

HARTLIP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held at Hartlip Village Hall on Wednesday 8 September 2021 from 8pm until 10.10pm

Present: Chairman: Cllr Graham Addicott OBE

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

Parish Clerk: Tracy Still

Also Present: Borough Cllr Alan Horton
Five members of the public

21/114 Apologies for Absence

Absent with apologies: Cllr Peter Boundy, Cllr Paul Williams, and Borough Cllr Richard Palmer.

21/115 Declarations of Interest

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

21/116 Confirmation of the Minutes

The minutes of the monthly Parish Council Meeting of 14 July 2021 were proposed by Cllr John Davies and seconded by Cllr John Wright.
All Councillors in attendance at the July 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).

21/117 Matters arising from the Minutes

See also Chair's Report.

21/87: The Recreation Ground
The litter had still not been emptied.

Action: Clerk

21/87: The Parkland

The water leak had been repaired.

21/105: M2 Motorway Noise

A response had been received from Gordon Henderson MP confirming his support regarding HPC's concerns and advising that HPC's letter had been passed onto Government Ministers.

21/105: The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Beacons

The services of a piper had been secured for the occasion at a cost of £300.

21/118 Public Questions

Three members of the public attended to raise their concerns over the amount of development on the Lower Hartlip Road.

They expressed a specific concern regarding a current planning application for the erection of a stable block and the implications that the positioning and size could have on neighbours.

HPC had submitted its comments on the current planning application including a request for Conservation Officer and enforcement involvement. HPC would request that neighbour comments be considered carefully.

The three members of the public left at 8.25pm

Two members of the public attended the meeting to discuss a private car parking matter which the Parish Council had already been provided with a letter about by the resident concerned.

The Chair declared an interest as a neighbour and took no part in the discussion.

Borough Cllr Horton advised that what was being sought could not be agreed to.

Cllr Horton also clarified that the Village Hall car park was private land and parking a vehicle on it would be classed as trespass.

The two members of the public left the meeting at 8.45pm.

It was agreed that the matter would be discussed and further advice sought.

Residents are to be reminded that if they wish to attend a Parish Council meeting they are to contact the Clerk prior to the meeting as per the HPC Policy.

21/119 Parish Highways Improvement Plan

Speed roundels had been replaced mainly using the existing posts.

Hedges had been trimmed where necessary.

Speed limit signs had been marked on relevant roads and were awaiting painting.

White gates at either end of the village were awaiting installation.

Two complaints had been received regarding the location of one speed sign and one derestriction sign.

Both residents were advised to contact Kent Highways.

Cllr Wright reported that a roundel at the bottom of Munns Lane had been placed on private land. Cllr Wright was advised to contact Kent Highways.

21/120 Report of Chair

KALC

The next area committee meeting is to be held on 28 September 2021.

The Chair will attend and will provide a report at the next meeting.

Hartlip Village Hall Charity

HVHMC had appointed a solicitor to advise on a number of legal matters concerning the charity including land registration.

Clear demarcation of boundaries had been recommended.

It was recommended that HPC solicitor (expert in Charity and Local Government Law) be consulted on these matters.

A figure of £450 + VAT + disbursements had been suggested for registration.

All Cllrs agreed with this recommendation.

Action: Chair

Dog Waste/Litter Bins

HVHMC had drawn HPC attention to the poor condition and inadequate capacity of the dog bin which they permitted to be sited in HVH car park. It was felt that a new, larger, ground standing bin was required.

HPC agreed to order.

It was agreed to provide one of the same design for the Recreation Ground.

Action: Clerk

Consultation on the Lower Thames Crossing

The Chair had circulated the consultation to councillors for comment and had submitted a response.

21/121 Police and Neighbourhood Watch Matters

Fuel had been siphoned from a vehicle parked on a private driveway.

A vehicle had stopped alongside a resident walking their dog with the occupants directing questions to the owner regarding their pet.

Residents are reminded to be aware and vigilant.

A number of complaints/expressions of concern had been received from residents about the nature of some messages posted on Hartlip Parish Council Neighbourhood Watch WhatsApp group.

When the group was set up by the Parish Council, it was made clear that its purpose was strictly for the exchange of Neighbourhood Watch information. This has been reiterated since.

