

HADLOW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Hadlow Parish Council duly convened and held on
Monday 12 June 2023 at 7.30pm

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

Also in attendance: M Stepkowski (Clerk & Minute Taker), KCC Cllr S Hudson, TMBC Cllrs J Lark & S Crisp, D Deacon & K Flux (representatives of Hadlow Park Residents Association), & 1 resident.

4579 To receive apologies, reason, and approval of absences

Approved Council absences: None.

4580 To receive Declarations of Interest

None.

4581 To resolve HPC Minutes of 11 May 2023 are a correct record

Resolved: Minutes for resolution of 11/05/2023 were incorrectly posted on the agenda as 12/06/2023 and Clerk to correct. Proposed Cllr Newman, seconded Cllr Collins and carried.

Resolved to approve the Minutes of 11 May as a correct record subject to inclusion of Cllr J Newman as additional representative to TMBC Parish Partnership Panel (PPP). Proposed Cllr Baldock, seconded Cllr Bright and carried unanimously.

4582 To receive an update on progress of resolutions from the last meeting held 11/05/23

No updates.

4583 To resolve P&E Minutes of 23/05/2023 are a correct record

Resolved to approve the P&E Minutes of 23/05/2023 are a correct record. Proposed Cllr Baldock, seconded Cllr Bright and carried unanimously.

4584 To receive oral reports from TMBC & KCC Councillors

TMBC Cllr Lark reported:

- (i) TM/20/00023/USEH - Laxton Farm appeal to be heard 27 June 2023. Noted.
- (ii) Plots of the corner of Common Road and the A26 – Cllr Lark had liaised with TMBC Enforcement Officer for update as investigations into the development had been ongoing for an extended period. Noted.
- (iii) Fly tipping – Commercial fly tipping was on the increase with contractor/removal contractor waste being dumped on several Parish locations some of which had been asbestos sheets which had led to a road closure and specialist removal all at considerable cost to the taxpayer. Cllr Lark had asked the relevant Cabinet Minister to consider movable CCTV cameras in the areas known to be vulnerable to fly tipping.

Cllr Hudson reminded everyone:

The “Big Weekend” event was being held on 24-25 June and Kent residents were being given the opportunity to visit some of the County’s top attractions for free. During this period all bus services running in Kent and Medway would be free of charge. The buses were to be free from the morning until 8pm on both the Saturday and Sunday.

Residents’ concerns that Cllr Hudson was currently addressing included:

Bus Stop lighting – Hadlow College request for lighting at a bus stop; The Cabinet member for Highways and Transport had considered the request and at the current time it seemed no action to install a light would be forthcoming. Further discussions were intended, and it had been suggested the matter be included in the Parish Council Highways Improvement Plan which was yet to be developed.

Ashes Lane – request for No HGV signage: this had been investigated and it was not approved as other linking roads within the proximity of Ashes Lane already had HGV restrictions and it was important that HGV accessibility was maintained for farms and other commercial business within the area.

A26 – Cemetery Lane Traffic Calming – the beacon had been consistently hit and was therefore not to be replaced as not a legal requirement.

Speed Reduction Carpenters Lane near Hope Farm and new development (Fairfield Close): Highways investigations had resulted in no further action being taken to reduce the speed to 30mph; however, it had been suggested that it could be considered under Parish Council Highways Plan if after consultation it had Council support and funding. Cllr Harvey reminded the meeting that the Parish Council had requested an extension of the 30 mph speed limit area within its response to the development planning application but had been unsuccessful.

4585 To receive report from PCSO & Community Warden

No report.

4586 Public Time & Parish Matters

No report.

4587 Public Time & Parish Matters

The 2 Brewers Public House - Cllr Newman had contacted the brewery who had confirmed they intended to keep the pub open at the current time and were seeking new landlords.

Southeast Water – notifications had been received requesting residents preserve water supplies at the current time. Further information was available on their website. This reminded members that they had tried to access bulk buy water butts through the water company but had received no response. TMBC Cllr Crisp said the water restrictions were a matter to be discussed at the Climate Change meeting being held that Wednesday.

Public Rights of Way and College Safeguarding – the College continued to take its safeguarding position very seriously and stopped a resident from deviating from the official public rights of way path. However, this had raised concerns as to establishing correct definitive maps and required further discussion including looking at making access on the Victoria Road end of the Access Trail part of Public Rights of Way. The matter to be addressed by P&E Committee.

4588 Correspondence

Baseball: Concerns were raised by two residents of Hadlow Park. They argued that :

- Too many games being played particularly on a weekend (no issues with the Wednesday & Thursday games and practices)
- Tournaments were too long and extended over bank holidays.
- Tournaments should be reduced in hours to possibly 11am to 5pm.
- Noise levels too intrusive and too high.
- Success of the team could possibly lead to further teams and games.
- Fencing and equipment bought with local taxpayer's money without consultation.
- Baseball limited use of the field to others particularly dog walkers
- Council not interested in their complaints.

