

MINUTES OF HORSMONDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL at 7.30 P.M. ON MONDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2014

Present: Cllr March (Chair)
Councillors Cheesman, Stevens, Isaacs, Davis, Stanton and Hughes

In attendance: Lucy Noakes (Clerk)
No public

Declarations of Interest:

Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct were invited. None were declared. Cllr Cheesman declared an interest in item TW/14/504101 planning, and took no part in the discussions or decision making on this item.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Lawrence – unwell.

Cllr Russell – unwell.

2. PUBLIC SESSION:*(Members of the public have the right to speak for up to three minutes at the Chairpersons discretion on issues concerning the Parish providing the Clerk has prior notification).*

None.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting on 6th October 2014 and planning meeting 22nd October 2014

The minutes of the meeting 6th October were presented to the Council as read and proposed for acceptance by the Chair. Carried

The Minutes of the planning committee meeting of 22nd October were presented as read and proposed for acceptance by the Chair. Carried.

4. Matters Arising

Gap in fencing behind the VH

Cllr Isaacs will try and carry out this work as soon as he can.

Water bills

Carried forward to next meeting.

Deposit account with HSBC – money to transfer to Bond

Clerk is chasing the application form.

Computer Courses

It was suggested that in order to allow time for advertising etc, the clerk work towards setting these up for January 2015

Restoration of Milestone on Brenchley Road

The Clerk will be able to obtain a quotation from the Stone restorers once Remembrance Day has passed as they are v busy at present.

5. PLANNING

i)

Planning Application No:	TW/14/503889/FULL
Proposal:	Retrospective - Erection of shed
Location:	The Kestrels Castlemaine Oast Maidstone Road Horsmonden Tonbridge Kent TN12 8HB
Recommendation:	Approval
Proposed:	Cllr Hughes, seconded Cllr Stevens. Carried
Comments:	Addition of a suitable facility.

Planning Application No:	TW/14/503900/FULL
Proposal:	Rear two storey extension
Location:	The Old Sunday School Brick Kiln Lane Horsmonden Tonbridge Kent TN12 8EJ
Recommendation:	Refusal
Proposed:	Cllr Stevens, seconded Cllr Davis. Unanimous.
Comments:	Recommended refusal. Not in keeping with the surrounding buildings which are located on the only approach to an historic church, in a sensitive area and an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty(AONB);especially the west and north elevations. The change from rendered brick to boarding is not sympathetic to the building.

Planning Application No:	TW/14/504101/FULL
Proposal:	Green house
Location:	Remingtons Lamberhurst Road Horsmonden Tonbridge Kent TN12 8LP
Recommendation:	Approval
Proposed:	Cllr Davis, seconded Cllr Hughes. Carried.
Comments:	Acceptable development.

Planning Application No:	TW/14/504129/FULL
Proposal:	Proposed bay window
Location:	Orchard Lodge Spelmonden Road Horsmonden Tonbridge Kent TN12 8EE
Recommendation:	Approval
Proposed:	Cllr Davis, seconded Cllr Isaacs. Unanimous.
Comments:	Acceptable development.

ii) Applications Granted and Refused.

Applications Granted

TW/14/501689 – Southlands, Goudhurst Road

TW/14/501222 – Rectory View, Lewes Heath

TW/14/01609 – Rectory Park, Rectory Park Road

Applications Refused

TW/14/502667/ FULL - Park Lodge – Brick Kiln Lane

TW/14/502672/ LBC - Park Lodge – Brick Kiln Lane

TW/14/502127 /LDCEX – Bassett’s Farm and Land , Maidstone Road

iii) Other planning matters – discussion only

None.

6. PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE

6.1 Parish Council Accounts to 2nd November 2014

The Clerk presented the accounts up to 2nd November 2014, as shown below, to those present.