Councillors agreed that a set of rules should be published in the Forum, on the Parish Council website and on the WhatsApp group to ensure that members use the group for its intended purpose only and are mindful and respectful at all times.

Action: Chair, Clerk, Cllr Lander

21/122 HPC Amenities: Councillor Reports

- i. Recreation Ground
The annual safety inspection had taken place in July. The inspection report highlighted some minor repairs required. The contractor had been contacted for a quotation to carry out the repairs.
- ii. The Parkland
A branch had fallen on the Lower Hartlip Road and had been removed by KCC.
- iii. The Allotments.
A large branch had fallen from a poplar tree bordering the allotments and had blocked Footpath ZR79.
HPC had contacted both Goatham & Son and Power Networks to arrange a power shutdown and trimming of the trees. Goatham and Power Networks are in liaison to arrange the works. HPC have requested to be kept informed of all relevant information.
Proposed Purchase: nothing to report.

21/123 Other HPC Responsibilities: Councillor Reports

- i. Hartlip Village Hall
A report received from HPC Representative on HVHMC reminded councillors that HVH carpark is part of the charity and for its use only. Councillors were also reminded that the access drive is privately owned with vehicular access in place for HVH users only, not residents and others at will.
Unauthorised parking threatens the sustainability of the charity going forward and causes other real problems including ones of H&S, insurance and safeguarding. HPC Representative had therefore been giving serious thought to the matter and had investigated the installation of a CCTV system and signage to provide the opportunity to issue 'tickets' to offenders thus, hopefully, bringing an end to the problem. The matter will be discussed further by HVHMC.
- ii. Highways
Following complaints received about overgrown hedges and road verges in the parish, councillors were reminded of KCC's policy in this regard.
Repairs had been unsuccessfully carried out to a water leak in Old House

Lane. Cllr Lander was asked to refer the matter to County Cllr Mike Baldock.

Action: Cllr Lander

Cement had been dropped at the top of Hollow Lane causing a potential Hazard as well as being an eyesore.

Cllr White will report the issue to Kent Highways.

Action: Cllr White

iii. Footpaths

Nothing to report.

iv. The War Memorial

The War Memorial is looking rather neglected at the present time.

Hartlip Community Hub worked on the site during the 2014 – 18 period when they were organising events to mark the Centenary of WW1. They had reported that maintenance was overdue.

Toby Daley had, as an early member of Hub, worked on the War Memorial and became co-ordinator of the Poppy Appeal for the village.

The Chair had tentatively asked Toby if he would consider working as War Memorial Warden under the direction of HPC in an unpaid capacity. He is willing to do so and HPC unanimously agreed to this role being established.

Toby had prepared a draft Condition Survey and a draft Listing Application for the War Memorial. HPC agreed their submission and asked that Toby be thanked.

Action: Chair

v. The Village Pond

Councillors Addicott and Wright had, as agreed, met with the owners of Copper Beeches and Holloways Orchard on 29.07.21.

The purpose of the meeting was to clarify ownership of the front of the pond and triangle of land to the south of the pond as belonging to the Parish Council. This was accepted by the owner of Copper Beeches who agreed to the HPC request to remove bushes he had planted on HPC land.

Councillors also informed the residents that HPC was proposing to do maintenance work on the pond in the coming year.

The Chair had approached Kent Wildlife Trust for advice but no reply had been received so far.

The Chair had also contacted Kent Reptile and Amphibian Group regarding them carrying out a survey of the pond in the spring.

Cllrs agreed to organise a working group to meet at 10am on Saturday 9 October to carry out the first step of clearing weeds from the wall and roadside.

An item will be put in the Forum inviting volunteers to join the working group.

Action: Chair

21/124 County and Borough Councillor's Reports

Cllr Richard Palmer had provided a report:

Brown Bin collections had been suspended due to staff shortages but had now been resumed.

A temporary Article 4 Direction had been imposed by SBC on the proposed cinema site, Spade Lane.

Reports of fires and thick black smoke from Kaynes Farm, Upchurch which affect residents of Hartlip Hill are under investigation by SBC.

