

HARTLIP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held at Hartlip Village Hall on Wednesday 13 October 2021 from 8pm until 9.30pm

Present: Chairman: Cllr Graham Addicott OBE

Cllr Paul White
Cllr John Davies
Cllr Klaire Lander
Cllr John Wright

Parish Clerk: Tracy Still

Also Present: County Cllr Mike Baldock
Borough Cllr Richard Palmer
Michelle Loader

21/120 Apologies for Absence

Absent with apologies: Cllr Peter Boundy - health
Cllr Paul Williams - holiday
Borough Cllr Alan Horton

21/121 Declarations of Interest

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

21/122 Confirmation of the Minutes

The minutes of the monthly Parish Council Meeting of 8 September 2021 were proposed by Cllr Paul White and seconded by Cllr John Davies.
All Councillors in attendance at the September meeting were in agreement that the minutes were a true and accurate record.
The Chairman signed the minutes as required under the Local Government Act 1972 (sch.12).

21/123 Matters arising from the Minutes

See also Chair's Report.

21/87: The Recreation Ground
The litter bin had been emptied.

21/105: M2 Motorway Noise

Gordon Henderson MP had received a response from the Regional Director of National Highways confirming that low noise materials are to be used to resurface roads as they wear out. Sections of the M2 between Junctions 4 and 5 had been resurfaced and resurfacing to further sections are planned. HPC will continue to monitor the situation.

HPC had asked about the value of bunding to reduce nuisance to residents. The Regional Director of National Highways had indicated that bunding can be effective in reducing noise levels for properties close to a motorway but properties in Hartlip are about 300 metres away and so bunds and barriers would not help.

Councillors agreed that the Chair would contact the complainant to advise of the above.

Action: Chair

21/118: Parking on Allotment Land

HPC had contacted the resident concerned by registered letter.

21/121: HPC Neighbourhood Watch WhatsApp Group

A set of rules had been published in the Forum and on the Parish Council website.

The set of rules will be summarised and published on the WhatsApp Group.

Action: Claire Lander

21/124 Public Questions

No members of the public were in attendance.

21/125 Parish Highways Improvement Plan

The Chair reported that the work by KCC Highways relating to the first phase of the Parish Highways Plan has now been completed.

Many residents had expressed their thanks for the progress thus far.

There had been some coverage of issues on Social Media which generally had not been well informed and made incorrect assumptions about the work of the Parish Council on the Parish Highways Improvement Plan. Some unfortunate remarks had also been made which is inappropriate and unacceptable.

Councillors were concerned that the 'Slow Children' signs on Munns Lane which warn motorists of the Recreation Ground Children's Playground were seriously hidden by untrimmed hedges with one in need of repair.

A councillor was charged to pursue this matter as urgent with KCC.

Action: Cllr Davies

Comments have been received about the road markings with some residents pleased to see the speed limit emphasised and others unhappy about them. KCC rationale behind signs on the road is that hedgerows in country areas often hide signs.

A query had been raised regarding the positioning of the Hartlip sign/white gate at the junction of The Street/Munns Lane and on KCC Highways land. There had been a suggestion that it should have been installed on Hartlip Hill. Councillors agreed that this work comprised the replacement of the Hartlip sign which had been correctly positioned in this location for very many years and the introduction of a white gate designed to provide a visual prompt to motorists that they are entering a village environment which warrants and has a low speed limit of 20mph and to request that they drive carefully. On both counts the location of the sign and gate is exactly correct. Whilst the Parish Council works for the whole Parish of Hartlip and views all parts as equally important, the fact remains that the parish comprises Hartlip Hill, Hartlip (the ancient village), Lower Hartlip, lanes to the west of the Street and a part of Queendown Warren. These areas have historic roots and are featured on Ordnance Survey maps.

A query had been raised regarding the reduction of the speed limit from 60mph to 40mph on Munns Lane. KCC rationale for this decision, which had been presented in detail to the Parish Council by County Councillor Mike Whiting during its work on the Parish Highways Plan, was revisited.