Council addressed their issues confirming that they had only received minimal complaints however took everyone's concerns seriously:

- Agreement in place and Council encouraged sporting activities, however the Agreement with Kent Bucs stated only two tournaments a year – to date Kent Bucs had complied.
- The current agreement was until 2027 and as Kent Bucs were part of a league it would be difficult at this stage to reduce the hours or frequency of play.
- Noise levels – a Councillor had been present for two hours on the Monday of the last tournament and no music or loud noise was noted; however, after speaking with the Hadlow Park Residents Association Secretary it had been agreed that in future Hadlow Park residents would record noise levels as Council could only address this alleged issue if evidence was provided.
- Additional teams and play – Council encouraged sporting activities and wished the facilities to be used by as many groups as possible but recognised additional days may require further discussions.
- Sport England funding had provided the fencing and part of the equipment with the Kent Bucs fund raising for the balance. Council addressed the baseball installation etc. at a full Council meeting to which public are always free to attend.
- Limiting use to the public – it was felt that the “dog only field” and public walking area around the field remained accessible to the public at large despite the baseball.
- All complaints are addressed and investigated. The residents were reminded that their previous concerns about Kent Bucs request for installation of dug outs and floodlights had been seriously considered at Council meetings and both items denied.

4589 To receive reports from representatives of committees and pass such resolutions thereon as may be necessary:

Finance & General Purposes Committee

a) To approve payments to date via cheque/faster payment

Resolved to approve payments made in May 2023 with those after that month being deferred until the next Council meeting. Proposed Cllr Harvey, seconded Cllr Bright and carried unanimously.

- b) **To approve May accounts** including bank reconciliation, income & expenditure, cost centre report, and trial balance.

Resolved to approve May accounts in their entirety. Proposed Cllr Harvey, seconded Cllr Bright and carried unanimously.

Planning & Environment Committee

(a) Planning Applications

- **TM/23/01037/FL** - Subdivision back into two dwellings, addition of front porch to both properties, single storey rear extension to both properties, rear dormer to both properties. 3 Bell Cottages Three Elm Lane Golden Green Tonbridge Kent TN11 0BB.
HPC noted.
- **TM/23/00910/FL** - Change of use of existing barn to dwellinghouse incorporating extension and associated landscaping, biodiversity enhancements and operational development (Revision to TM/22/01063/FL). Three Oak Cottage High House Lane Hadlow Tonbridge Kent TN11 9RD.
HPC no objection.
- **TM/23/00919/LB** - Listed Building Application: Installation of stair lift on two short flights of staircase. James House Maidstone Road Hadlow Tonbridge Kent TN11 0HP.
HPC no objection.

- (b) **To note:** appeal TM/20/00023/USEH – Land West of Laxton Farm, Common Road, Hadlow. Noted.

- (c) **To note:** recent TMBC planning decisions. Noted.

- (d) **To consider** purchase of new bins at Cemetery and Signpost Field

Resolved to purchase new bins for Cemetery and Signpost Field. Proposed Cllr E Bright, seconded Cllr Collins and carried.

Staffing Committee

To appoint the Committee/Chair and approve Terms of Reference

Resolved to appoint Cllr Collins, Harvey, Newman & O’Shea to Staffing Committee. Proposed Cllr Bright, seconded Cllr Baldock and carried unanimously.

Resolved to appoint the Chair of Staffing Committee at their next meeting. Proposed Cllr Collins, seconded Harvey and carried unanimously.

Resolved to approve Staffing Terms of Reference. Proposed Cllr Collins, seconded Cllr Newman and carried unanimously.

4590 To receive reports from representatives of external committees and pass such resolutions thereon as may be necessary.

- KALC – No report
- TMBC Parish Partnership Panel – meets on Thursday.
- TMBC Joint Transportation Board – Hadlow Parking Plan Review was discussed, and explanations provided as to why on a couple of roads to which Hadlow Council had requested the yellow lines be reduced the request had been declined due to regulations on corner protection measurements and standard protection. The re-instatement of the Disability Bay outside Pound House was now part of the plan. Further consultation on the Parking Plan Review was to be forthcoming and the Clerk asked to add these consultations to Council social media once available.

4591 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)

- a) **To consider** negotiations & contract costs related to updating asset registration: Parish Council Freehold allotments.

Resolved to approve quotation for definitive drawing of Freehold Plots in the sum of £1700. Proposed Cllr Baldock, seconded Cllr Massy and carried.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.49

Date of next meeting: Monday 10 July 2023, 7.30pm at Old School Hall

Signed

Date

Appendix a

Paid May HPC Approval

	£
KCS - CSG Inv514 Stationary + clean products	263.02
Post Office - Db Cd Stamps	13.80
Amazon - DB Cd Diaries 2024	13.98
Tekton - Final Payment Hyarts Toilet Refurb	2,556.12
Mason Carey - Inv863 Stage 3 Hy-Arts Project Toilets	900.00
4th Platform - Inv75/89/04/13/IT contract costs	740.69
Amazon - DB Cd Bungie cords for bins at cemetery	17.98
Three Elm Petrol Station - Diesel Minibus CA65	28.99
Three Elm Petrol Station - Diesel Minibus DK19 APU	60.00
Amazon - Fire alarm keys - spare	10.17
SETyres - CA65 2 new front tyres (Debit Card)	264.00
Clerk Pay Wk12	2,585.74
D Clerk Pay Wk12	1,622.17
Commercial Service - Inv5606 Grounds Mnt	2,343.48
Rialtas - Inv30504 year end alpha+Inv213 Annl Support	1,271.67
FlashMobile - MC Gate Repair Inv7862	270.00
Texton - Inv 122304 Kitchen Refurb	7,786.78
Gel Creative - web Inv21806 Marc-May	500.00
Involve Kent - Refund overpayment	95.00
CSG Global - Stationery and Cleaning Prod Inv562	75.35