Clerk to the Council: Emma Fulham

Goods Yard House

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Present: Cllrs Horner, Higgins, Reed, Colenutt, Norman, Nathan, Gunn, Eastwood, Smith, Beare and Burnett-Dick, Shaw

Absent: Cllr Sanders.

In Attendance: Emma Fulham Clerk to the Council.

County Cllr Taylor

District Cllr Milward

Public

Minutes to the Parish Council Meeting held in Goods Yard House at 7:30pm on 7th February 2022.
 **Public**:

There were reports from the County and District Cllrs.

Cllr Taylor reported that ESCC were in the process of approving the annual budget with more money being spent on climate change initiatives and highways.

She reported that a new company had been hired for highways.

She reported on a motion to ban Glyphosate – a pesticide - which was not approved however she advised that communities could appeal the decision and push for Glyphosate to be banned. She would send through further information.

Cllr Taylor advised she would follow up with the officers regarding the issues at Sackville Lane and the development proposed for the edge of Forest Row. Cllrs could contact her for further details.

Cllr Millward reported that she had not yet seen the consultation on the Sackville Lane applications, as all developments over 10 houses were automatically sent to the Planning Committee. She will enquire about the application at the next Committee meeting. Cllr Millward would advise the Councillors once she had met with the Planning Committee.

Cllr Millward reported that she has received training in her new position and her 3 priorities were to stop the planning on the AONB, the River Medway and the Ashdown Forest. She would like to work with the Councillors to determine issues and see how they can be rectified.

Cllr Beare reported on two issues on the A264. Logs had been left on the side of the road, creating potential risk to road users. Cllr Beare requested Cllr Taylor to raise the concern with County and request the logs be removed.

She was also concerned that the proposed speed decrease to 40mph would not be extended to between Hammerwood and the Golf Club. Cllr Taylor requested her to report her concerns to Road Safety at ESCC.

Mr Jonathan Latham presented his proposal for a new development at Perryhill Nursery. The development would consist of 4 small business units together with 15 new houses (which would include low cost housing). The Cllrs agreed no further discussion was required until planning permission was formally received.

**The Parish Council formal meeting commenced at 8.15pm.**

1. To accept apologies for absence.

Cllr Sanders.

1. Declarations of pecuniary and disclosable interests in respect of matters to be discussed.

The Chair reminded Cllrs to declare when necessary.

1. To Approve Minutes from Parish Council meeting held on 6th December 2021.

**Unanimously accepted and signed as a true record.**

1. Matters Arising.

Cllr Horner welcomed Cllrs Shaw and Gunn to the Council.

The Clerk advised that she had obtained a cheaper quote for the bus shelter lighting and had placed an order as previously agreed. The Clerk suggested that if the brightness was sufficient, the same lights could be placed in the 2nd bus shelter.

The Clerk reported that the noticeboards at Upper Hartfield and Holtye would be installed this week.

1. Correspondence.

The correspondence list was reviewed by the Council.

The following were highlighted:

* Housing Development call for action to the parishes. Some Councils had confirmed support for the general concept and a provisional meeting in March was proposed. **The Clerk would confirm Hartfield’s inclusion and contact other local councils who have shown interest and confirm sign up to the initiative with a possible secondary meeting with North Wealden Parishes if required.**
* Various correspondence had been received re remote meeting lobbying. The Clerk advised councils wanted to have hybrid meetings and allow councillors to join remotely as this was more inclusive. Currently, in order for decisions to be valid, the councillors have to be in attendance at the meeting. Further updates would be sent when available.
* Gallaghers – undervaluation of assets. An email had been received requesting all assets to be re-evaluated. **The Clerk would request a cost for valuation from the professional valuer.** The Clerk advised the index linking for insurance premiums would also be increased. **The asset valuation would be discussed at next Financial** **meeting.**
* Cllr Horner reported that Nus Ghani had scheduled a meeting for middle of March to reassess the boundaries. **The Clerk would add to the agenda for future meeting.**
* ESCC – SLR / Planter licenses. The Clerk advised each planter required a licence. If the planters were completed as one project, there would be a one-off cost of approximately £60. An excavation licence for the project was also required. There would be 10-12 planters placed 1 metre apart which would prevent parking on the verge in front of Central Garage. The Clerk advised each planter should be secured by a bolt attached to a concrete base in order to prevent theft. **The Clerk would ring the excavation company to arrange a quote.** Central Garage agreed to help maintain the planters.