Cllr March proposed acceptance of the accounts from the Chair. Unanimous

Horsmonden Parish Council Accounts as at 2nd November 2014

	Balances
Current account b/fwd 06.10.2014	£ 47,470.12
Deposit account b/fwd 06.10.2014	£ 60,000.47
Interest received (Deposit Account)	£ -

Item	Ref	Receipts	Payments
Mrs L D Noakes - October salary plus overtime	S/O		£ 910.28
HM Revenue and customs -NI and tax L Noakes	410476		£ 75.62
Mr C Couchman - clock and play area	410477		£ 103.85
Mr S Jones - scavenging	410478		£ 76.90
LPM Bohemia The Tent Co - hire of marquee - deposit	410479		£ 921.38
Viking Direct - stationery	410480		£ 66.04
Horsmonden Villlage Hall - Parish office rent	410481		£ 900.00
SSE Contracting - October street lighting	410482		71.26
Cancellation 401329 arrow locks & Glass (re-issued 401472)	void		-£ 75.00
cancellation 401396 R Stevens(re-issued 401473)	void		-£ 90.00
Monies from Social Club - summer festival		£ 600.00	
Refund of business rates on toilets for 2014		£ 1,224.60	

Current Account as at 02.11.14	£ 46,334.39
Deposit Account as at 02.11.14	£ 60,000.47

TOTAL BANK: £ 106,334.86

6.2 Quotation of Parish Play area equipment and gates

The Clerk had received a quotation from Play dale to install a Big City 1.5m Chain Climb Assembly pod climber at a discounted price of £479.42 instead of £958.83 as well as a quote for a new gate spring at £63.13. The total net cost including fitting and checking totalled £737.55 (Net).It was proposed by Cllr Hughes that the council go ahead with this work using Play dale to supply and fit at the quoted price, and this was seconded by Cllr Isaacs., Unanimous. It was noted that if a second gate spring was needed when Play dale attended the site, the price may increase slightly by the cost of another gate spring.

7 HIGHWAYS AND GROUNDS MAINTENANCE

7.1 Highways issues – footpaths, trees, roads, signs, verges, markings

The Clerk had been asked if the Council required any more salt bags.

It was suggested that Cllr Cheesman could house a bag in Brick Kiln Lane in his yard and that Cllr March could house another at Swigs Hole Farm, Maidstone Road. This way, salt would be housed in strategic positions around the village if it was needed this winter. Cllr Stevens still holds a salt bag which remains unused from last year.

Two stiles were reported as broken: stile near Grovehurst Pond (second one on footpath) and at Hayman's Hill – the stile on the RHS near the top of the road where the footpath enters the fields. Clerk to report to KCC footpaths.

The hedge at Small Bridge Cottages needs cutting back again. Clerk to write.

7.2 Public Rights of Way

The Clerk had established the procedure for registering a PROW with KCC and there was no cost for this. The Clerk must now approach parishioners who are willing to complete a declaration for KCC to claim usage of the cut through between Back Lane and the Village Green for 20 years or more.

The Council were happy for the Clerk to go ahead with this procedure and write to those living either side of the footpath to let them know of the proceedings.

7.3 Street lighting

Nothing to report.

8. ADMINISTRATION

8.1 The Institute – plaque installation, plans for the front of the building, plumbing.

The Clerk had received information from Jan Botten to say that there was another problem with the rafters, tile battern, tilt fillet and lead on the right hand side beneath the clock tower. It was suggested that the Clerk ask Cornford's to take a look at this and deal urgently, as it was feared that water could get into the electrical cupboard if this matter was left unresolved. It was proposed from the Chair that the Clerk be allowed to go ahead with this work, if under £500. Unanimous.

The Clerk had received a quote from Cornford's to install the plaque but was still awaiting a full quotation from other sources. It was suggested that as a first step, the Clerk should ask Cornford's to get their engineer in to carry out the engineers report on installation of the plaque. The Clerk could then get more accurate quotations based on the findings in the report. Proposed by Cllr Hughes and seconded by Cllr Stevens. Unanimous.

The clerk had now received a quotation from Matthew Hobbs regarding the plumbing issues. He had quoted £180 to install a lockable outside tap, and said that it would be slightly more if a tap safe was required (the Council found a tap safe for £40 on the internet which looked suitable). He had omitted to quote on the replacement of the internal stop cock and lever valve, although this was relatively small job.

It was proposed from the Chair that the council ask Mr. Hobbs to go ahead and install an outside tap, with at lever valve inside so that it could be isolated and switched off in the winter to prevent freezing. The council would also require a tap safe with key lock to be fitted so that the tap was vandal proof. At the same time Mr. Hobbs should be asked if he could replace the internal stop cock with a lever valve. Unanimous.

8.2 Computer courses.

It was proposed from the Chair that the clerk pursue a 6 week course with Future Vision PC's commencing in January 2015 and that this be publicised in Parish News, boards etc as soon as possible. The content of the course should be advised upon by Mr Sexon who runs the courses. Unanimous.

