

HADLOW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Planning & Environment Committee duly convened and held on Tuesday 22 August 2023

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

Also in attendance: Melanie Stepkowski (Minute Taker), TMBC Cllr J Lark

3714 Apologies & reasons for absence

Approved absences: Cllr E Bright, KCC Cllr Hudson, TMBC Cllr Crisp

3715 To receive declarations of interests.

Cllr Massy declared an interest in matters related to allotments.

3716 To receive an update on progress of resolutions & matters from the last meeting not on current agenda.

There were no progressions to discuss.

3717 TMBC & KCC Matters

In the absence of Cllr Crisp the following was read:

Proposed Cycle Path Between Hadlow and Tonbridge

The new cycle Path between Hadlow and Tonbridge is ongoing. Last week S Bullion and I together with two KCC Highways officers walked the proposed route ending up at Haywards farm shop which seemed positive depending on a few legalities.

There is a traffic counting line across the A26 road to Tonbridge at the moment which will give us the numbers of cars, lorries and cycles that use the road on a daily basis. Hopefully at the next meeting I can give you a further update.

TMBC Local Plan: the following update had been received by the TMBC Planning Policy Manager:

Last Autumn Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council (TMBC) conducted a consultation into its Local Plan, which sets the long term vision for development in the borough until 2040. We were pleased to receive an excellent response to the consultation with over 4,000 responses received.

Each of these responses has been analysed in full and results available on the Borough website. They have been published for members of TMBCs Housing and Planning Scrutiny Select Committee, whose members will consider them at their meeting on Tuesday, 18 July 2023. We will also shortly be communicating with individuals on our consultation database and all respondents either by email or letter to let them know their unique ID number so they can review the council's response within the above papers.

You may also be interested in an update to the local plan programme (known as the Local Development Scheme, or LDS) which is available on the website under Agenda for Cabinet.

3718 New applications, amended applications and plans for comment (List B's)

- **TM/ TM/23/01627/LRD** - Court House 2 Hadlow Castle High Street Hadlow Tonbridge Kent TN11 0EG. Details of Condition 5 -(Insulation) Condition 6 -(Joinery) Condition 7 - (Joinery) pursuant to Planning permission 23/00734/LB Listed Building Application: Change external windows and doors, replace weatherboarded panels to elevations, electrical re-wire, internal changes to create new ensuite bathroom and altered cloak room, thermal upgrade to one room and secondary glazing to Lancet windows.
HPC Noted.

- **TM/23/01441/LB** North Frith North Frith Park Hadlow Tonbridge Kent Listed Building Application: Removal of bees from x3 chimney stacks on North Frith House within the North Frith Park Estate
HPC no objection.

- **TM/23/01497/LB** – Installation of a stair lift between ground and first floor of dwelling. Spring House, Tonbridge Road, Hadlow, TN110DZ
P&E July agreed that the Clerk should use Delegated Powers and agree to the application and note it at the next meeting. **Noted.**

3719 Planning applications: results (List D's), out of area/comment & planning enforcements

Land West Of Laxton Farm Common Road Hadlow Tonbridge Kent- Appeal approved and noted.

Other planning decisions and enforcements were noted and available on the Borough Planning site.

3720 Non-planning issues:

- a) **Street Lighting** – Parish Council owned street lighting Lonewood Way
Members reviewed the ever-increasing power and maintenance costs related to this one light and whether it was commensurate.
A verbal risk assessment was completed considering the following:
 - accident and crime statistics: Council were not aware of any accidents or criminal activity, but the Clerk would liaise with the Police before any further action taken to verify the position.
 - crime or road safety: There was a streetlight on the A26 junction with Lonewood way therefore junction was visible at night.

RESOLVED: To instruct the power company to cut the power to the light. Proposed Cllr Baldock, seconded Cllr Collins and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED: If in the next six months there was a reduction in road safety or increased crime then Council would consider whether or not to reinstate the light if no such issues identified then the light to be permanently removed. Proposed Cllr Baldock, seconded Cllr Collins and carried unanimously.

Clerk to notify the residents in Lonewood Way of the Council decisions.

- b) **Hall Insurance – Hadlow Seniors Pop In Club:** The Clerk has received confirmation from Council insurers that the clubs activity within the Old School Hall qualified for cover under the Council public liability insurance.
Members agreed and noted the matter.
- c) **Boiler Maintenance** - HOS, Medical Centre, Golden Green Mission Hall and Hy-Arts Centre had received annual safety inspection and certification received.
- d) **Boiler Repairs** - Maintenance works at the Hy-Arts Centre and Golden Green Mission Hall had been completed.
- e) **Tree Inspection Report** – report still awaited but minor works verbally reported to Clerk and Down to Earth scheduled to quote for such works upon receipt of report. **Noted.**
- f) **Allotments** – Clerk had received a report of youths in the allotments on the A26 and some produce being destroyed. Members asked to consider whether more secure gate systems should be installed. It was agreed that although such events were sole destroying for the tenants, they remained a rare occurrence throughout the growing season.
RESOLVED not to alter the current entrance gates but to monitor the position carefully and reconsider if necessary.
- g) **Access Trail** – the missing green bench was located on the Access Trail Victoria Road end and would be secured once the new Caretaker was in position. The wood bench on the field commonly known as the “Cow field” had been totally removed; Clerk to ask Hadlow College to consider replacement.
- h) **2024-25 Budget** – Councillor’s to put forward suggestions. Members asked to consider any future projects in preparation for the 2024-25 Budget and report at the next full Council meeting.
- i) **Christmas Lights** –Increasing costs for inspections of lampposts ahead of any motif attachment, installation and take down costs etc was increasing every year. The number of lights considered appropriate for the existing xmas motifs was decreasing and members asked to consider whether it was still viable to install the xmas motifs and or whether pea lights strung around the columns would in the future be a suitable solution as no column inspections are currently required by KCC for such displays and installation costs would probably reduce in addition to having a consistent display without gaps.
It was agreed that this may be the best way forward and Members would consider the matter further once costs, display layout for this year were available.
- j) **Freehold Acad Mapping** – The Parish Council had commissioned and received a comprehensive map showing the demarcation between Council owned land and others. The minor deviations marking the boundaries was considered minimal and no further action to be taken at the current time.

The new plantation of Leylandi planted by neighbouring landowner and bordering Council land would be monitored and any roots extending onto Council land would be cut back as part of a housekeeping regime.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.38
Date of next meeting Tuesday 26 September 2023 at 7.30pm, location Parish Office

Signed

Dated