



DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING of Hadlow Down Parish Council
Held in Hadlow Down Village Hall, Hadlow Down
at 7pm on Tuesday 4th June 2024

Present: Councillors: Michael Lunn (ML) Chair (+WDC), Peter Weston (PW) Vice Chair, Ben Floyd (BF), Stephen Lester (SL), Damon Wellman (DW), David Munday (DM) and Alan Hobbs (AH).

In attendance: 6 members of the public and Cllr Bob Standley (ESCC).

The Chair explained that the meeting was being recorded for the Clerk to type up the minutes upon her return. The Clerk had a pre-booked holiday before she started her employment with the Parish Council and it was agreed to not move the date but to continue with the meeting, without the Clerk present and a lighter agenda.

63. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

A resident stated that the Tinkers Steam Rally was exceptional this weekend, it is such an asset to the village so well done to Tinkers Park and all the trustees. The junction of the A272/A267 was discussed, there has been 3 accidents in 2 weeks, some with substantial injuries. Something does need to be done at this junction. A resident raised the temporary traffic lights, they were there for 3 days for a 3 hour task. A resident reported that Wilderness Wood had a wedding there 2 weekends ago with amplified music. A resident quoted the April 2024 minutes about Wander Down where a notice had been issued giving the resident 4 months to remove everything. The deadline is 9th June so it was asked for the Chair to send an email. It was agreed that Cllr Lunn as District Councillor would report this on the 10th June. **Action 1.** A resident reported the potholes outside Wilderness Woods but has been told it is about to be repaired so will wait to see the standard of repair. A resident reported that another resident passed away recently but no one is aware so he suggested would it be possible that when someone passes, if it could be mentioned in the minutes so all residents are aware. The Chair said he would need to check with the clerk on whether this was possible due to data protection and family wishes. **Action 2.** A resident raised the application under 68a and will wait to hear what is discussed by Councillors.

64. APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE – None.

65. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – DM declared a pecuniary interest under agenda item 68a.

66. MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on the 7th May 2024 were recommended for approval and signed as a true record (previously circulated).

67. OUTSTANDING ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

- a. Action Log 2024 The action log is available on the village website. This was updated throughout the meeting.
- b. Clerks report This was noted (previously circulated).

68. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

a. PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

WD/2024/7021/ADP for Ford Farm winery.

This application was discussed, and it was agreed that due to several resident raising their concerns on this ADP application, that Cllrs would submit a comment. *The Clerk will email the Planning Officers upon her return referring them to the objection made on the 4th October 2023 which stated the objection was based on the EN27 mass scale of the development, AONB, location, traffic impact, over development of the site, inappropriate materials, visual impact and the likely impact on local amenities. Further comments will be made when the additional information is available on the portal. 6 Councillors voted to submit these comments. **Action 3.***

b. APPROVED APPLICATIONS:

WD/2024/0427/LB for CLAYLANDS, STONEHURST LANE, HADLOW DOWN, TN22 4ED

WD/2024/0969/OH for LAND NORTH OF STONEHURST LANE, FIVE ASHES, MAYFIELD, TN20 6LL

WD/2023/2995/F for HASTINGFORD OAST FARM, HASTINGFORD LANE, HADLOW DOWN, TN22 4DY

69. REPORTS FROM CLLR.BOB STANDLEY, ESCC & CLLR MICHAEL LUNN, WDC - written reports had been submitted and are published on the village website.

Due to being in the period of purdah, Cllr Standley could not report on anything but stated that the Wilderness Wood pothole was due for imminent repair. Cllr Lunn reported that the Leader of Wealden District Council is now Cllr Rachel Millwood, Green Party. The process of establishing the Chairs, Deputy Chairs and allocation members to the various Committees were not agreed at Full Council so this is contentious and messy. Will not be resolved until the next Full Council.

70. REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS (COUNCIL MATTERS AND OUTSIDE BODIES):

DW updated on assisting a lady who had hit the pothole outside Wilderness Wood. He called the Clerk who liaised with Highways and he liaised with Sussex Police. It was very dangerous. DM reported that the roadworks at

Hastingford Lane is going to be repaired on the 19th June. PW reported that his report had been circulated. He has started putting up the signs from Highways around the village '20 is plenty'. It is hard to find locations that meet all the criteria. PW also reported that the video the school did on traffic is very good and he will look to see if can circulate it to Cllrs so they can view. He will liaise with the Clerk. **Action 4.** ML reported that he has been working with the Clerk and Paul James to commence the drainage works on the 17th June. He has started the burial ground clearing and will look to see if can hire the digger for longer to do some more clearing. SL reported that the resurface works in Spring Lane has been done to a good standard.

71. BANK RECONCILIATION – This has been deferred until the July 2024 meeting where May and June 2024 bank reconciliations will be reviewed and approved.

72. OTHER FINANCE MATTERS:

a. Income received for noting: Precept first payment for 2024/25 of £21,330. Payment for 2023/24 VAT return of £2,383.55. This was noted.

b. Payments for ratification: DD to BT for phone and broadband for £240.15 + VAT £48.03, Reimbursement to Vicki Rutt for ink for printer £324.19 (UT ref 928654974), Chandlers for building materials £1146.35 + £229.27 VAT [UT ref: 960635165] and Clear Insurance renewal for insurance 2024/25 for £516.61 (UT ref: 502670976). These payments were reviewed and approved.

73. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT (UT ref = Unity Trust Bank reference number) - PW and ML will authorise.

a. Vicki Rutt salary end June - £920 paid by SO

b. Vicki Rutt salary and expenses - £394.56 (UT ref: 650173601)

c. Lucy McConachie Play area inspection May - £40 (UT ref: 345629895)

d. Crowborough Town Council – Barrier hire - £48 + VAT £9.60 (UT ref: 66807380)

e. HMRC PAYE for May 2024 - £199.75 (UT ref: 653723264)

f. East Sussex Pension Fund for May 2024 - £375.48 (UT ref: 545026820)

g. Barcombe Landscapes – Grass (burial ground and play area) in April 2024 - £83 + VAT £16.60 (UT ref: 645140545)

h. Mulberry and Co – Internal Audit for 2023/24 - £113.75 + VAT £22.75 (UT ref: 211427542)

i. Hadlow Down Village Hall – Hall hire May 2024 - £40 (UT ref: 70182184)

j. Mr Ben Blackford – Mole works - £120 (UT ref: 864444232)

74. ITEMS TO GO ON NEXT AGENDA: Wilderness Wood and Green Burial site.

Meeting closed at 19:43