KCC has now published a Public Notice regarding the speed limit changes and this informs the public that anyone may challenge the validity of the order by application to the High Court and the terms under which they may do so.

The Parish Council will, as it had already undertaken to do, review the Parish Highways Plan and investigate what other highways improvements may/may not be possible to achieve in the Parish of Hartlip. This will include review of the reduced speed limit from 60mph to 40mph on three roads in due course.

Cllr Wright had reported the sign at the bottom of Munns Lane, which had been placed on private land, to Kent Highways. They confirmed that the matter will be addressed and rectified.

21/126 Report of Chair

KALC

The Chair had attended the area committee meeting held on 12 October 2021.

SBC's Chief Executive spoke, confirming the reorganisation of SBC with the removal of the cabinet and introduction of committees.

George Mynehan has been expected to speak on Enforcement matters but did not attend.

Dog Waste/Litter Bins

The Chair is sourcing new, larger, ground standing bins to replace the dog bin for which HVHMC gives permission to be sited in HVH car park and the dog bin and litter bin sited in the Recreation Ground.

Action: Chair

Clerk/Councillors

The Clerk had submitted her resignation and would be leaving the position on 15 October 2021. A successor had been found and would be taking over the position on 16 October 2021. The Chair thanked the Clerk for her work for HPC and welcomed the new Clerk.

Cllr Klaire Lander submitted her resignation. This will be her last meeting. The Chair thanked Cllr Lander for her time as a member of HPC.

Due to illness, one Parish Councillor had been unable to attend a meeting since 14th April 2021.

Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972 states that if a member of a local authority fails throughout a period of six consecutive months from the date of his/her last attendance to attend any meeting of the authority, he/she shall, unless the failure was due to some reason approved by the authority before the expiry of that period, cease to be a member of the authority.

The Chair explained that the councillor had explained his health reasons for absence to him and Parish Councillors had these explained to them. The reason was accepted unanimously.

County Councillor Mike Baldock then explained that it was possible to extend this 6 month period by a further 3 months given this situation.

Councillors unanimously agreed this course of action.

Action: Chair

21/127 Police and Neighbourhood Watch Matters

Cllr Lander confirmed that she would be happy to continue her role as the administrator of the HPC Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

The Chair advised that a new scheme is being considered by Kent Police which if approved may need to be adopted by HPC.

It was therefore agreed that Klaire Lander continue in this role for the time being.

21/128 HPC Amenities: Councillor Reports

- i. Recreation Ground
A quotation for £1700 had been obtained for the required minor repairs highlighted in the annual safety inspection.
Cllrs agreed to accept the quotation. The contractor will be contacted to carry out the work.
Action: Cllr White
- ii. The Parkland
A branch had fallen on the Lower Hartlip Road and had been removed by KCC.
Peter Blandon was in the process of carrying out a tree survey on trees in The Parkland and will submit his report to HPC as soon as possible.
- iii. The Allotments.
Proposed Purchase: nothing to report.

21/129 Other HPC Responsibilities: Councillor Reports

- i. Hartlip Village Hall
Cllr Paul Williams, as HPC Representative on HVHMC, had investigated the use of CCTV camera/s and signage to counter the unauthorised parking in Hartlip Village Hall car park and this had been discussed by HVHMC.
Cllr Williams will now examine choices and costs in order to recommend suitable items.
Cllr Williams will then install any technology selected.
Further expert legal advice had been taken regarding land registration and the role of trustees.
These matters will be discussed, decisions taken and action authorised soon.
- ii. Highways
A number of pot holes had appeared around the parish. Cllr Davies will report these to Kent Highways.
Action: Cllr Davies

Cement dropped at the top of Hollow Lane had been removed by Kent Highways.
- iii. Footpaths
Nothing to report.
- iv. The War Memorial
Toby Daley had carried out a Condition Survey and had submitted a Listing Application for the War Memorial on behalf of HPC.

v. The Village Pond

An item had been put in the Forum inviting volunteers to join the Parish Council Working Group on Saturday 9 October to carry out the first step of clearing weeds from the wall and roadside beside the pond.

