

HIGH HALDEN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council
held on the 11 October 2021 at 7.00pm in the Memorial Hall

94/21 Present and Apologies

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

In Attendance: Mrs L Goldsmith (Clerk), Cllr. Pickering (Ward Member)
PCSO Laura Langridge and PCSO Ann Martins, 2 members of the public

Apologies:

None received.

95/21 Declarations of Interest:

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

96/21 Minutes of the meeting of the 13 September 2021

Resolved: That the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 13 September 2021 be approved and confirmed as a true record.

97/21 Co-option of a new Parish Councillor

Cllrs. Robinson and Sargent had met with Mr Philip Drury on the 29 September 2021 to discuss his application to become a Parish Councillor. The Chairman proposed that Mr Philip Drury be co-opted to fill a casual vacancy.

Resolved: That Mr Philip Drury be co-opted to fill a casual vacancy.

97/21-2 Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was read out and signed by Cllr Philip Drury and will be forwarded to the Proper Officer of the Council. Cllr. Drury has been issued with a copy of the Standing Orders and Code of Conduct.

The Chairman suggested and it was agreed to take item 100/21-1 next

100/21/1 PCSO's report

PCSO Laura Langridge attended the meeting as the temporary PCSO. Members were delighted to hear that following a conversation with the Clerk last week PCSO Langridge had brought the Hawkeye van up to the village to carry out surveillance in the recreation ground and near to the village green and will continue to do so on a regular basis. PCSO Langridge has also spoken to the culprits of the graffiti at the pavilion. PCSO Langridge agreed to send some photos of the Hawkeye van to the Clerk to be posted on Facebook to advise residents of the new measures being taken by Kent Police to improve safety.

7.04pm PCSO Laura Langridge and PCSO Ann Martins left the meeting

98/21 Matters Arising

98/21-1 – Update on progress with a Speedwatch Scheme

The Clerk reported that the speedwatch volunteers have been out on a regular basis and have been rotating the sites.

98/21-2 – Update on progress with finding land for allotments in the village

The Clerk has written to the Church to see if there is any possibility that the orchard could be used for allotments and is waiting for the PCC to meet to consider this request.

98/21-3 - Update on S106 contributions to community projects

The Clerk is waiting for ABC to advise when the developer at Foxhills is in a position to pay the S106 contributions due. The developer has requested a later payment date due to Covid.

98/21-4 - To consider security arrangements for the sports pavilion

Cllr. Robinson was pleased to report that the culprits responsible for the recent graffiti at the pavilion have been caught red-handed. Members were in agreement not to press charges and the culprits have cleaned the pavilion. The Clerk had discussed security of the pavilion with the PCSO who has advised that signs could be placed in the vicinity of the area stating that the Hawkeye CCTV cameras are in operation.

Resolved: The Clerk to purchase some CCTV signs for the pavilion

99/21 Open Session

- 1) Two members of the public gave Members a heads-up on a planning proposal that is going to be submitted for some works to Beale Farm, Cripple Hill.
- 2) Members noted correspondence received regarding an attempt by the developer to remove the boundary vegetation at the field east of Hope House. Cllr. Robinson advised that the Parish Council had acted quickly and that Enforcement at ABC had been able to stop the works. An Enforcement Case has now been opened reference CO/21/00232 and the site is being monitored.
- 3) Members noted correspondence received regarding a request for the guidelines for installing gates to a property.

100/21/2 Community Warden report: There was no report

101/21 To consider safety improvements as suggested by KCC to Church Hill

Members discussed the recommendations from the Schemes Project Manager at KCC following an analysis of the speed surveys carried out on Church Hill. KCC has concluded that there is a good level of compliance with the 30mph speed limit on Church Hill. The average speed was recorded to be 28.5mph and the 85th percentile speed was 34.3mph. 88% of the traffic is travelling at speeds below 35mph (35mph being the police threshold for enforcement for a 30mph speed limit). Recorded speeds reduce below the average and 85th percentile speeds during the school drop off and collection times, with speeds of below 20mph generally being recorded. KCC has therefore suggested a couple of possibilities for small scale improvements to Church Hill which include adding 'SLOW' road markings next to the school warning signs and combining the village name plate with the 30mph speed limit terminal. KCC has suggested that the village name plate could also do with being replaced and that the Parish Council could also consider adding a white timber effect gate creating more of a village gateway. Regarding the A28, the signing (school warning, bend warning, junction warning, zebra warning) could be rationalised to improve its effectiveness. Members expressed some disappointment with the suggested improvements and that the Parish Council would need to find funding. The Clerk was asked to find out the cost of these improvements and to remind KCC that ABC has a policy and is committed to making roads around schools 20mph zones and whether this could be considered for Church Hill. It was agreed that the Clerk should liaise with Tenterden PC in considering a new boundary signing location. Once confirmed KCC will advise on the different options and costs for the addition of a village gate.

