

# **HARTLIP PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES of the meeting held remotely via Zoom on Wednesday 10 February 2021 from 8.00pm until 9.50pm.**

**Present:** Chairman: Cllr Graham Addicott OBE

Cllr Paul White  
Cllr Peter Boundy  
Cllr John Davies  
Cllr Klaire Lander  
Cllr Paul Williams  
Cllr John Wright

Parish Clerk: Tracy Still

**Also Present:** Cllr Alan Horton, Cllr Richard Palmer and Cllr Mike Whiting.  
One member of the public attended.

### **21/16 Apologies for Absence**

None.

### **21/17 Declarations of Interest**

The Chairman reminded Councillors of their duty to declare any interests.  
None were declared.

### **21/18 Confirmation of the Minutes**

The following amendment was proposed by Cllr Lander and accepted by the meeting:

Item 21/10 iii: Due to insufficient drainage, heavy rain results in flooding on the road in Old House Lane and excess mud is resulting from the Paradise Farm site.

The minutes of the monthly Parish Council meeting of 10 January 2021 were proposed by Cllr Graham Addicott and seconded by Cllr Paul White.

All Councillors in attendance at the January meeting were in agreement that the minutes were a true and accurate record.

Due to the meeting being held remotely and there being an amendment the Clerk will provide the Chairman with a hard copy of the minutes for signing as required under the Local Government Act 1972 (sch.12).

### **21/19 Matters arising from the Minutes**

Item 20/98 and Item 21/4

The Chair reported that the Environmental Warden had confirmed that he was no longer self-employed with appropriate insurance cover and so wished to stand down as Hartlip Parish Council Environmental Warden.

HPC expressed its thanks to Mr Blandon for the work he had carried out during the last five and a half years.

**Action: Chair to write to Mr Blandon to record HPC thanks for his work**

Item 20/99 ii

UK Power Networks had carried out a site visit on 2 February 2021 to assess the situation. The Clerk was awaiting the report.

**Action: Clerk**

Item 21/7

HPC had responded and expressed support of the A249 Key Street and Grovehurst Road Junction Improvement Public Consultation proposal.

Item 21/9 i

Cllr White had planted 78 saplings at Hartlip Recreation Ground.

Item 21/9 ii

A quotation of £256 had been obtained for a section of the work required to repair a leak on the stop cock under the water meter in The Parkland. HPC had been informed that Southern Water would be required to carry out the work to the remaining section. The Clerk had reported the leak to Southern Water but had not received a reply. The Clerk would contact Southern Water again to request a site visit.

**Action: Clerk**

Item 21/9 iii

The Clerk had contacted the land owner regarding the H & S issue with the poplar trees in the orchard.

The land owner had acknowledged the correspondence and indicated that Goathams had been informed. A letter had been sent to Goatham & Son to ensure that they had the correct contact details for HPC and Power Networks. Response awaited.

Item 21/10 iii

Cllr Davies had raised the issue of whether the scaffolding which had prompted H&S complaints had the required KCC licences. KCC confirmed that a licence had been applied for but that their investigations showed that some of the conditions of the permit were not met and the company had been contacted regarding this. As a result, barriers and footpath closed signs had been installed.

Cllr Davies had reported the excess mud on the road in Old House Lane to KCC.

## **21/20 Public Questions**

A member of the public attended the meeting regarding the incident of a dog running loose within the village. The attendee thanked HPC Chair for all that he had done to assist in this matter. The Dog Warden has the matter in hand. Residents and members of the public are reminded to report any future incidents to the SBC Dog Warden at <https://swale.gov.uk/news-and-your-council/contact-us/our-offices> and/or the police.

The member of the public left the meeting at 8.19pm

## **21/21 Parish Highways Improvement Plan**

HPC had received a proposal from KCC Highways, in response to HPC Highways Improvement Plan, for a 20mph speed restriction on The Street. All Cllrs agreed to accept the proposal.

The Chair expressed thanks to Cllr Mike Whiting for his support.

KCC are currently reviewing the proposals for speed restrictions on Lower Hartlip Road, Munns Lane and Hollow Lane. Once HPC Chair has received this proposal it will be circulated to all Councillors for comment.