8.3 Music Festival 12th -14th June 2015

The Music festival committee had met and the marquee had been quoted for and booked by the clerk.

The programme of events was to run much the same as last year, but it was hoped that rather than providing a hog roast or BBQ on the Saturday evening, various take away vans may be encouraged to come and provide food. It was also hoped that in order to extend the event there could be a pet show on the Sunday afternoon, however the Council would need to look into as Zurich required each pet owner to present their own pet insurance to the council on the day ,which seemed slightly impractical.

8.4 Conservation area map

No developments.

8.5 Village Vision

Under enhancement to the local environment, it was proposed by Cllr Davis that up to £200 be spent on planting in the flower bed outside the loos, which had now been cleared by Dukes. Seconded Cllr Hughes, unanimous.

It had been suggested the Youth shelter could be sited behind the PC Notice board on the Village Green. Clerk to establish the planning situation.

Litter picking – it was requested that the Clerk contact Anthony Farnfield to see how they organise their litter picking in Goudhurst as it is understood that volunteers place the litter in bags which they leave at the side of the road, and then TWBC come and collect these. The litter picking is coordinated to coincide with TWBC coming to empty the bins. Clerk should also investigate insurance as this was an issue in the past.

Speed watch - the training day at Rona Hogan's house had gone ahead successfully and the clerk had now received a signed agreement from Brenchley PC. The equipment had all been in working order at the training session. Rona still has the equipment at present.

8.6 Emergency Planning

Cllr Stanton is in the process of making the alterations as outlined by the last group meeting .The group meet again on 28th November.

8.7 TWBC transfer of discretionary services - civic amenities vehicle

No more information was available as yet.

8.8 Buses to Paddockwood.

A parishioner had emailed the clerk about the lack of buses to and from Paddock wood and had raised the possibility of the Council organising a mini bus service , as this had been suggested a long time ago.

The Council commented that they are trying to stick to the wishes as outlined in Village Vision. The VV plan had outlined the request for more buses to and from Paddock wood and Tunbridge wells.

It was suggested that the Clerk contact Nu Venture buses as they had shown some interest in potentially putting on an extra service to or from Paddock wood, if demand allowed.

Clerk to respond to the parishioner to let them know this.

8.9 Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC) – Invitation to AGM at Ditton on Saturday 22nd November 2014

Cllr Cheesman to attend and report back to the next meeting.

8.10 KALC - Community Awards Scheme.

It was proposed by Cllr Davis that the Council should not enter this new award scheme as they are very happy with the Love Where we Live scheme run by TWBC, seconded Cllr Isaacs. Unanimous.

9. CONSULTATIONS

- 9.1 DCLG – Consultation on Planning and Travellers -**
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-and-travellers-proposed-changes-to-planning-policy-and-guidance> – ends 23rd November.
Cllr Davis proposed that the Council should comment to say that they were in general agreement with the objective of the consultation documentation. Seconded, Cllr Stevens. Unanimous.
- 9.2 Kent County Council - Budget Consultation -** <http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/have-your-say/budget-consultation> - ends 28th November 2014.
The Council decided that they would allow individuals to response to this consultation with their personal comments and that as a Council; they would follow KALC’s guideline response.
- 9.3 Kent Police and Crime Commissioner – feedback on the new local policing model.**
The Council decided that they would allow individuals to response to this consultation with their personal comments and that as a Council; they would follow KALC’s guideline response.
- 10. CORRESPONDENCE/UPDATES**
- 10.1 Chairman’s update (no decisions)**
Nothing else to report back on .
- 10.2 Meetings attended (updates and feedback from meetings attended and held by council members –no decisions)**
No further feedback at present on meetings attended.
Richard Barker, editor of Parish News, had been in contact with regards to providing a free issue of Parish News to all parishioners in order to try and promote the magazine. He would like to try and promote the magazine as more general interest magazine rather than a predominantly church led magazine, which is how some parishioners view it currently. The PC would like to see the magazine better supported but felt that a free copy to everyone could be expensive.
It was suggested that the Clerk should invite the editor to the next PC meeting to give a breakdown of the costs and incomes of the magazine and also to let the Council know how the PCC would feel about the magazine trying to move away from being seen as a church magazine and instead become a more general interest magazine.

The meeting ended at 9.55pm