

HADLOW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Hadlow Parish Council duly convened and held on
Monday 14 March 2022 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs N Collins (Chairman), O Baldock, E & L Bright, D Carey, M Harvey, J Massy, R Morley, J Newman, S O'Shea,

Also in attendance: Melanie Stepkowski (Clerk & Minute Taker), KCC Cllr Hudson & 2 members

4388 To receive apologies, reason, and approval of absences

Approved Council absences: S Richardson

Other absences: TMBC Sergison

4389 To receive Declarations of Interest

None.

4390 To resolve that the Minutes of 14 February 2022 are a correct record

Resolved to approve the Minutes of 14 February as a correct record. Proposed Cllr Newman seconded Cllr Harvey and carried unanimously.

4391 To resolve that P&E Minutes of 22 February 2022 are a correct record

Resolved to approve the P&E Minutes of 14 February 2022 as a correct record with one amendment under "Present": O Baldwin to be corrected to read O Baldock. Proposed Cllr Baldock, seconded Cllr Newman and carried unanimously.

4392 To receive an update on progress of resolutions from the last meeting held 14/02/22

Minute 4380 Borough Report: Finger Post Signs – Ashes Lane. The wooden signs needed repair and the County Council were offering the Parish the option of a) replacing with metal signs b) the funds in line with the cost of metal signs to the Parish to facilitate wooden sign upgrade on the condition the Parish would then have responsibility for their ongoing upkeep.

As previously agreed, this would be addressed at the March P&E meeting and a written confirmation of Council's decision would be sent to KCC Cllr Hudson and appropriate Highway Officers.

Minute 4383 To consider request from Hadlow Village Hall Management Committee for Bow Top Rail fencing to be installed at the back of the hall.

The Clerk would provide the quote to the Village Hall Management Committee for consideration and keep Council updated on progress.

Minute 4361 (HPC 13/12/21) Baseball – update on planning application for backstop fencing, storage container, agreement.

The Clerk confirmed that the storage container had been ordered and was due for delivery at end of March weather permitting. Payment of the invoice would be due upon its arrival at a cost of c£2400 net.

4393 To receive oral reports from TMBC & KCC Councillors

- The draft Housing Strategy 2022-2027

Members had completed this consultation as private individuals.

- Tonbridge & Malling Active Travel Strategy – Cycle Routes Consultation

RESOLVED to delegate the matter to the March P&E Committee. Proposed Cllr Massy, seconded Cllr Collins and carried unanimously.

In response to a member of the public KCC Cllr Hudson confirmed that all consultations were available once registered on the <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/> site.

KCC Cllr Hudson reported:

“One of the measures announced recently in the KCC Budget was a reduction in the subsidising of bus services currently provided. There is a consultation underway, and I would urge all residents to take the time to take part. Here is the link <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/bus-funding-reductions>

Copies are also available at the local library for those unable to go online.

This is especially true for residents in East Peckham, Golden Green and Kings Hill, as the 208 and the X1/X2 are proposed to be scrapped.

I have started a petition to Save the 208, as many residents have provided compelling evidence for the need to keep it. I hope that you will join me in signing it so that I can present it to Cabinet before the final decision is made. The link is here - <https://www.change.org/p/save-the-208-bus>. Please, please support this! I need to have the villages behind me, as I try my best to save the service.

Plan Tree - Later this year, as part of KCC’s vision for carbon neutrality, I will be given 350 trees each year to allocate to areas within my division. If you would like to discuss this, please email me at sarah.hudson@kent.gov.uk, to register your interest.

KCC has been awarded £1.1m to invest in improving play areas in its country parks. Both Teston Park and Manor Park have been selected locally to receive over £300,000 of funding to provide new play equipment. This work will be completed by the end of May.

The Local Boundary review has published its final warding patterns for TMBC for 2023. Hadlow, Golden Green, Shipbourne and Plaxtol become Bourne Ward, and East Peckham, Mereworth, West Peckham and Watringbury become a 2-member ward.”

It was noted that the Bourne Ward would also become a 2-member ward.

In response to Council's enquiry in February regarding the TMBC Planning Portal, Cllr Hudson had received the following response from planning officer:

"The online maps have been removed and are being reviewed by IT due to a potential security issue. We are checking with them if/when this option is likely to be available again.

With regards to downloading bulk items – from a quick system check, I understand that a number of files can be clicked on and will appear in the downloads list, where they can then be group selected for download. This feature doesn't appear to have changed, but if Hadlow can provide some more specific information then we can look into this..."