102/21 To agree a location and position for the siting of the memorial bench for Ian Murdoch

Cllr. Sargent suggested that the bench is sited near to the play area on the other side of the stream.

Resolved: To place the bench in the above location and for the Clerk to purchase a fixing kit.

103/21 To consider a proposal to make a donation to the maintenance of the church

Members discussed the condition of the church yard and how much to contribute towards the maintenance.

Resolved: To make a donation of £500 to the maintenance of the church yard. The Clerk to find out how the church would like to receive the payment.

104/21 Planning

Cllr Mrs Pickering assumed the Chair as Planning Portfolio holder.

Planning applications

To discuss any planning applications received:

Planning applications

21/01687/AS – Springbourne Farm, Harris Lane, High Halden

Prior notification for change of use of existing barn and land within its curtilage to form two residential dwellings with associated operational development.

Resolved: No comment.

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

Variation of condition 6 on planning permission 19/01769/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. **Amended Plans submitted**

Resolved: No comment. KCC asked for changes to the garages to conform to ABC SPD standard and LP standards, which the amended plans now incorporate.

21/01601/AS – Little Mead, St Michaels, Tenterden

Proposed single storey infill extension and extension to detached garage building to provide studio/home office.

Resolved: No comment.

21/01454/AS – Duxbury, Church Hill, High Halden

Replacement ground and upper floor windows on front elevation.

Resolved: No comment.

21/00508/CONA - Land rear of Stephendale, Ashford Road, St Michaels

Discharge of condition 7 (landscaping scheme).

Resolved: No comment.

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

Reserved matters application to consider appearance, landscaping, layout, scale and associated works pursuant to outline planning permission 18/00759/AS.

Resolved: The Clerk to request an extension to respond to after the next HHPC meeting in November so that the AIA report on trees and the S106 report can be considered.

Planning applications received after the distribution of the agenda:

21/01725/AS – Belvedere Lodge, St Michaels, Tenterden

Conversion of existing stable building to holiday let use.

Resolved: To support

21/01727/AS – Arundel Oast, Woodchurch Road, High Halden

Replacement garage/carport with associated alterations to the existing driveway.

Resolved: To support subject to certain conditions being met by KCC for driveway.

21/01731/AS – Belvedere Lodge, St Michaels, Tenterden

Prior notification for the change of use of an agricultural building and land within its curtilage to a smaller residential dwelling with associated operational development. **Resolved: To support as we feel the proposal will tidy the whole place and improve the site.**

Approvals:

21/01350/AS – Land rear of Stephendale, Ashford Road, St Michaels

Variation of condition 2 on permission 21/00508/AS. To alter the workshop by adding in a first floor with dormer windows and rooflights to accommodate a home office.

21/01398/AS – Elm Tree Grange, Ashford Road, High Halden

Single storey rear extension, single storey infill extension. Alterations to fenestration at the first floor rear elevation. Erection of a front porch

21/01259/AS – Little Bedgebury Farm, High Halden

Subterranean link building between barn and house. New staircase from house down into link; internal alterations to barn annex to form bedroom suite including fenestration details.

21/01522/AMND/AS – Appletree Cottage & Meadow View, Biddenden Road, High Halden

Non material amendment to planning permission 20/01522/AS.

17/00538/AS – Site Office Precinct 13 Ashford Road, High Halden

Discharge of condition 4 (materials), 5 (design), 8 (parking and turning area), 9 (wheel wash), 12 (temporary works compounds), 14 (details of walls and fences), 15 (sewage), 16 (drainage).

21/00150/TC – Duxbury, Church Hill, High Halden

1 x4 limes – crown thin 30% lift crown on roadside to 5 metres and property side to 4 metres. 2 x4 conifers x 2 Norway Spruce – remove, 3 leyandii (c, l,g) hedge – remove. 4 weeping willows/re-pollard, retain lower crown. 5 x2 Lawson Cypress Gold Var & 1 Atlantic Cedar - remove, 6 x1 Norway Spruce & 1 Leyandii – remove
7. Cherry – dead – remove.

18/00262/AMND/AS – Land between Ransley Oast and Greenside, Ashford Road

Minor amendments to the site layout to improve circulation, fire appliance access, buildability. Revised external materials.

Refusal:

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)

21/01473/AS – Caravan 1, Planesfield, High Halden

Retrospective change of use of land for a gypsy traveller site and the stationing of two static caravans, one touring caravan, the erection of stable block, hardstanding parking and turning areas and installation of subterranean sewerage bio-digester.

21/01477/AS – Caravan 1, Planesfield, High Halden

Removal of condition 2 on planning permission 15/01374/AS. Removal of condition 2 on planning approval 14/00759/AS (change of use of land to use for the stationing of 1no. mobile home and touring caravan for residential use by a gypsy family, hard standing and erection of amenity block) to allow temporary use to become permanent.