ESCC had received an offer from Central Garage but had not yet responded to the offer.

**Cllr Taylor would chase this up.**

* Sheila Van Maurik – jubilee query. Cllr Burnett-Dick advised there was no clash with Coleman Hatch Jubilee celebrations as Hartfield celebrations would take place on Thursday, 2nd June and Coleman Hatch celebrations would take place on Saturday. 4th June.
* The Community Asset Register had expired and needs to be reviewed. This would be added to a future agenda.
1. Finance
2. To accept the account summary.

**Unanimously accepted.**

1. To approve expenditure as itemised on the schedule.

**The list had been circulated amounting to £5,653.80.**

**Unanimously accepted.**

1. To review update on the neighbourhood plan.

The item was deferred to a future meeting.

1. To consider 2022/23 Newsletter strategy and costs.

The Councillors unanimously agreed that a paper copy of the newsletter would be distributed twice a year – one in Summer and one before Christmas.

It was also suggested that going forward the newsletter be available in digital format in order to reach all audiences.

1. To consider Fun Run future and other fundraising.

Cllr Smith advised that a half marathon had been planned alongside a fun run in 2022. A route for children would be included in the preparations.

He noted that historically the funds raised had gone to youth projects in the village and that would be the intention again.

Cllr Smith advised that additional help with enrolment was needed. **Cllr Gunn volunteered to assist.**

**The Clerk would include this item on the agenda for the meeting on 7th March 2022.**

1. To receive any updates on future community events – Fete, 100th Anniversary of Pooh and Jubilee.
2. Fete - Cllr Burnett-Dick advised the Fete would be held on 3rd September. The AGM would be held 25th February at 7pm.
3. Jubilee - this would be held on Thursday, 2nd June at 7pm. Cllr Burnett-Dick reported there had been a setback with the original venue. He suggested the Croft as an alternative. **This was unanimously agreed by the Cllrs.** Cllr Burnett-Dick suggested a Village picnic - each family would bring their own picnic with tables and chairs provided by the Council. He confirmed a band had been booked and there would be a bar. He was waiting confirmation from the Morris Dancers. Cllr Burnett-Dick advised that approximate cost was £810 to date (this included the band and 2 marquees at £150 each). **The Cllrs unanimously approved the marquee and picnic event and expenditure was within the agreed budget.**

Souvenirs could be given to each person who attended the Jubilee celebration. The type of souvenir was still to be decided. **The Cllrs unanimously agreed to the concept of purchasing souvenirs costs to be agreed.**

**The Clerk asked the Cllrs to provide information on the type of trees they want planted as these needed to be ordered for the Jubilee. The Clerk would follow up with CLM for the arrangements for planting on the Village Green.**

1. 100th Anniversary of Pooh in 2026 – Cllr Reed reported that a local group has been formed to plan for the anniversary celebrations. Cllr Reed advised that Hartfield will need to think through the potential tourism impact.
2. To ratify planning decisions and review planning applications.

**The planning minutes from 10th January 2022 and 7th February 2022 were duly ratified.**

**No further applications to consider.**

1. Items for Reporting or Inclusion in Future Agendas.

Half marathon.

Defibrillator at Holtye Golf Club.

Cllr Burnett-Dick reported that the police should be involved with the issue of verge parking following the Conservators decision on carpark charging.

**Cllr Horner requested the Clerk send a letter on behalf of the Parish Councillors to the Conservators of the Forest requesting their response as to how this issue would be dealt with.**

**Dates of Next Meetings:** 7th March 2022
Meeting closed at 9.45pm.