Roadside Nature Reserves – Cllr Hudson reminded members that if they wished to put forward the land opposite the entrance to Hadlow College extending along to Blackmans Lane just outside of the village for this project as discussed at February meeting then Council would need to write to local Borough Councillor representatives with the proposal in order that they may support and take the initiative forward to the Communities & Housing Advisory Board.

4394 To receive report from PCSO & Community Warden

No reports but KCC Community Warden Sandra Edmonds had introduced the new Warden Dianne Wakeling at the Annual Parish Meeting and confirmed that within the coming months Dianne would be the East Peckham and Hadlow Parish dedicated Warden five days a week, with herself continuing to serve the area in her new managerial role.

4395 To receive reports from Chairman and Clerk

In response to KCC Cllrs report on subsidised bus services it was agreed that the Parish Council would formally write in support of the 208, 7 and 77 buses which serve the Parish and surrounding community.

4396 Public Time & Parish Matters

Litter at Williams Field: the Council Caretaker confirmed that the area is litter picked three times a week. Black sacks from the Hy-Ars Centre were no longer placed within the TMBC public bins but taken back to the Council offices and disposed of in the euro bins.

New Bus Stop – The Village Square: The new shelter had been installed.

Hadlow Access Trail Clerk confirmed that clearance of the public footpaths is no longer under License to the Parish Council and the "Community Payback Teams" no longer worked with Hadlow Parish. The Clerk would report the need to clear and widen the path to Public Rights of Way but in the interim if time permitted the Clerk will ask the Caretaker to start clearing the path.

Hadlow College (North Kent College) – the Clerk and Borough Councillors had met with the interim Head of the College and a summary report would be provided to Council in due course. It was confirmed that Lambing Weekend would proceed this year, the fruit trees planned for the land along the A26 near Ashes Lane would be planted but the installation of temporary polytunnels was currently on hold. The College wished to engage more with both the Council and local community in the future and keep everyone updated on their plans.

Kent Association of Local Councils Annual Planning Conference – Cllr Newman had attended the online conference and would report back to P&E Committee.

4397 Correspondence

None.

4398 To receive reports from representatives of committees and pass such resolutions thereon as may be necessary:

Finance & General Purposes Committee

a) **To resolve** proposed payments to date

RESOLVED to approve payments to date (*see appendix a*). Proposed Cllr L Bright, seconded Cllr Harvey and carried unanimously.

b) **To approve** March accounts (bank reconciliation, income & expenditure, cost centre report and trial balance)

RESOLVED to approve March accounts in their entirety. Proposed Cllr L Bright, seconded Cllr Collins and carried unanimously.

Planning & Environment

a) **To consider** planning applications as received:

- **21/22/00285/RD** – Workshop at Bourne Mill, Carpenters Lane, Hadlow
HPC Agreed.

4399 KALC (Kent Association of Local Councils) – Cllr Massy reported that no matters addressed were relevant to our Parish.

TMBC Parish Partnership – next meeting 26 May 2022.

Joint Transportation Board – Cllr Morley attend the meeting at which discussions were held on parking, yellow lines but not within our Parish. The speed cameras located on the A26 near Faulkner’s were to be commissioned in the Spring.

He also confirmed that in relation to the new development on Carpenters Lane a footpath and a “Bell” exit would be considered soon.

Joint Standards Committee – No meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.53

Date of next meeting: Monday 11 April 2022, 7.30pm, Old School Hall

Signed

Date

Appendix A

Faster Payments February for HPC March 14 Approval

651	Admin Wages Wk52	600.37
652	Caretaker Wages Wk52	876.82
653	Clerk Wages Wk52	2842.53
654	HMRC PAYE P12	1470.33
655	Screwfix - Inv409&555 - parts for maint repair. keys	70.95
656	Oakland Roofing - Inv34 Rf repair theft (axa claim)	888.00
657	Gel Creative - Inv89 Dec-Feb web admin	400.00
658	KCC - Inv453 id cards,	17.99
659	KCC - Inv836 Xmas lights load test	1062.00
660	Rialtas - Inv184 Asset annl support license	145.20
661	Evans Window cleaning March	55.00
662	Jubilee - Taylor medals	396.00
663	Down to Earth - Inv457 Allot/St Mary tree wk storm	432.00
664	Hadlow Village Hall-inv353 Hall hire power cut	120.00
665	FSL Security - fire alarm batteries power cut	174.00
666	Zest - Inv5114 Feb Hall cleaning hos & hyarts	548.10
667	Wicksteed - Inv897&006 play equip paint	115.68
668	Commercial Svs - Inv4064 grounds maint 21/22 final	2385.72
669	D H Mowers - Grnd fuel equip annl servicing	398.00
670	Screwfix chainsaw PPE - order4581	175.96