Due to the late publication of the Forum, there were no residents in attendance leaving Cllr Addicott and Cllr White to complete the task.

HPC were awaiting advice from Kent Wildlife Trust and Kent Reptile and Amphibian Group regarding a survey of the pond in spring.

Cllr Baldock advised the Parish Council to contact the Pond Warden at SBC.

Councillors Addicott undertook to contact the land owner to discuss plans for the pond.

Action: Chair

21/130 County and Borough Councillor's Reports

Cllr Richard Palmer reported that he had received some enquiries from residents regarding the Parish Highways Improvement Plan implementation.

Cllr Palmer confirmed the reorganisation of SBC with the removal of the cabinet and introduction of committees.

SBC would shortly be releasing information regarding grant funding for events being held for the Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations.

The Chair requested an agenda item for the November Parish Council meeting of 'The Queen's Green Canopy and Platinum Jubilee Celebrations'

Action: Clerk

Cllr Mike Baldock reported that there would be a weekly release of all planning procedures and decisions.

A consultation on Community Wardens is due for release by KCC.

Cllr Alan Horton had provided a report advising that he had dealt with some enquiries regarding the speed limit changes and had offered guidance to some residents on council matters.

Cllr Horton had corresponded with the Parish Council Chair regarding the Jubilee celebrations next year. He continued to consider planning applications.

21/131 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 were presented for signing.

Hartlip Village Hall	Hire 15.11.21	£ 30.00
Savills UK	Rent for Allotments 11.10.21-05.04.22	£ 65.00
Savills UK	Access Rights 11.10.21-10.10.22	£ 0.50
T Still	Clerk Salary & Expenses - Sept 2021	£224.14
G Addicott	Printer Ink	£ 82.98
T Still	RBL Wreath	£ 17.00
T Still	Postage	<u>£ 6.85</u>
Total		<u>£426.47</u>

21/132 Planning Matters

- i. Applications received since the September meeting.

Application Ref: 21/504997/FULL

Erection of 2 single storey rear extensions at Hartlip Barn, Sweepstakes Farm, Lower Hartlip Road, Hartlip.

(Objection)

Application Ref: 18/504836/EIOUT

Revised outline application for the erection of up to 1,725 dwellings etc at Binbury Park, Detling.

(Objection)

Application Ref: 21/501846/FULL

Revised details of application for change of use of land from agricultural to equestrian, removal of existing stables and erection of replacement stables, tack store and hay store and creation of riding arena at Little Place Farm, Yaugher Lane, Hartlip.

(Objection)

Application Ref: 21/505189/FULL

Use of building and land as a permanent residential dwelling, not complying with Condition 12 of application SW.05.0118 at The Old Stables, Old House Farm, Old House Lane, Hartlip.

(No objection)

Correspondence had been received from Christopher Pincher, MP confirming the publication of the updated planning practice guidance relating to the National Planning Policy Framework.

HPC Chair Cllr Addicott, Cllr Baldock, Cllr Horton and Cllr Palmer are due to attend a Planning Appeal Hearing for Spade Lane being held on 19 October 2021.

Enforcements.

The Parish Council has received no updates on developments.

21/133 Correspondence

None

21/134 Information Items

The South West Parishes Meeting will be held in Hartlip Village Hall on 15 November 2021.

Cllr Davies reported that footpath ZR81 was overgrown and blocked at the entrance in Old House Lane.

Cllr Davies will report the matter to KCC Footpaths.

Action: Cllr Davies

Cllr Baldock was approached by HPC and asked to consider a contribution towards the purchase of salt bins for Dane Lane and Place Lane.

Cllr Baldock advised the Parish Council that as part of ongoing alterations to SBC Planning Department, Tree Preservation Order information should be available online in the coming months.

Work had begun on the M2/A249 Junction 5 Improvements.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

The next Parish Council Meeting is to be held at Hartlip Village Hall on Wednesday 10 November 2021 at 8.00pm.

Signed

Date