

**HIGH HALDEN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council**  
**held on the 14 February 2022 at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall**

**165/21 Present and Apologies**

**Present:** Cllr Robinson (Chairman), Cllrs: Ms. Dawes, Mr. Drury Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Pickering, Mr. Sargent, Mrs. Wheeler

**In Attendance:** Mrs L Goldsmith (Clerk), Cllr. Pickering (Ward Member) and 4 members of the public

**Apologies:**

An apology was received from PCSO Laura Langridge and her reason for absence was accepted.

**166/21 Declarations of Interest:**

Cllr Mrs Pickering: Voluntary Declaration as the spouse of the ward member.

**167/21 Minutes of the meeting of the 10 January 2022**

**Resolved: That the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 10 January 2022 be approved and confirmed as a true record.**

**168/21 Matters Arising**

**168/21-1 – Update on progress with finding land for allotments in the village**

The Reverend has advised the Clerk that the Diocese has requested that any work on a feasibility study is put on hold until they have had a chance to check any issues relating to the title of the land. The Clerk has placed an article in the next edition of the newsletter asking for landowners to come forward with land that could be converted into allotments.

**168/21-2 – To receive an update on renewable energy provision for the sports pavilion**

The Clerk and Cllr. Sargent met with Ecolution, a renewable energy provider, on Tuesday 18 January 2022 to consider alternative power and heat sources for the sports pavilion. The East roof suffers shading from the neighbouring domestic property and from the tall tree in the car park. These shading factors reduce the usable portion of the East facing roof and the cost of scaffolding for installation to this reduced area makes it unviable. The West facing roof can have three rows of seventeen 375w modules in portrait. The cost is estimated to be £22,982.00 without any battery storage which is recommended. It is estimated that it will take 14 years to recover the cost based on current energy prices. The consultant from Ecolution has advised that a stand-alone PV system for this site with such minimal self-consumption is marginal for consideration at best, particularly given there are no grants currently available. It was agreed should grant funding become available to reconsider this initiative as the Parish Council remain committed to reducing the carbon footprint of the sports pavilion.

**168/21-3 To receive an update on Speedwatch**

The Clerk reported that Speedwatch resumes this week with dates planned for both February and March 2022.

**169/21 Open Session**

A member of the public requested clarification on why the Parish Council continues to not comment on planning proposals for the site known as Herwish, Martens Lane. Cllr. Robinson provided an explanation.

A member of public spoke in support of planning proposal 21/02212/AS and answered a number of questions regarding the proposal.

It was noted that the Clerk has received a web enquiry request that an additional section of footpath is installed between Greenside and the village green which would negate the need to use the three steps adjacent to the BT box which is an issue for some users.

21/00927/AS - Land between Summerhill Cottages and Bourne House – The Clerk has apologised to a member of the public for incorrectly submitting a response to the above planning proposal.

**170/21/1 PCSO's report**

The Clerk has circulated the PCSO's monthly newsletter. In January there was a theft of fuel from a container at a property in Wrens Nest Lane, High Halden and there was an attempted burglary in the Plurenden Lane area of High Halden. The Clerk has been advised that 'My Community Voice' which will soon replace the monthly newsletter. Details about joining the scheme have been placed on Facebook and in the newsletter. Kent Police has advised that they remain committed to trying to attend Parish Council meetings but that it

would be helpful if Parish Councils could facilitate attendance via MS Teams. The Clerk was asked to advise Kent Police that High Halden Parish Council are unable to facilitate the PCSO attending meetings by MS Teams.

**170/21/2 Community Warden report:**

There was no report. The Clerk will try and make contact with the Community Warden to find out how often she is covering the village.

**171/21 To sign the Deed of Dedication for Jubilee Park as part of the Fields in Trust application**

The Deed of Dedication was signed by Cllr. Robinson and Sargent and witnessed by the Clerk. The Clerk will return the papers to the solicitor for signing by the Trustees.

**172/21 - The Queen's Green Canopy Project – to discuss planting trees in Jubilee Park and elsewhere in the parish**

The 420 free saplings from Woodland Trust are expected to be delivered by the 15 March 2022. Cllr. Wheeler offered to look after the saplings and it was agreed to plant some at Jubilee Park, the village green and Hookstead Green. ABC is inviting parish councils to apply by the 15 April 2022 for trees and hedging plants for planting in December 2022. Members agreed to make a decision about applying for more saplings at the next meeting. It was **resolved** to purchase a commemorative plaque from the Royal British Legion Industries for £129.99.

**173/21 - To approve the street name for Land to the South of Sicklefield House, Ashford Road, St Michaels, Tenterden**

The Clerk was approached directly by the developer to suggest a road name for the new development. One of these suggestions has been put forward to ABC by the developer. ABC has now contacted the Clerk and asked if the Parish Council is happy with the suggested name of Pope Gardens.

