

HARTLIP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held remotely via Zoom on Wednesday 11 November 2020 from 8.00pm until 9.25pm.

Present: Chairman: Cllr Graham Addicott OBE

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

Parish Clerk: Tracy Still

Also Present: None

20/90 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Councillor Alan Horton, Councillor Richard Palmer and Councillor Mike Whiting.

20/91 Declarations of Interest

The Chairman reminded Councillors of their duty to declare any interests.

20/92 Confirmation of the Minutes

The minutes of the monthly Parish Council meeting of 14 October 2020 were proposed by Cllr Paul White and seconded by Cllr John Wright.

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

Due to the meeting being held remotely the Chairman was unable to sign the minutes as required under the Local Government Act 1972 (sch.12). The Clerk will provide the Chairman with a hard copy of the minutes for signing.

Action: Clerk/Chair

20/93 Matters arising from the Minutes

Item 20/81

A site meeting had taken place on 11/11/20. The Parish Highways Improvement Plan would be discussed during the Parish Council meeting under item 6 of the agenda.

Item 20/84 iii

Councillor John Davies had reported the damage to the 30mph sign in Munns Lane.

Item 20/84 iv

In the absence of a waiver regarding undertaking maintenance work to footpaths Councillor Boundy was instructed not to carry out such work.

Item 20/85

The Chairman had sent a letter on behalf of the Parish Council to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government regarding The Government's Consultation on Changes to the Current Planning System.

20/94 Public Questions

No members of the public attended.

20/95 Parish Highways Improvement Plan

Four members of the Parish Council had met with County Councillor Mike Whiting and two officers from KCC Highways Department on 11 November in an endeavour to speed up progress on the Highways Plan which has been held up by the two lockdowns.

A wide ranging discussion had taken place to progress this and to ensure that the plan covers as much of the village as possible long term.

Speed checks had taken place on The Street and on the Lower Hartlip Road in March 2020.

The outcome of the speed check in The Street produced statistics which support a 20mph speed limit. The presence of a school, two churches, a Village Hall and allotments strengthens the case. It was agreed that no traffic calming measures such as chicanes would be necessary. Officers of KCC will now produce a plan and costings for the Parish Council to consider.

The outcome of the speed check on the Lower Hartlip Road had been less conclusive. KCC will look at what speed limit could be imposed on the Lower Hartlip Road and report back with their proposals together with costings.

Once progress has been made on the above, Mill Lane would be the next road to be considered.

In view of the increasing number of walkers, cyclists and horse riders throughout the whole of the village at a time when many of the roads are being used as "rat runs", it will be necessary to consider the needs of the whole village and that will be done in due course.

20/96 Parish and Town Council participation at Area Committees

The Chairman had attended the inaugural Area Committee meeting, with the main item for discussion being Conservation Areas.

The Chairman will attend the next meeting being held on 1 December 2020.

Action: Chair

20/97 Police and Neighbourhood Watch Matters

Councillor Lander reported that there had been an increase in residents joining the Neighbourhood Watch WhatsApp group.

Residents are reminded that they are able to join the group.

Councillor Wright reported on motorbikes causing a nuisance on private land.

20/98 Insurance of Environmental Warden

As requested, the Clerk had contacted the Parish Council's Insurance Company to check cover of the Environmental Warden.

The Environmental Warden had advised the Parish Council that he has personal insurance cover. The Clerk was asked to request a copy of the insurance document.

All Councillors agreed that the Environmental Warden should carry out a Risk Assessment and the Clerk was asked to request this be done and a copy provided to HPC.

Action: Clerk

20/99 HPC Amenities: Councillor Reports

i. Recreation Ground

The date of 21 November 2020 had previously been arranged for planting trees at Hartlip Recreation Ground but due to current Government lockdown restrictions this had now been postponed to 12th December 2020.

ii. The Parkland

A larch tree adjacent to the road appeared to be dead and was leaning at a precarious angle. The Clerk to contact Peter Rayfield to assess the tree and provide a quotation for work to be carried out.

Action: Clerk

Councillor Wright had provided the Chairman and Clerk with a vet report on the possibility of one horse developing laminitis if it over-grazes.

To facilitate the access over The Parkland which residents are entitled to, it was agreed to investigate the installation of a gate since a stile would be inaccessible to certain users of The Parkland.

The Chairman will obtain quotations for a gate to be installed.

Action: Chair

iii. The Allotments

At the October Meeting, the Chair had raised the need to consider the state of the hedge at the south side of the Allotments as it borders the north side of Hartlip Village Hall carpark. The hedge is dead/dying and replacement is desirable preferably with the addition of a post and rail fence as had been installed when planting the hedge on the east side.

A quotation had been obtained for the removal of the old hedge and installation of a fence.

The Chair suggested that Mrs Addicott, on behalf of Hartlip Community Hub may be prepared to investigate funding further and make any application. If this were to be the wish of HPC, the funds would be deposited in HPC account under the Community Hub funds heading to be managed by Hub. Hub would then deal with ordering and financing the project.

HPC and volunteers would do the planting following the work.

Members indicated approval of this way forward and so the Chairman proposed and Councillor John Wright seconded the proposal to approach Mrs Addicott on this matter. It was unanimously agreed.

There is currently one vacant allotment which may be used to incinerate the waste from the removed hedge. This allotment will then be offered to the next person on the waiting list.

The Chairman advised Members that he had been in touch with the Solicitor acting for the Parish Council in the possible purchase of the allotments but there was nothing to report.

Action: Chair

20/100 Other HPC Responsibilities: Councillor Reports

i. KALC

The Chairman will be attending the next KALC meeting to be held on 30 November 2020.

