

HADLOW PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the virtual Zoom meeting of Planning & Environment Committee duly convened and held on
Tuesday 23 February 2021 at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllrs M Harvey (Chairperson), E Bright, N Collins, D Carey, J Massy, R Morley, J Newman, S Richardson.

Also in attendance: M Stepkowski (Parish Clerk – Minute Taker),

3541 To receive apologies, reasons, and approval of absences

Cllr Newman requested her apologies for absence at the next P&E meeting to be approved due to a personal matter. The Committee approved her reason for absence.

TMBC Cllr Anderson apologised as the meeting clashed with a meeting of the Borough Council she was Chairing.

3542 To receive declarations of interests

Cllrs Harvey, Massy & Morley declared an interest in application TM/21/00297/FL as acquaintances of the property owner. They were permitted to give a view but then withdrew from the decision process.

Cllr Newman declared an interest in application TM/21/00085/FL as an acquaintance on the property owner.

3543 To receive an update on progress of resolutions from the last meeting 26 January not on the current agenda.

Minute 3540 Council Facilities –

- Council Staff and Doctors Parking Area: A response had been sent to the owners of Walnut Tree Cottage confirming Borough Planning Department had consented to storage cage as permitted development and no application had been required in addition to the existing shipping container. Drainage on the site was pre-existing and the carpark barriers in situ to protect neighbouring walls and public safety.
- Williams Field Carpark Lights: A response to Hadlow Village Hall Management Committee's request for five years back payment for carpark light electricity bills and CCTV had been sent confirming that the Parish Council acknowledged CCTV ownership and would pay the power costs provided. The cameras were now on a Parish Council owned circuit so all power costs would be sent direct to Council from utility company. With regards to the carpark lights, Council had agreed to modernise and transfer the power lines to the Council circuit and pay ongoing costs.

- COVID Busines Grants – Local Restriction Support Grants; Further to our application for a grant for the 4-week national lockdown period (5 November 2020 to 2 December 2020), we have automatically qualified for further grants in respect of the ongoing closure of the Hy-Arts Centre and Old School Hall due to national restrictions from 5 January 2021 onwards.

These grants are in respect of the Local Restrictions Support Grant (Closed) Addendum: January 5th, 2021 onwards scheme and the Closed Businesses Lockdown Payment Scheme.

The ‘January 5th’ scheme pays an amount for the 42-day qualifying restriction period from 5 January 2021.

The ‘Lockdown Payment’ scheme is a one-off payment for businesses that have been required to close by Government due to the introduction of national restrictions.

A payment (of £95) has been awarded,

Further grants will be automatically awarded subject to guidance from Government regarding the period of national restrictions. If our business is still eligible, we will receive payments as soon as the Borough receives the funding from Government.

- Document Scanning – Minutes from November 1976 to April 2004 have been sent for scanning and storing on USB data storage.
- BT Contract – Cllr Morley had negotiated a new contract with the first 9 months at a 50% discount.
- Safety Checks – Spy Alarms completed 6 months safety checks at Medical Centre with no actions required.
- Staff – all back to working normal hours with both the Clerk and Admin Assistant continuing to work from home on occasion.

3544 New applications, amended applications and plans for comment (List ‘B’s)

- **TM/21/00085/FL** - Construction of stables for private use, plans approved in 2018, this is a re submission to renew consent. Bourne Cottage, Blackmans Lane, Hadlow, TN11 0AX.

HPC does not object to this planning application. However, we would wish to see the same conditions applied again as were attached to the previous planning consent.

- **TM/21/00274/LDP** - Erection of an outdoor swimming pool and new outbuilding in rear garden comprising pool room and changing facilities with associated hard standing around the pool. Style Place, Court Lane, Hadlow, TN11 0JU.

HPC Objects on the grounds that the proposed development is unnecessarily large, and the roof ridge is too high for a property which is in the Green Belt. The proposed pool building will be easily visible to neighbouring properties above the existing fence line.

- **TM/21/00297/FL** - Removal and replacement of existing laurel hedges; construction of an oak framed car port to the west of the existing garage; resurfacing of the entire forecourt between the public footway and the existing courtyard wall; demolition of partial closure of the original stable entrance gate and installation of a new double gate between the original gate piers.

HPC objects to the above application on the grounds that the proposed car port is excessively large in the context of the overall site and the design and size is not compatible with the existing buildings. HPC does not have any objection to the proposed changes to the entrance gates.

3545 Planning applications: results (List D's), out of area/comment & planning enforcements

The planning decisions were noted and the Clerk to enquire as to the exact location of property currently being investigated by enforcement for alleged unauthorised works to a Listed Building.

3546 TMBC & KCC matters:

- Replacement of Bus Shelters in Hadlow – the following response was to be sent to TMBC after receiving details of proposals for the two bus stops in the Village Square.

Hadlow Parish Council objects to the proposal to replace the existing bus shelter(s) in High Street, Hadlow. We believe that both existing shelters are perfectly adequate as they are. More specifically, the proposal to replace the existing shelter servicing southward bound buses would, in our view, be far more dangerous to passengers as they would be too close to the kerb, particularly bearing in mind that cars and delivery vehicles frequently park in the bus waiting area and little is done to address this at the current time. If the proposals were to be amended to move the shelter further away from the kerb to alleviate this, it would also create a dangerous bottleneck between the shelter and the shops behind, which again would be unacceptable and unsafe, particularly for disabled people.

In the event, that a satisfactory and safe solution could be found, however, Hadlow Parish Council would prefer to see a more environmentally friendly version of the shelter(s) installed, possibly including solar panels and a 'green' roof."

- KCC Consultation – Vision Zero; Road Safety Strategy for Kent 2020-26. A brief outline response was drafted, and Cllr Carey would send Cllr Collins any additional or enlightened information attained after attending the Kent Association of Local Councils Zoom conference on the topic.
- Climate Change – some members had viewed the YouTube link attached to the agenda on the Kent 2050 Road to Net Zero Conference held in November. It was an informative conference although perhaps aimed more for Borough/County levels due to limited infrastructure and scope within Parish Councils. However, Climate Change remained an important issue and it was agreed to add the topic to the Annual Parish Meeting agenda and to try and set up a local lead campaign. Areas that could perhaps be considered in the future by Council were replacing Warden’s vehicle with an electric one, electric chargers in Old School Hall carpark/Williams Field, replacement of hall heating with green alternatives, encouraging and educating residents about environment and how small actions can reduce their carbon footprint e.g., turn off car instead of leaving running when idle, turning off lights etc.

3547 Non-planning issues:

- a) Council Facilities – Play inspection Reports: The current contract was due for review and the Clerk was to seek quotes from other play inspection companies for comparison.
- b) Meeting with Crime Commissioner – Cllr Morley was scheduled to be part of Zoom meeting on 4 March with TMBC Cllr Hudson and the Crime Commissioner for a one-to-one discussion on local issues of concern. Councillors had emailed several items to Richard to address at the meeting including anti-social behaviour at both the Medical Centre and Williams Field, littering and speeding.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.22

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 30 March 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom

Signed

Date