

HADLOW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Planning & Environment Committee duly convened and held on Tuesday 24 May 2022 at 7.30pm

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

Also in attendance: Melanie Stepkowski (Minute Taker), Mr Deakin – local resident (late arrival)

3618 Apologies & reasons for absence.

No apologies recorded.

3619 To Elect Chair of Planning & Environment Committee

Cllr Harvey was elected Chair of P&E, proposed Cllr E Bright, seconded Cllr J Massy and carried unanimously.

3620 To agree Committee Terms of Reference

Terms of reference reviewed, and the following amendments/notes made:

- It was noted April and December do not have meetings
- Under Objectives point 5 deleted “To bring to the attention of the Parish Council such applications as may be considered necessary”. Proposed Cllr Harvey, seconded Cllr Baldock and carried unanimously.

3621 To receive declarations of interests.

No declarations noted.

3622 To note Minutes of meeting held on 28 March 2022 (signed HPC 11/4/22)

Noted.

3623 To receive an update on progress of resolutions & matters from the last meeting not on the current agenda

Minute 3613

Parish Emergency Plan – still to be actioned

Seating Areas_- Stolen seat at Williams Field dog area: located and re-installed in concrete.

Minute 3616

Parish Infrastructure Statement: still to be completed.

Minute 3617

St Mary's Churchyard – Yewtree inside main gate & other general tree pruning: ongoing.

Climate Change : Cllr O'Shea and Massy to take over entering of data on Carbon Footprint Calculator

(Hadlow Park Resident: Dean Deakin joined the meeting with Chairs approval)

3624 New applications, amended applications and plans for comment (List B's).

TM/22/0533/FL - The amalgamation of two dwellings (3 and 4 Stallions Green) into one with no.4's front door converted to a window, and the addition of a small single storey extension at the rear of no. 4, and the demolition of an outbuilding of similar dimensions. 3 And 4 Stallions Green High House Lane Hadlow Tonbridge Kent TN11 9RB

[https://publicaccess2.tmbc.gov.uk/online-applications/PLAN/22/00533/FL;](https://publicaccess2.tmbc.gov.uk/online-applications/PLAN/22/00533/FL)

HPC Agreed.

TM/22/00845/FL - Proposed extension and alterations including garage conversion to habitable accommodation. Tithe Ward House Three Elm Lane Golden Green Tonbridge Kent TN11 0BN

<https://publicaccess2.tmbc.gov.uk/online-applications/PLAN/22/00845/FL>

HPC Agreed.

TM/22/00718/FL - First floor side, single storey side and rear extension; modify roof Tsavo 17 Hadlow Park Hadlow Tonbridge Kent TN11 0HY.

[https://publicaccess2.tmbc.gov.uk/online-applications/PLAN/22/00718/FL;](https://publicaccess2.tmbc.gov.uk/online-applications/PLAN/22/00718/FL)

HPC Agreed.

(It was noted that TMBC Planning Department had omitted to place the Planning Application on the planning portal despite other relevant documents being present)

3625 Planning applications: results (List D's), out of area/comment & planning enforcements.

Noted.

3626 TMBC & KCC matters:

- a) UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) – to note and propose possible projects

“..the much-awaited UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) was released by Central Government in April 2022 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-prospectus> .

This fund is part of the Government's response to the Levelling Up White paper that was published earlier this year - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/levelling-up-the-united-kingdom> - and aims to ensure that opportunity is spread more evenly across the United Kingdom.

Whilst Tonbridge & Malling borough is not a top-priority for the 'levelling up' agenda due to the relative affluence of the area, it has been noted by Government that even the most affluent areas still have economic inequalities and communities that face challenges. As a result, in announcing the UKSPF allocations, every area has received an allocation. The minimum allocation for a local authority is £1m for the period up to March 2025, and this is exactly what we have been initially allocated.

Although there is a degree of flexibility with the fund, there are three main investment priorities that the funding could be used for:

- *Communities and Place (including visual improvements to town centres; litter and graffiti reduction; tackling anti-social behaviour and community projects);*
- *Local Business (including support for increasing footfall in town centres, developing visitor and heritage assets, and business growth and innovation support); and*
- *People and Skills (qualifications in skills gaps, addressing barriers to employment, helping with life skills and work experience opportunities).*

As per the requirement from Government, we are in the early stages of pulling together an Investment Plan of project ideas for the £1m funding we have initially been allocated, ahead of the deadline of 01 August 2022. These projects will likely involve a combination of grant schemes for businesses and local organisations, commissioning of initiatives and in-house delivery. If you have any questions about the fund or thoughts on particular themes that you think should be prioritised (bearing in mind the investment priorities highlighted above), then please do get in touch via economic.regeneration@tmbc.gov.uk “.

Cllr Carey suggested that projects under heading “*People and Skills (qualifications in skills gaps, addressing barriers to employment, helping with life skills and work experience opportunities)*” may be considered a priority due to the Parish being rural with lack of employment opportunities and limited public transport. It was proposed to investigate whether any local groups such as the Woodlands & Tree Apprenticeships Scheme would be interested in putting forward a proposal.

b) A26 Closure for resurfacing Hadlow Village Square – tentative timeline of works

KCC would notify local businesses and residents of timetable within a month prior to start of works. Information was also available on their webpage **Can someone please let me know the correct name of their** page. Council would post the information on their social media pages and Councillors would “spread the word”.

Concerns were raised as to the accuracy of the proposed detour routes and the Clerk asked to liaise with KCC on this matter in addition to ensuring they were aware of the underground stream running through the middle of the road.

c) Proposed amalgamation of TMBC planning committees – update

No changes to the existing Area Committee arrangements will be made this year.