Withdrawn: None to consider.

Other Planning Matters:

CO/21/00196 – Meadow View, Ashford Road, High Halden - HHPC is still waiting for a response from ABC as to why the hedge has been removed. Local knowledge suggests that the Building Inspector advised it needed to be removed. It is a condition of the planning permission that the hedge was retained.

17/00538/AS Site office Precinct 13, Ashford Road 21/00973/AS – Greenluck Farm, Harris Lane, High Halden Resolved: The Clerk to write to Ward Member Alan Pickering asking him to investigate why HHPC did not get an answer to their concerns regarding the recent planning proposal for 17/00538/AS and to also chase a response to a letter sent by HHPC regarding planning proposal 21/00973/AS. This is an Ancient Woodland Site and Members remained concerned about the activity on the site and the proposals.

21/00927/AS – Land between Bourne House and Summerhill Cottages, Ashford Road - It was noted that this proposal is likely to be considered by the Planning Committee.

Cllr. Robinson resumed the Chair

105/21 Financial Report

105/21-1 To agree payments in accordance with the Budget and note receipts

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

Payments

Cheque/Transfer	Details	£
Transfer	L Goldsmith (September Expenses)	124.32
Transfer	L Goldsmith (September Salary)	461.40
Transfer	HMRC (August L Goldsmith)	115.40
Transfer	Aspire (man hole cover)	293.24
Transfer	Glasdon (bench)	922.18
Transfer	Npower (Electricity for pavilion)	219.37
Transfer	Mint Fresh (Bus stop cleaning)	60.37
Debit	Service Charge	18.00

Receipts

Details	£
Interest	0.25
Precept (second half)	16,527.00

Balances as at 1 October 2021

Unity Trust Account: £50,819.22

Nat West Business Reserve Account: £30,128.78

88/21-2 Repairs to the playgrounds at Jubilee Park and Hookstead
Members **resolved** to accept a revised quote from Caloo for £1,244.40 (including VAT) for a technician to attend both play areas and carry out some remedial works to the surfaces and equipment. Members also agreed for the old spinners to be removed from outside the play area.

106/21 Reports

106/21-1 Ward member

Ward Member Alan Pickering reported that ABC is proud to be in a position to offer assistance to families from Afghanistan who have been assisting the British Government and our Armed Forces. The first families from Afghanistan have been housed in the Ashford Holiday Inn and ABC is in the process of interviewing them to see if they are able to offer them jobs. Ward Member Alan Pickering was delighted to advise Members that Fibre to the Premises is going to be available in High Halden between 2023 and 2026. ABC remains committed to paying staff above the national minimum wage. ABC has been shortlisted in three categories in the national Engagement Excellence Awards. The submissions relate to the launch of the council's staff intranet and the shortlisted awards are for a) Engagement Team of the Year, b) Most impactful business transformation to support their workforce and c) Most effective employee engagement communications strategy. Ward Member Alan Pickering as Portfolio Holder for Human Resources and Customer Services is going to attend the award ceremony at the Tate Modern on the 4 November 2021.

106/21-2 Highways

The four-way sign village sign and post in Redbrook Lane has been reinstated. The Clerk has asked KCC Highways to investigate the regular occurrence of water on the A28 believed to be coming from the vicinity of Cripple Hill. Cllr. Drury asked the Clerk to report the overgrown hedge between Halden Close and Hookstead.

106/21-3 Marketing/projects

Cllr. Dawes in conjunction with the Clerk will start to prepare the next edition of the newsletter with aim of circulating this in November.

106/21-4 KALC

Cllr. Robinson reported that the minutes of the last KALC meeting confirmed that PCSOs should attend at least four Parish Council meetings a year and if not attending a meeting should provide a monthly report. It was noted that Naber is a neighbourhood watch app that lets you know what's happening in your neighbourhood, communicate with your nextdoor neighbours instantly and stay up to date, alert and safe. The KALC AGM will be held virtually on the 13 November 2021.

107/21 Information item:

107/21-1 HHVEC update

The minutes of the meeting held on the 30 September 2021 have been circulated. A number of events are planned in the run up to Christmas to include a Race Night on the 13 November and a film night on the 5 December in the village hall. A sub-committee has been formed and is looking at ways to celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The Finance Officer is in the process of changing the signatories and contact details on the bank account.

107/21-2 COVID-19 Group

It was suggested and agreed that this agenda item is removed for future meetings.

107/21-3 Consultations

2021 Police and Crime Plan Survey

108/21 Any other Business

The Clerk advised that Aspire is repairing the latch to the playground gate. The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with Aspire to discuss a number of issues on the recreation ground to include repairs needed to the walkways, and rubbish in the ditches.

109/21 Items for the next Parish Council meeting

Nothing additional.

110/21 Date of the next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 8 November 2021 at 7pm in the Memorial Hall

The meeting closed at 8.12pm