.
6. HGPC requests that Rother publishes settlement-level evidence for the increase from 38 to 185 dwellings before Regulation 19.
7. HGPC requests an independent review of the Sustainability Appraisal before Regulation 19.
8. HGPC requests a funded Infrastructure Delivery Plan for Northern Rother before Regulation 19.
9. The Clerk is authorised to submit the revised response on behalf of the Council before the consultation deadline.

**Motion** -That Hurst Green Parish Council adopts these positions, approves the response, and thanks the housing working group members for their work, and authorises the Clerk to submit the revised response to Rother District Council's Regulation 18 consultation before the closing deadline.

Proposed by Councillor French and seconded by Councillor Brown. **Unanimously resolved to support.**

### 3.2 Other responses

Discussed under 3.1

## 4.0 **PARISH ISSUES – Assertion 10 progress report**

### 4.1 To adopt Freedom of Information Policies

It was agreed to adopt the Freedom of Information policies, based on the model code and subject to normal revision at the AGM meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Johnson-Cloves and seconded by Councillor Daly. **Unanimously agreed.**

### 4.2 To adopt IT Policy

Councillor Ralph is still working on this modifying the model code to suit parish needs. To be put on the next agenda.

Councillor Brown asked to put a motion forward for the Council to set up a working party to discuss communications. This was seconded by Councillor French and **unanimously agreed.**

### 4.3 Car Park, Motion –

*The Parish Council resolves to proceed with negotiations to the potential acquisition of the freehold to the Village Car Park, on the basis that any proposal should be cost neutral to the Parish Council in the longer term, while recognising that there may be initial and one-off costs associated with legal and professional fees. Any proposal should not commit the Council to acquisition and should protect free parking for Village Hall users, while recognising that arrangements for wider public use may need to evolve over time.*

This is a special motion proposed by Councillors Brown, Browne and Johnson-Cloves and an update on a previous motion 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025, agenda item 8.2.

Councillors felt that due to a change in circumstances with the current works at the junction of the A21/A265 and subsequent loss of parking spaces that that car park should be reconsidered.

**It was resolved that the motion should be supported with a majority vote (5-1).**

## 5.0 **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Council meeting is due to be held on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 7.45pm with public consultation from 7.30pm.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Distribution of Minutes: -

Signed

Cllr. Graham Browne, Chair

All Parish Councillors  
Parish Council Noticeboard  
Parish Council Website  
ESCC Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green  
RDC Councillor Barnes.  
RDC Councillor Killeen

Dated

31<sup>st</sup> March 2026