3627 Non-planning issues:

- **Policing** – Correspondence and Clerks report after meeting with Inspector Jones

The Clerk had met with Inspector Elizabeth Jones and her colleague Sergeant Jon Turtle to discuss both policing and anti-social behavior issues within the Parish.

Hadlow Parish was currently considered by the police as “low level” crime area whereas other areas within Tonbridge & Malling were “high level” and therefore given priority.

PCSO Vincent remained our local Officer and he continued to tackle local issues but also had a large territory to cover with other areas requiring most of his time due to the higher levels of crime reported.

- **Hadlow Community Rural School** – discuss ways students may participate and support the local community

Taking into consideration the safety of students the following projects were suggested:

- a) Litter picking – to enhance the student’s awareness of their environment.
- b) Access Trail – assisting with vegetation cutting (using hand tools) and clearing of path used by both residents, students and visitors to the area.

- **Netball at Williams Field & Village Hall Fencing** – request to add 3 sets of lines to ballcourt to identify courts for basketball, 5-aside football and netball funded by local netball team. To confirm decision on fencing installation behind Village Hall

The 3 sets of lines to ballcourt to identify courts for basketball, 5-aside football, and netball to be funded the netball team was approved. Proposed Cllr Newman, seconded Cllr Baldock and carried unanimously.

Village Hall Fencing – Tate Fencing quotation for bow top rail fencing around the back of the Village Hall was agreed using S106 application 07/03517/FL. Proposed Cllr Harvey, seconded Cllr E Bright and carried unanimously.

- **ROSPA** – play area inspections reports for consideration and noting

Noted. Thanks were expressed to the Caretaker for his continued work on ensuring the safe

- **St Mary’s Churchyard:** to note new grounds contractor

Recent grass cutting at the churchyard by CP Gardening Services was considered exemplary.

(The Chair explained to Mr Deakin that although he was welcome to attend the meeting and to participate in addressing matters related to Kent Bucs and complaints made about the tournament a motion would be put forward ahead of discussions on the Draft Revised Agreement between the Council and Kent Buccaneers due to aspects being of a private nature. Mr Deakin understood and excused himself at the appropriate time).

- **Baseball** – to discuss concerns raised after Kent Buccaneer’s May Tournament & review of Agreement

Members were updated on meeting between Hadlow Parish Council and Kent Buccaneers (Kent Bucs) to discuss residents’ complaints regarding the recent tournament and to consider the draft revised Baseball Agreement.

Present at the meeting: Cllr’s Collins & Harvey, Clerk, Chair of Kent Bucs Mr C Carter and two other representatives.

There had been three complaints raised with Council with one being in writing. Cllr Harvey made clear that there had been strong objections to noise, language, and urinating in the bushes by a player and such behaviour was unacceptable. It was agreed to resolve such issues by incorporating them into the Kent Bucs Briefing at the beginning of each game/practice/tournament. The revised Agreement also reflected changes to strengthen the agreement in relation to these issues making it clear that the Kent Bucs were responsible not only for the facilities but all those participating or spectating.

Cllr Harvey went on to confirm that Kent Bucs had been invoiced £300 for use of Hy-Arts Centre and that additional charges for the storage container and grounds would be included for the next season. Clerk to liaise with Kent Bucs Treasurer.

Mr Deakin then expressed his views to members, asking that Tournaments not be allowed over three days/bank holidays and limited. He did not object to baseball but wished to see the bookings reduced. The schedule was viewed by members and confirmed that there was only one tournament this season on a bank holiday (that was the April/May) and that the other is over one weekend. There could be no changes to this year’s schedule, there were also several Sundays in which there was no play. Further discussion regarding next years schedule would be discussed with Kent Bucs taking into consideration those concerns raised by two residents.

As to the residents concerns that the field was unavailable to other users due to the number of baseball bookings, Cllr Harvey re-stated that it was a recreational ground to be used for sporting activities, and that the dog walking area and other play areas remained accessible to the public whilst games were being played. Williams Field was no different to other recreation grounds where sports such as cricket, football utilized the field.

In regard to the parking at the recent tournament it was recognized that this was exceptional circumstances due to the Panto being held in conjunction with the tournament.

At this point in the meeting Cllr Carey proposed a **Motion to Exclude the Press and Public** (to enable Council to consider any items on the agenda in which significant aspects will be of a confidential and financial nature)

The revised draft agreement with Kent Buccaneers was then debated. Due to lateness of meeting and the need for further information the matter was deferred.

- **Dandara** – report on the briefing held at Village Hall 23/5/22 regarding planning proposals at Court Lane

Most Councillors attended the briefing in addition to Borough Councillors. It was noted that planning application would be forthcoming. However, Members were disappointed to see that the current plans did not include items such as Heat Source Pumps, Solar Panels and other environmentally friendly utilities. Concerns were also raised as to Traffic management during construction and post completion.

- **Queen’s Jubilee** – Update on plans for The Big Jubilee Lunch (Picnic in the Park)

The Clerk updated Members on plans to date noting that the Hog Roast contractor had withdrawn and another one not sourced to date, however it was “Picnic in the Park” so it was hoped a majority of attendees would have brought sufficient food. The Beer Tent, Ice cream Van, Bouncy Castles, singer, Footsteps performers and other games had been organised. The Clerk required volunteers to assist with set up, running the games and clean up to which several Members volunteered.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22.02

Date of next meeting Tuesday 28/6/22 2022 at 7.30pm, location Parish Office

Signed M Harvey

Dated 13/6/2022