

Clerk to the Council: Emma Fulham

Goods Yard House

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**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held via Zoom due to Covid-19 restrictions on 6th July 2020 at 7:30pm.**

Present: Cllr G Horner (Chair), Cllr R Nathan, Cllr R Eastwood, Cllr M Colenutt, Cllr Maude and Cllr P Norman

Absent: Cllr S Lowring, Cllr C Burnett-Dick, Cllr A Emery, Cllr A Higgins, Cllr Smith Cllr C Beare and Cllr J Sanders.

1. To accept apologies for absence.

Cllrs Emery, Higgins, Sanders, Beare and Smith.

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

The Chair reminded Cllrs to declare when necessary.

1. Approve Minutes from Parish Council meeting held on 4th May 2020.  
     
   **Unanimously approved.**
2. Matters Arising.   
     
   Broken drainpipe at the pavilion - The Clerk had arranged this and employed a new cleaner to attend to ensure maintenance levels were kept up.The Clerk had also arranged for the water to be put back on at the pavilion. She reported on possible start dates for sports clubs and likely income due.  
   Lorry correspondence –There had been no response from ESCC to date, a SLR meeting was suggested by the Clerk. TheClerk had been in contact with the lorry companies, but their response had been dismissive. They stated that legally there are no restrictions on them if are no weight limits on the roads.
3. Correspondence.   
     
   The list had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The following items were highlighted:

* ESCC road closures.
* Pension Fund.
* Covid grant.

The report from Cllr Hardy was read out

* To date in 2020 Wealden has paid out £30 million to save small Wealden businesses from failure.
* Pam Doodes who represents the Ward of Herstmonceux and the Pevensey Levels has been re-elected Chairman for a second year.
* Two residents have complained bitterly concerning the excessive speed and noise created by traffic on the Edenbridge Road leading to the Colestock crossroads. Can any action be taken to reduce the problem?   
  **The Clerk was hoping to arrange a SLR meeting with ESCC shortly.**
* He requested information on Hartfield Parish Council planning decisions.   
  **The Clerk would respond to this request.**
* A resident has written with considerable concern as there is a possibility that the 60 year age limit on the flats at Oaklea Court may be done away with which may result in young children coming into the flats and disturbing the peace and quiet enjoyed by residents. The system for years has worked well and if there is to be any change, Cllr Hardy believes the age should not be reduced below 50.   
  **The Council were unaware of any planned changes to the age restriction. A previous application for one flat to list the restriction had been approved by WDC despite objections from the Parish Council.**
* Finally, the Barn application at Harts Farm Harts Lane has caused an upset with local residents.   
  **The Council was unaware of any applications at Harts Farm. The Clerk had responded to an enquiry on Oak Farm from Cllr Hardy previously and would request more information.**

1. Finance
2. To accept year to date account 2020/21  
     
   **Unanimously approved.**
3. To approve expenditure as itemised on the schedule.  
     
   The list had been circulated prior to the meeting.   
   **The Council unanimously approved the list totalling £31689.54**
4. To ratify Finance Committee Minutes.  
     
   **Unanimously ratified.**
5. To ratify bank reconciliations and risk assessments.   
     
   **Unanimously ratified.**
6. To ratify new banking arrangements.  
     
   **Unanimously ratified.**
7. To ratify budget transfers to Ear Marked Reserves as follows:

Telephone Box £120  
Fingerposts £100  
Goods Yard House Contingency £2000  
Replacement Equipment £100  
Councillor Allowances £70

**All unanimously ratified.**

1. To confirm transfer from General Reserves to cover playground expenditure as follows:

**The Clerk was awaiting the final bills so the Council agreed this item should be deferred to a future meeting.**

1. To ratify delegated decisions since 4th May 2020 as follows:

**Planning**

Application No. WD/2020/0992/F

Location: 2 FONQUEVILLERS, CAT STREET, HARTFIELD, TN7 4DR Description: PROPOSED 2 STOREY EXTENSION TO SIDE AND REAR AND THE FORMATION OF A BAY WINDOW TO THE FRONT OF THE PROPERTY

**The Parish Council supports the application subject to any comments from the neighbours.**

Application No. WD/2020/0901/F

Location: COTCHFORD FARM, COTCHFORD LANE, HARTFIELD, TN7 4DN Description:

INSTALLATION OF OUTDOOR TENNIS COURT FOR DOMESTIC USE.

**The Parish Council approves subject to any comments from the neighbours.**

Application No. WD/2020/0884/F

Location: THRESHER HOUSE, THE HAY WAGGON INN, HIGH STREET, HARTFIELD, TN7 4AB Description: INSTALL A PAIR OF HARDWOOD AUTOMATED GATES.