**Action: Chair**

## **21/22 Police and Neighbourhood Watch Matters**

PCSO John Cork reported the following complaints had been received:

- 06/02/21 Dog running loose in The Street, Hartlip
- 06/02/21 Off road bikes seen being ridden around Hartlip.
- Report from a resident with concerns of a dumper truck driving along the road from the building site in Munns Lane leaving mud on the road.

HPC NHW Coordinator reported that there continued to be scams regarding the Covid-19 vaccine and HMRC.

Residents are reminded to remain vigilant.

There had been reports of 2 horses loose in Spade Lane.

## **21/23 HPC Amenities: Councillor Reports**

### **i. Recreation Ground**

Cllr White had planted 78 saplings in the Hartlip Recreation Ground.

Concerns had been raised regarding rabbit scrapings and holes on Hartlip Recreation Ground.

Cllr White confirmed that he would continue to fill and repair holes around the football goalposts and basketball ring. The Chairman thanked Cllr White for undertaking this task.

All Cllrs agreed that the presence and activities of rabbits were inevitable in a rural location.

Residents are to be reminded that any issues they wish to raise with the Parish Council should be directed through the Clerk. The contact details for HPC Clerk are on HPC Website and in The Forum.

- ii. The Parkland  
The Chair had obtained a quotation for the supply and installation of a Matlock kissing gate in the central fence of The Parkland.  
This would provide inclusive access for Hartlip residents over the whole Parkland as is their right.

It was agreed that financial support should be sought from the Western Area Committee and the two Borough Councillors agreed to support the application.

**Action: Chair**

- iii. The Allotments.  
Negotiations for the purchase of the allotments are proceeding.

The land owner and tenant had both been contacted regarding the trimming of the poplar trees.

#### **21/24 Other HPC Responsibilities: Councillor Reports**

- i. KALC  
The Chairman would be attending the next committee meeting to be held on 9 March 2021.  
**Action: Chair**
- ii. Hartlip Village Hall  
HVHMC Representative reported that HVH remains closed as per Government Covid-19 regulations.  
The building and car park are being checked regularly as good management of the Charity and as the Insurance Company requires.  
A problem regarding unauthorised parking has been reported to HVHMC several times and this will require attention.  
The roof tiles have not yet been delivered and the contractor has been asked for an update.
- iii. Highways  
Cllr Davies had reported mud on the road in Old House Lane and Dane Lane to KCC Highways.

Redundant temporary traffic signs and temporary fencing had been reported to KCC.

Kent Wildlife Trust would be introducing car parking charges at a number of sites in the future, one being Queendown Warren Nature Reserve, Warren Lane.

Concerns were raised that these charges could result in visitors to the nature reserve parking on the surrounding lanes.

The verge of Dane Lane is being eroded and cut away by tractors and contactor lorries. This has been reported to SBC for attention.

- iv. Footpaths  
Nothing to report.

## **21/25 County and Borough Councillor's Reports**

Cllr Mike Whiting had provided a written report. Rail works to repair the embankment at Newington continued with the line closed until 8 February and a replacement bus service in operation.

Litter on the A249 and at Junction 5, Stockbury had been reported to Highways England.

The A2 from Medway to Newington had recently been resurfaced, and the stretch throughout to Keycol Hill is already programmed.

The Covid-19 vaccination programme in the area was now well underway.

Full details are available at <https://www.kentandmedwayccg.nhs.uk/your-health/coronavirus/covid19vaccine>.

Those eligible for free school meals who need extra financial support to help feed their children can visit [www.kent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.kent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals).

The Kent Together helpline remains open for any other Kent resident who needs support with food, collection of medication and prescriptions and other urgent needs during the pandemic, 24 hours a day. Call 03000 41 92 or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/kenttogether](http://www.kent.gov.uk/kenttogether)

Cllr Whiting had contacted KCC Highways regarding the delay in gritting secondary roads in the area.

Residents were encouraged to use their food waste bins following the opening of a new KCC food waste recycling plant.

Cllr Richard Palmer had provided a written report.

Two unrelated noise complaints had been raised by residents of Hartlip and both were being investigated by SBC

It was anticipated that refuse bin collections would be delayed in the coming week due to snow and other road conditions.

Salt Bins locations are due to be reviewed by KCC.