Cllr Palmer had raised the need for pavement clearing along the A2.

Cllr Palmer had received reports of possible planning breaches and he had reported them to SBC who are investigating.

Cllr Alan Horton reported that the SBC Local Plan Panel were meeting that evening.

Cllr Horton confirmed that the use of Kaynes Farm, Breach Lane, Upchurch as a waste facility was subject to a planning application decision.

Planning enforcement had been contacted by a number of residents over the August Bank Holiday weekend regarding developments on a field in the Spade Lane area.

Cllr Horton confirmed that the Article 4 Direction enforced on the proposed cinema site, Spade Lane was a temporary enforcement covering a 6 month period and would need to be renewed in January 2022.

21/125 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 signed prior to the meeting.

Priestfield Plumbing	Parkland Water Leak	<u>£ 190.00</u>
	Total:	<u>£ 190.00</u>

Cheques were presented for signing.

Mr T Sumner	TDS Trees – Parkland, larch tree	£ 900.00
Business Stream	Parkland Water 12.05.21-19.-07.21	£ 44.59
Commercial Services	Grounds Maintenance, Recreation Ground Apr/May/Jun 2021	£ 992.78
Playsafety Limited	Recreation Ground Annual Inspection	£ 94.80
Peter Rayfield	Parkland – clear fallen tree/replace fence posts	£ 325.00
T Still	Clerk Salary & Expenses – July/Aug 2021	<u>£ 448.48</u>
	Total:	<u>£2805.65</u>

21/126 Planning Matters

An email had been received from the Chief Executive of SBC inviting reviews and comments on the Council's planning service.

Action: Chair

i. Applications received since the June 2021 meeting.

Application Ref: 21/501846/FULL

Removal of the existing stables and erection of replacement stables, tack store and hay store.

Also creation of riding arena at Little Place Farm, Yaugher Lane, Hartlip.

(Objection)

Application Ref: 21/503973/FULL

Erection of timber frame 3 bay garage/shed at Petty Place, Place Lane, Hartlip.

(No objection)

Application Ref: 21/503257/FULL and 21/503258/LBC

The addition of a raised decking area to the rear of the property and landscaping improvements to the rear garden at the Coach House, The Street, Hartlip and Listed Building Consent application.

(No objection)

Application Ref: 21/503988/LDCEX

Lawful Development Certificate for the existing use of a timber building as a self-contained dwelling at Oak Barn Farm, Yaugher Lane, Hartlip.

(Objection)

Application Ref: 21/503739/FULL

Erection of 1.8 m high close boarded fence and associated landscaping and removal of trees at Popes Hall, The Street, Hartlip.

(Requested matter to be considered by the Tree and Conservation Officer)

Application Ref: 21/503741/FULL and 21/503742/LBC

Demolition of stable buildings 2,3,4 & 5, alterations to glasshouse and erection of extensions to stable building 1 and the swimming pool at Popes Hall, The Street and Listed Building Consent application.

(Requested matter to be considered by the Conservation Officer)

Application Ref: 21/503629/FULL

Change of use of land from agricultural field to three horse paddocks and domestic garden. Erection of stable building of two loose boxes and hay store at Hartlip Barn, Sweepstakes Farm, Lower Hartlip Road.

(Partial Objection)

Applications Ref: 21/503914/EIOUT and 21/503906/EIOUT

Outline planning applications for a mixed use development at land to the south and east of Sittingbourne and land to the west of Teynham.

The Parish Council has objected strongly to these applications for 9250 new homes as part of three new villages. Gordon Henderson MP is also objecting in the strongest terms.

(Objection)

Licensing Application.

Christine House, London Road, Rainham
HPC had raised objections to a premises licence application.
The application hearing will take place on 12 October 2021.

ii. **Enforcements.**

SBC Planning Enforcement had visited a site in Place Lane after concerns had been raised by a member of the public over a breach of planning.
SBC confirmed that all plans were being followed.

Other enforcement issues: no further developments.

21/127 Correspondence

None

21/128 Information Items

None

The meeting closed at 10.10pm.

The next Parish Council Meeting is to be held at Hartlip Village Hall on
Wednesday 13 October 2021 at 8.00pm.

Signed

Date