**The Parish Council objects to the application due to receiving further comments on the application.**

**The Parish Council notes this access is shared with other properties.**

**We would note that the High Street is congested and can lead to frustrations and dangerous driving therefore we would ask that Highways are satisfied with the distance from the High Street to enable a car to enter the drive and be off road whilst gates are opening and possibly whilst other cars are exiting without causing an obstacle in the main road. The current chain across causes some issues already and when planning was granted for this development the driveway was open as a shared access and not obstructed in any way and the residents purchased the properties aware of this situation. The Council would prefer the open driveway to be retained as per the original planning approved.**

**We would also prefer if WDC are minded approving that the gates were more in keeping with the conservation area rather than solid wood which is not in keeping.**

**All unanimously ratified.**

**General**

1. Allow Tennis Club to commence games under new regulations. **Unanimously ratified.**
2. To consider Climate Emergency Declaration for adoption and related action plan.   
     
   This declaration had been circulated prior the meeting and read as follows:

**Hartfield Parish Council - Climate & Biodiversity Declaration**

This Declaration sets out our ambition to address the Parish Council’s contribution to climate change and to actively contribute to and promote District, County and central Government initiatives.

Hartfield Parish Council is aware of the significant implications of climate change for the community; it is already affecting our environment, infrastructure, economy and health & wellbeing.

Hartfield Parish Council will contribute to a global response to climate change through our collective action, innovation and influence.

We plan to reduce the Parish Council's carbon emissions to meet NetZero by 2030, and actively encourage the people we do business with to strive to do the same. The Council will also act as a catalyst, engaging the skills, talents and knowledge of residents, businesses and visitors to develop and implement an innovative and sustainable plan of action.

The Parish Council commits to publishing information that will help support our community in reducing their carbon impact., in areas such as, but not limited to:

\* Deploying more renewable, decentralised and smart energy systems.

\* Changing agricultural practices to reduce emissions associated with farming operations, manage soils sustainably and replenish soil carbon.

\* Encouraging carbon storage such as through tree planting, the use of wood in construction and heathland restoration.

\* Retrofitting energy-efficiency measures into our existing buildings.

\* Constructing zero-carbon new buildings.

\* Travelling less and using improved walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure more often, and using electric and hydrogen vehicles.

\* Changing our consumption to use less, re-use more and choose low-carbon options.

\* Challenging all economic sectors to review their practices and the values of those they do business with.

\* Understanding more about where the food we eat comes from and reducing food waste.

\* Empowering the people of Hartfield with the knowledge and skills to act collectively.

Additionally, we will work to understand the near-term and future risks of climate change for Hartfield to plan for how our infrastructure, public services and communities will have to adapt.

Hartfield Parish Council also acknowledges that we face a crisis in Biodiversity and Pollution.

Hartfield Parish Council will work with:

\* Residents and landowners on programs to increase local biodiversity.

\* Residents and business to reduce waste and other forms of non-CO2 based pollution (e.g. Plastics).

As Climate Change, Biodiversity and Pollution are inter-related concerns, Hartfield Parish Council will where possible pursue initiatives that address these multiple issues.

Local organisations and communities cannot do this alone. The National Government plays a key role in many of the policy areas that are vital to reducing emissions and adapting to climate change. use its powers to provide the resources and funding necessary to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon and resilient economy and society.

We ask every organisation, business, community and individual to do the same.

**The Parish Council unanimously approved the declaration.**

1. To consider action and costs required for the play area.  
     
   The main works were complete and had been inspected.   
   The Clerk had re-opened the park after the Council confirmed via email by majority vote to do so. The Clerk had supplied a risk assessment and the park had been inspected. Insurance information and the inspection report were noted.   
   **The Clerk would provide additional signage to the Chair and would provide a padlock should the park require another closure in her abscence.**   
   Additional bark had been arranged and agreed via email with the Council. The works had been completed but final invoices were yet to be received.   
   Additional works post inspection was required. The quotes were outlined to the Council.   
   **The Council agreed costs of £1238.02 plus VAT to Playdale.**
2. To consider action and costs required for the pavilion roof.   
     
   The Clerk reported on the recent damage. She had arranged a temporary fix, but a longer-term solution was required.   
   **The Clerk would investigate costs for a feasibility study to get some options for the Council to discuss.**
3. Items for Reporting or Inclusion in Future Agendas.  
     
   **For reporting:**

Annual Leave – Clerk   
Chronicle editor position – Clerk to advertise   
Volunteer co-ordinator meeting   
Groombridge Post Office possible closure / support  
  
**For inclusion:**

Emergency plan review.  
Climate emergency action plan.   
Pavilion Project

**Dates of Next Meetings:**

PC 7:30pm 7th September 2020.

The meeting closed at 9:05pm