

HADLOW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Planning & Environment Committee duly convened and held on Tuesday 5 December 2023

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

Also in attendance: Melanie Stepkowski (Minute Taker), TMBC Cllr's J Lark & S Crisp

3729 Apologies & reasons for absence

Approved absences: KCC Cllr Hudson.

3730 To receive declarations of interests.

None.

3731 To receive an update on progress of resolutions & matters from the last meeting not on current agenda.

There were no progressions to discuss.

3732 TMBC & KCC Matters

Cllr Lark reported:

TMBC Agile System - that frustration continued over the access issues due to formatting problems within the new TMBC Agile system particularly with planning.

TMBC Chief Executive; retires during December and protocol in place to consider replacement for the role. The Monitoring Officer would stand in on a temporary basis.

Cllr Crisp reported:

Solar Panels: He had attended a meeting with some local Parishes to look at revenue opportunities for solar panelling on both Parish and residential homes with a long-term payment scheme. He would keep members updated on any progress.

Cycle Path: negotiations continued regarding the proposed cycle path between Hadlow and Tonbridge. There had been a set back as North Kent College who had originally been supportive had allegedly declined permission for access on its land adjoining Blackmans Lane explaining they were concerned about fly tipping and lack of lighting.

Two Brewers Pub: the building remained closed with no new tenant.

3733 Consultations

- a) Kent & Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy: Cllr Carey reported that he had been asked to sit on the panel which would be considering how to meet targets to stop decline of local nature and support its recovery. Cllr Carey will complete the consultation on behalf of Hadlow Parish Council.

- b) On and Off-Street Parking Restrictions – changes to parking restrictions in the Borough of Tonbridge & Malling. The matter was noted.
- c) New Draft Kent Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2024-2034. The draft strategy sets out how local flood risk will be managed in the county by the risk management authorities involved. Cllr Collins responded on behalf of Hadlow Parish Council. Copy to be saved on Council file.

3734 New applications, amended applications and plans for comment (List B's)

- **23/03027:** 21 Medway View, Hadlow. Two storey rear extension.
HPC has no objections to the application provided any window potentially overlooking the neighbour is obscured.
- **23/03313:** Old School House, Oxenhoath Road, Hadlow, TN11 9SS. Remove mature cherry tree (in decline) centre of garden. Remove large evergreen tree close to boundary fence behind house, overwhelming garden.
HPC has no objection.
- **01474/FL/FLMAJ:** Land Formerly West Part of Court Lane Nurseries, Court Lane, Hadlow, Tonbridge, Kent.
HPC original comments still stood, and copies once again forwarded to TMBC for their records.

(It was noted that KCC Highways were now reviewing the amended plans to comment)

3735 Planning applications: results (List D's), out of area/comment & planning enforcements
Noted.

3736 Non-planning issues:

- a) Grounds Maintenance – As of January 2024 CP Gardening Services would be contracted to complete grounds maintenance at St Mary's closed churchyard in addition to assisting the newly set up Hadlow Allotment Association members with grass cutting at the allotments on the A26. This would reduce grounds costs in both areas for the coming year.
- b) Allotment Garage – Hadlow Amateur Dramatics Society gifted the garage on the allotments on the A26 to the Parish Council. It had been agreed that the Hadlow Allotment Association would work alongside the Clerk to complete any necessary repairs ahead of its use by their members. However, it had been noted that the garage roof may contain AsebstosLuxe and therefore further investigations were underway before Council could permit volunteers to work on the building. The Clerk would notify immediately the volunteers involved in the project.
- c) Xmas Lights – The Pea Lights have been installed in the Old School Hall Carpark for public comment. It was agreed that they may look better looped around the whole column rather than just the top and this would be noted for next year. In general, both the lights and especially the Christmas Tree had been warmly received by residents.

- d) Senior Christmas Lunch – A fabulous response has been received and the list is now full. Funding from the Kent County Councillor’s Members Fund had been approved and an expression of thanks to KCC Cllr Hudson for her support. The lunch was an opportunity for older residents to socialize in addition to helping to tackle isolation and loneliness within the rural community.

The Parish Council to ratify the donation of £200 (two hundred pounds) to the purchase of goods for the Senior Christmas Lunch.

Resolved to ratify a donation of £200 toward the cost of purchases for the Senior Christmas Lunch 2023. Proposed Cllr Harvey, seconded Cllr Baldock and carried unanimously.

- e) Winter Programme – KCC had kindly provided free of charge a large bag of pure salt to use on Parish Council owned land during the winter season. All the salt bins had been filled. It was noted that signage would be put up on those areas that had previously been cleared of snow by the Council led voluntary snow clearance team confirming the scheme was not in operation this winter.
- f) Cemetery Extension – An artist’s impression of the new cemetery area ashes and memorial garden was to be completed as part of the initial design process. The project will be moved forward in the New Year.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.44.

Date of next meeting Tuesday 23 January 2024 at 8pm, location Old School Hall

Signed

Dated