**Resolved: To advise ABC to adopt the name Pope Gardens.**

**174/21 Planning**

Cllr. Mrs Pickering assumed the Chair to discuss the planning proposals

**Planning applications**

**To discuss any planning applications received:**

**22/00133/AS – Land North of Green Lane, Bethersden**

Prior notification for the erection of an open sided pole barn for storage of hay.

**Resolved: No comment**

**21/00682/CONA/AS – Land to the South of Sicklefield House, Ashford Road, St Michaels**

Discharge of condition 4 (Health and Safety (Gas)), 5 Ecology/Biodiversity.

**Resolved: No comment.**

**22/00057/AS – 10 Woodgates Close, High Halden**

Proposed garage extension to form enlarged garage space with associated increased driveway width laid to tarmac.

**Resolved: No comment. (Cllr. Robinson abstained from the discussion and vote on this application).**

**22/00004/AS – Duxbury, Church Hill, High Halden**

Proposed rear extension (part single, part double storey); addition of windows and porch canopies; amended landscaping.

**Resolved: No comment**

**22/00005/AS – Duxbury, Church Hill, High Halden**

Rear extension (part single, part double storey); New and amended external doors and windows on rear and side elevations. New porch canopy on rear and west elevation; remove near chimney; replacement rooflight; internal partition, alterations/layout; relocation of staircase.

**Resolved: No comment.**

**22/00002/CONA/AS – Moat Barn, Oak Grove Lane, St Michaels**

Discharge of conditions 3 (Construction Management Plan), 4 (Bicycle storage facilities) & 6 (bound surface).

**Resolved: No comment.**

**18/00759/CONC/AS – Land to the South of Sicklefield House, Ashford Road, St Michaels**

Discharge of conditions 6 (Footway Design), 13 (Boundary Treatments), 16 (Badger Survey), 22 (SUDs), 25 (Sewage Disposal), 29 (Water Consumption) & 35 (fibre broadband).

**Resolved:** To make no comment on the above proposal as we are satisfied with the findings in the Greenspace Ecological Solutions report.

**21/02195/AS – Land known as Oakleigh, Field West of Oakleigh Farm, High Halden**

Lawful Development Certificate: Existing – pole barn and storage structure for agricultural use.

**Resolved:** No comment.

**21/02212/AS – Moat Farm House, Oak Grove Lane, High Halden**

Demolition of existing domestic garage and erection of single dwelling along with landscape and associated biodiversity enhancements (with part change of use of land from agricultural to residential).

**Resolved:** We do have concerns about over development of this area but we would like to support the applicant who wishes to remain in the village having lived here all her life. We therefore support the application subject to KCC being happy with the access.

**22/00086/AS – Outbuilding at Durrants Court, Ashford Road, High Halden**

Proposed single dwelling with garden, associated parking, landscape and biodiversity enhancements. Including demolition of two existing outbuildings, one with deemed consent as single dwelling under approved application 20/01326/AS.

**Resolved:** No comment.

**Planning applications received after the distribution of the agenda:** None to consider.

**Approvals:**

**21/01572/AS – Land East of Hope House, Ashford Road, High Halden**

Variation of condition 6 on planning permission 19/01768.AS, to vary approved plans to change site layout, footprint of house types and introduction of garages and additional parking, substitution of approved Design & Access Statement for new statement which supports the proposed changes.

**21/02236/AS – New Barn Farm, Ashford Road, High Halden**

Prior Notification for a steel framed building with open front for storage purposes.

**21/01858/AS – Rosehurst, Ashford Road, High Halden**

Replacement front porch.

**21/01732/AS – Hallmark Farm, Ashford Road, St Michaels**

Erection of two storey single side extensions

**21/01854/AS – St Michaels Court, St Michaels, Tenterden**

Erection of 4 bay garage with room above.

**18/00759/CONB/AS – Land to the South of Sicklefield House, Ashford Road, St Michaels**

Discharge of conditions 9 (Construction Management Plan) & 12 (Agricultural Impact Assessment/Tree Protection).

**Refusal:**

**21/01997/AS – Hopes Grove Cottage, Ashford Road, High Halden**

Demolition of existing single storey flat roof element to the rear. Proposed single storey extension reworking and extension of rear dormer, addition of rooflights.

**21/01998/AS – Hopes Grove Cottage, Ashford Road, High Halden**

Demolition of existing single storey flat roof element to the rear. Proposed single storey extension reworking and extension of rear dormer, addition of rooflights; associated internal alterations and reconfiguration.

**21/02171/AS - Land north of, Green Lane, Bethersden, Kent**

Prior notification for the erection of an open sided pole barn for storage of hay.