The Swale Local Plan is out for consultation. The Council went for an even distribution across the Borough and not the previous policy of 80% in Sittingbourne or on Sheppey. Cllr Palmer encouraged residents to comment online at <https://swale.gov.uk/planning-and-regeneration/local-plans/local-plan-review/local-plan-review>. The plan will be available for public viewing on the council's website from Monday 8 February until Tuesday 23 March 2021. Hard copies, or extracts from documents, may be made available on request from [LPcomments@swale.gov.uk](mailto:LPcomments@swale.gov.uk) or by calling 01795 417 014.

Cllr Palmer has requested that the planning department ensures that a wider circulation of planning letters be sent out to residents in the future.

Cllr Alan Horton confirmed that he continued to pursue HPC Local Green Space proposal. The land east of The Street had been omitted and Cllr Horton had written to the panel on behalf of HPC to request the area of land be reconsidered as a Local Green Space.

## **21/26 Clerk and Finance Report**

The Chairman had received the draft documents prior to the meeting for checking and correction as per normal practice.

The Bank Reconciliation and Finance Report were presented to the Parish Council.

These were signed and dated by the Chairman.

Cheques had been prepared for signature prior to the meeting. These were signed by the Chairman.

T Still	Clerk Salary & Expenses December 2020	<u>£ 249.41</u>
	Total:	£ 249.41

Landscape Services (Commercial Services) had provided a grounds maintenance quotation for 2021 of £1570.08, exclusive of VAT.

This was an increase of £45.74 on the previous year.

Councillors agreed to accept the quotation.

**Action: Clerk**

## **21/27 Planning Matters**

**Appeal decision received since the January meeting.**

Appeal Ref: APP/V2255/W/20/3255595

Alpaca Farm, Yaugher Lane, Hartlip.

Appeal against decision of Swale Borough Council to refuse permission for the change of use of a log cabin to a holiday let.

**(Appeal dismissed)**

**Applications received since the January meeting**

Application Ref: 21/500218/FULL

Erection of a single storey rear extension to form boot room at The Old Orchard, The Street, Hartlip.

**(No objection subject to comments of the Conservation Officer)**

Application Ref: 21/500100

Application for variation of condition 12 (occupancy restriction) pursuant to SW/05/0118 for conversion to one 3 bed holiday home and ancillary parking at The Old Stables, Old House Farm, Old House lane, Hartlip.

**(No objection)**

Application Ref: 21/500141/LDC

Proposed Lawful Development Certificate for demolition of chimney stack and construction of infill walls to create enlarged kitchen at Ashdawn Lodge, The Street, Hartlip.

**(Objection to the matter being dealt with under the Lawful Development Procedure)**

**Enforcement**

HPC continues to follow up on outstanding enforcement matters.

Cllr Palmer, in a written report, updated Cllrs on the following cases:

1. Planning Application 20/3255595: Alpaca Farm, Yaugher Lane, Hartlip
2. Planning Application 19/500953: caravan/mobile home Potters Warren
3. Planning Application 19/503694: Traveller Site, Spade Lane

**21/28 Correspondence**

Application Ref: 20/505771

*Councillor Wright declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion.*

This application had been reported to the January 2021 meeting of HPC. It was an application for Prior Approval for the conversion of agricultural buildings to 3 dwellings.

The application had been determined with permission granted.

The applicant had since emailed HPC Clerk to suggest that HPC may like to propose the enhancement of the visibility splays on the Lower Road.

The permission of the drive owner would be needed but the applicant would be willing to carry out this work immediately.

HPC discussed the matter and concluded that this course of action would be inappropriate as the application had been dealt with and prior approval had been granted.

**21/29 Information Items**

Mid Kent Planning were advising that the department had been working very hard to adapt to the changes following the Coronavirus outbreak. Following Government requirements means they are continuing to work from home.

This may result in slower response times to requests.

People are asked to consider sending or requesting information by other means, two of those being to contact their local Councillor or the local Parish Council office to ask if they are able to email Mid Kent Planning on their behalf.

Concerns were expressed that this statement had been put out without consultation with Parish Councils and without acknowledgement that many Parish Councils do not have an office or full time staff. This to be taken up with SBC.

**Action: Cllr Palmer**

Cllr Lander had been contacted by a parishioner regarding the provision of a defibrillator which would be accessible to all residents 24/7.  
It was proposed that should any councillor be prepared to research the provision of a defibrillator suitable for an outdoor location then HPC would consider the matter further.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

The next Parish Council Meeting is to be held virtually on Wednesday 10 March 2021 at 8.00pm.

Signed .....

Date .....