

HURST GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 29th March 2022 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm after public consultation.

Present:- Councillor Browne (Chair), Councillor Brown, Councillor Hampton, Councillor Janes, Councillor Johnson, Councillor Kenchington (until 8.20pm), Councillor Price (from 8.40pm) , Councillor Wright, District Councillor Barnes and County Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green.

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

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: -

Councillor Duddridge (illness).

2.0 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: -

To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday 25th January 2022, 22nd February 2022 and the 24th March 2022

Minutes proposed by Councillor Browne and seconded by Councillor Janes.

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 Brown declared an interest in agenda item 7.2.

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 her report.

4.1 To approve expenses and payments as itemised on the schedule

The detailed expenses and payments report for March was emailed to all Councillors prior to the meeting.

Approval of Invoices and payments proposed by Councillor Hampton and seconded by Councillor Johnson. **Unanimously approved.**

4.2 To approve bank reconciliation

The bank reconciliation was proposed as correct by Councillor Hampton and seconded by Councillor Janes. **Unanimously approved.**

4.3 To note the 1.75% pay scale increase for Clerk and RFO backdated to 1st April 2021

The RFO reported on this which is a contractual obligation.

4.4 To consider the formation of a Finance sub-committee to meet bi-yearly

This was agreed with three Councillors needed to form the sub-committee.

Councillors Brown, Browne and Wright agreed to form the sub-committee.

The RFO will draw up the terms of reference.

Councillor Kenchington left the meeting at 8.20pm.

The RFO left the meeting at 8.22pm.

5.0 COMMUNITY Activities and reports.

5.1 Neighbourhood Plan, progress report (Cllrs. Brown & Wright)

The report was given by Councillor Brown.

5.2 Motion, "That this Council, having following the procedure outlined within the

Council's Policy for Granting of the Honorary Freedom of the Parish, shall grant the Freedom of the Parish to Mrs Talena Sharp for services to the community during the coronavirus pandemic

Agenda item to be postponed to a separate meeting to be held immediately after the next full parish meeting in order to comply with legislation.

5.3 District and County Councillors reports

Councillor Barnes gave her report.

Councillor Eleanor Kirby-Green gave her report.

5.4 Clerk's report

The Clerk gave her report.

Councillor Price arrived at 8.40pm.

5.5 Parish Correspondence and local resident issues

Local resident offered to draft letter to National Highways re pavement along the A21 between Silverhill and Salehurst. Clerk reported that this was being done.

5.6 Urgent issues requiring attention

None reported.

5.7 Motion to support a second defibrillator (Cllr. Browne)

The local resident knowledgeable in this field gave an update and offered to look at funding options. To liaise with the Clerk.

The Council **unanimously agreed** to support a second defibrillator and look at funding streams with a potential siting in the old telephone box on the A21 if this can be secured.

6.0 **TRANSPORT, ROADS & FOOTPATHS**

Councillor Johnson reported another pothole on the A21 and Councillor Wright reported a potentially dangerous dead tree on the footpath opposite the church entrance. Clerk to report.

7.0 **PLANNING**

7.1 RDC Planning decisions

RR/2021/3069/T - Brockhurst, Burgh Hill, Hurst Green TN19 7PE. Sycamore: Reduce crown in height and width proportionally by approximately 20%. Copper Beech: Reduce in height and width proportionately by approximately 25% and reduce phototrophic limbs growing over house by an additional 2-3m. Beech: Reduce in height and width by approximately 25% and reduce phototrophic limbs growing over house by an additional 2-3m. Poplar: Reduce in height by approx. 2-3m. Beech: Carry out 15-20% width reduction. **Approved.**

RR/2021/2246/P – Eggs to Apples Farm Shop, London Road, Hurst Green, TN19 7QP. Retention of front canopy, north side loading bay canopy and west side loading bay canopy. Erection of extension to farm shop on south side and extension on the west side for ancillary café. **Approved.**

RR/2021/2624/P – The Laurels, Burgh Hill, Hurst Green, TN19 7PE. Various proposed works, including part roof conversion, first floor and ground floor extensions. **Approved.**

7.2 Planning applications

RR/2022/595/FN - next to Ashdene Garage London Road Hurst Green TN19 7QR. Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed erection of a straw and hay barn. **Formal notification.**

Councillor Browne realised that he needed to declare an interest in the next application as he knows the applicant and therefore did not take part in the discussion or vote.

Councillor Brown noted an interest in that he owned land next to the proposed receptor site.

RR/2021/2798/P - London Road - Land West of, Hurst Green Development of site to provide 26no. dwellings with associated hard standing, car parking, landscaping, public open space and provision of a car park for the Church. **Not supported.**

7.3 Foundry Close variation of conditions

Motion (Cllrs Brown, Janes and Price),

"This Parish Council is profoundly concerned at the failure of Rother District Council to properly consult this Council over changes to the approved planning consent at Foundry Close, Hurst Green. This Council believes that Rother District Council has not presented sufficient evidence to justify its disregard for public consultation, and with regards to its relationship with Optivo Housing Association and this matter, has exercised limited judgement and observation of the proper planning process. In this light, this Council urges Rother District Council's Planning Committee, to intervene to legally enforce the existing approved planning application, and to insist that the proposed significant changes, be subject to a new planning application."

The Council **unanimously resolved to support this motion.** Clerk to notify Rother District Council and copy in Trevor Leggo.

Councillor Wright left the meeting at 9.50pm

8.0 PLAYING & STAGE FIELDS

8.1 Lodge Field, new play equipment progress report

Remote meeting with Trevor Leggo planned for the 4th April to discuss PWLB loan for the project. Meeting planned for the afternoon of the 4th April to discuss plans for the field. Councillors Brown, Janes and Johnson to attend.

Councillor Barnes and Councillor Kirby-Green left the meeting at 10.00pm

8.2 Stage Field – Motion,

"That this Council, for reasons of delivering on the community aspirations identified during the Neighbourhood Plan evidence gathering process, shall establish a working group to explore possible options that will increase the public usage of the Stage Field, Silver Hill, an underused area of public land".

The Council **unanimously resolved to support this motion.**

Six residents have already expressed an interest in joining the working party.

9.00 Items for the next agenda

Neighbourhood Plan.

Other items to be emailed to Clerk as necessary.

10.0 Date and time of next Meeting

The next Council meeting to be held on Tuesday 26th April 2022 in Hurst Green Village Hall starting at 8.00pm with public consultation from 7.45pm.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.10pm.

Distribution of Minutes: -

All Parish Councillors

Parish Council Noticeboard

Parish Council Website

ESCC Councillor J. Barnes

RDC Councillor M Barnes.

Signed

Cllr. Graham Browne

Dated

26th April 2022