Action: Chair

ii. Hartlip Village Hall

Hartlip Village Hall Representative reported that HVHMC had implemented Phases 1 and 2 of the post-Covid reopening of HVH with pleasing success. The hall has had to close again for the period 05.11.20 – 03.12.20 in line with Government strategy to control the virus.

HVHMC Chair had communicated with all Regular Hirers, notified the insurance company of closure, arranged the necessary adjustment of services, set a checking system in place and advertised the closure. She will liaise with all hirers to accommodate any additional post-lockdown sessions and will update invoices as necessary. Plans are in place for reopening as soon as permitted.

Councillor White, in his capacity as Maintenance Manager had been asked to investigate the possibility of the disabled toilet and roof replacement being done during lockdown.

iii. Highways

Councillor Davies reported that the pot holes reported online had now been repaired.

Due to the large amount of mud on the roads created by vehicles from the apple orchards it had been extremely difficult to monitor pot holes and the severity of them. Councillor Davies advised that he would carry out a survey in January once the vehicle movement had subsided.

Councillor Wright enquired into the progress of the matter of flooding on Lower Hartlip Road, which Councillor Lander had reported to Councillor Mike Whiting.

As Councillor Lander had raised the matter as a private resident the Parish Council had not pursued the matter.

Action: Councillor Davies

- iv. Footpaths
Nothing to report

20/101 Borough and County Councillor's Reports

Councillor Alan Horton and Councillor Richard Palmer had provided written reports and both confirmed that they had objected to the South Bush Lane Boot Fair planning application.

Councillor Mike Whiting had provided a written report.
He advised that the Kent Together helpline remained open 24 hours a day for any Kent resident who needed support with food, collection of medication and prescriptions and other urgent needs during the pandemic. Help is also available by visiting www.kent.gov.uk/kenttogether or calling 03000 419292.

20/102 Clerk and Finance Report

The Chairman had requested amendments to the finance document presentation to improve clarity still further for Councillors.

The Bank Reconciliation and Finance Report were presented to the Parish Council but were not signed by the Chairman due to the meeting being held remotely. The Clerk will provide the Chairman with a copy of all relevant documents for signing.

Cheques were presented for signing prior to the meeting.

J Davison	Grounds Maintenance/Allotments/12.05.20-28.10.20	£ 140.00
T Still	Clerk Salary & Expenses October 2020	£ 216.59
T Still	Clerk Expenses	£ 23.51
Commercial Services	Grounds Maintenance/Recreation Ground/3rd quarter	£ 688.61
Total:		£1068.71

Councillor Wright requested that the Clerk provide further information in respect of The Parkland.

20/103 Planning Matters

Medway application

Application Ref: MC/20/2358

Proposed change of use from agricultural land to a mixed use of agriculture and leisure activities including 6 days of boot fairs and 331 days for outdoor/drive in cinema, open air theatres/circus, weddings, motoring shows/events over and above the number of days allowed as permitted development under Schedule 2, Part 4, Class B of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as

amended) at Rainham Boot Fairs, South Bush Lane.

(Strong objection)

Swale appeal

Appeal received since the October meeting

Application Ref: 20/501491

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

Appeal against the decision to refuse approval for the retrospective application for the retention of a log cabin and proposed change of use of the log cabin to a holiday let at Alpaca Farm, Yaugher Lane.

Swale application

Application Ref: 20/505020

Removal of existing carport, rear roof light, internal alterations, insertion of replacement windows. Erection of single storey rear infill extension, new side wall with gate and double gate to front (revised scheme to 19/506379 at Yew Tree Cottage, The Street, and Hartlip.

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

Swale application

Application Ref: 20/504999

Conservatory extension with sedum roof. Installation of a conservatory roof light. Conversion of existing window opening into a doorway and existing doorway into a window at Lower Dane Cottage, Dane Lane, Hartlip.

(No objection)

Other matters

Councillor Williams enquired into a site with 'blue tyres made into a rally track' on Yaugher Lane. Other Councillors were unaware of this site and it will be monitored.

The Chairman reported on a second Alpaca site opposite the current Alpaca Farm, Yaugher Lane. This site will be monitored.

A resident had contacted the Chairman and Kent Police on 4 separate occasions to report anti-social behaviour in Spade Lane. In order to fully inform councillors, the Chair had asked the resident for feedback on police action in these matters but had received none.

Councillor Wright stressed the importance of reporting anti-social matters to Kent Police.

Call for Sites as proposed LOCAL GREEN SPACES in connection with the Local Plan Review.

The Parish Council had put forward four proposals in connection with the Local Plan Review namely:

1. The War Memorial.
2. The Village Pond/The Old Wheel Wash.

3. The field known as Underlynch north of The Parkland.
4. The field east of Popes Hall between The Street and Lower Hartlip Road.

The Chairman had attended the planning meeting when these matters had been considered and at which decisions had been deferred until December to allow Borough Councillors to comment. The Chairman will send a report to Councillor Alan Horton and Councillor Richard Palmer regarding Hartlip's proposals.

Action: Chair

Councillor Wright reported that he had been in contact with Wienerberger Ltd regarding the phased extraction of brickearth.

Work is due to start in summer 2021. Finalisation of the plans should be released at the end of 2020/beginning of 2021.

Paradise Farm Nursery, Lower Hartlip Road:

Swale Planning Enforcement had inspected the site and reported that the hardstanding area and use of the site for 5 caravans is permitted development under the Caravan Act.

Councillor's requested that Swale provide clarification on the definition of hardstanding.

Action: Chair

20/104 Correspondence

None

20/105 Information Items

None

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

The next Parish Council Meeting is to be held on Wednesday 9 December 2020 at 8.00pm virtually or at Hartlip Village Hall.

Signed

Date