**Other Planning Matters:**

**21/00927/AS – Land between Bourne House and Summerhill Cottages, Ashford Road**

**Resolved:** To ratify a decision between meetings to submit the following additional response.

Further to Kent Highways letter to Ashford Borough Council, dated 4th January 2021, containing comments about the bus shelter, the Parish Council and many residents strongly oppose this application. Consequently, the Parish Council has no intention of demolishing the shelter to facilitate the application. It is considered to

be a village asset in keeping with the existing village setting. A new, modern shelter would be completely out of place.

**C0/21/00292 – The Stables, Redbrook Street** – An enforcement officer has visited the site following reports that unauthorised building works are taking place. An update is awaited.

**19/00228/AS Herwish, Martens Lane, High Halden**

Lawful Development Certificate: use of wooden shed as dwelling – It was noted that a new date for the hearing has not yet been set.

**21/00811/AS – Herwish, Martens Lane, High Halden**

Erection of 2 x mobile homes, 2 x utility blocks, 2 x caravans and parking for 4 cars (retrospective) – appeal received.

*Cllr. Robinson resumed the Chair*

**175/21 Financial Report**

**175/21-1 To agree payments in accordance with the Budget and note receipts**

**Resolved: That the following payments be made online by Cllrs. Harris and Dawes in accordance with the Budget and receipts.**

**Payments**

<b>Cheque/Transfer</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>£</b>
Transfer	L Goldsmith (January Expenses)	54.56
Transfer	L Goldsmith (January Salary)	461.60
Transfer	HMRC (January) L Goldsmith)	115.20
Transfer	Kent County Council (Church Hill improvements and Gateway)	3,697.28
Transfer	Npower	178.44
Transfer	Mint Fresh (Bus stop cleaning) x2 months	80.50
Transfer	Ashford Borough Council (Annual Grounds Maintenance)	7,458.52
Transfer	Barrie Croucher (Caretaking Services)	34.88
DD	Google Cloud	73.60

**Receipts: None**

**Balances as at 14 February 2022**

**Unity Trust Account: £74,641.73**

**175/21-2 Annual Review of the Risk Register**

The Clerk had circulated a copy of the Risk Register and suggested a couple of amendments.

**Resolved: To adopt the revised Risk Register.**

**176/21 Reports**

**176/21-1 Ward member**

Cllr. Pickering advised that ABC has been successful in bidding for a share of the UK Government's Levelling Up Fund and has been allocated £14.7m. This fund will be used to support the Ashford International Studios / Newtown Works project. ABC is installing 44 electric vehicle charging points in Ashford and 4 in Tenterden this year and has a target of installing 250 in Ashford and 50 in Tenterden. The capacity for the Inland Border Control Centre in Sevington has been increased from 130,000 vehicles to 300,000 and the number of staff needs to be increased from 120 to 200. Staff at ABC are on average working 2 days a week in the office and 3 days from home.

**176/21/-2 Highways**

It was agreed that the Clerk should approach KCC to find out what can be done to improve the accessibility of the footpath near to the BT Box on the village green. KCC has advised the Clerk that they are considering replacing the islands on the A28 with white hatching down the centre of the road to effectively narrow the carriageway. Narrowing the feel of the road and available lane width via hatching is a traffic calming measure widely used and can encourage slower speeds. KCC has explained that the traffic islands are causing operational issues as large vehicles are struggling to pass without striking them causing damage. This creates concerns about their safety and they are considered to be an ongoing maintenance liability. KCC has explained that with the road hopefully being resurfaced next financial year it seems an opportune time to address this

ongoing matter. Members were in agreement that other road safety improvements should be explored before agreeing to the removal of the traffic islands and suggested that topic is discussed at the next Highways Improvements Plan meeting due to be held with KCC in March/April 2022.

**176/21-3 Marketing/projects**

Cllr. Dawes in conjunction with the Clerk has prepared a draft of the next edition of the newsletter. Members thanked Cllr. Dawes and the Clerk for an excellent newsletter. Cllr. Dawes agreed to make some final amendments and to send the final version to the Clerk for circulation and to be placed on the website.

**176/21-4 KALC**

There has been no meeting. The next meeting is expected to take place on the 3 March 2022.

**177/21 Information item:**

**177/21-1 HHVEC update**

The working party is meeting regularly to progress ideas for celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. There will be a beacon lighting event on Thursday 2 June 2022 and a family event in the afternoon of Saturday 4 June followed by an evening event with music on the village green. The working party is also looking to support residents organising their own street parties on Sunday 4 June 2022. KCC has released details on how to apply for a road closure for this date which have been placed on Facebook.

**177/21-2 Consultations:** None to consider.

**178/21 Any other Business:**

The Clerk to find out how the new pelican crossing in Tenterden was funded.

To request at the Highways Improvement Plan meeting for the 30mph speed limit to be extended past Halden Heights.

**179/21 Items for the next Parish Council meeting**

Annual Parish Meeting

**180/21 Date of the next meeting**

**The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 14 March 2022 at 7pm in the Memorial Hall**

The meeting closed at 8.20pm