

HADLOW PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Hadlow Parish Council duly convened and held on
Monday 12 February 2024 at 7.30pm

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

Also in attendance: J Moss (Deputy Clerk & Minute Taker), TMBC Cllrs Lark and Crisp, Hadlow Park Residents Association Representatives K Rowe and B Rowe, members of the public were also in attendance.

4675 To receive apologies, reason, and approval of absences.

Approved Council absences: Cllr J Massey

Other Apologies received: KCC Cllr Hudson

4676 To receive Declarations of Interest and confirm Declaration of Acceptance of Office

None

4677 To resolve HPC Minutes of 8 January 2024 are a correct record.

Resolved to approve the HPC Minutes of 8 January 2024 as a correct record. Proposed Cllr O'Shea, seconded Cllr Harvey and carried unanimously.

To resolve the P&E (Planning & Environment Committee Meeting Minutes of 23 January 2024 as a correct record.

Resolved to approve the P&E Minutes of 23 January 2024 as a correct record. Proposed Cllr Harvey, seconded Cllr Bright and carried unanimously.

4678 To receive an update on progress of resolutions from the last meeting held 08/01/2024

No matters addressed.

4679 To receive oral reports from TMBC & KCC Councillors

TMBC: Cllr Crisp advised he has been invited to attend a Community Energy Parliamentary Group meeting on 27th February 2024.

TMBC: Cllr Lark reported that work continues to complete the tailoring of the AGILE system to suit the needs of TMBC and their users.

(HPC: Cllr Newman advised she and other councillors had attended a meeting of the Parish Partnership Panel given over to the Agile system and feels that although this is still a work in progress there is now a better understanding of how the system works.)

KCC Expenditure: The Chair reported on issues raised in an email from KCC Cllr: Sarah Hudson regarding high KCC expenditure. “Adults and Children’s services are the highest spending departments covering some 75% of the budget. The fastest growing area is Home to School Transport of children with special educational needs. The budget meeting takes place next Monday, but there will have to be some big policy changes in 2025 – school bus passes – known as the Kent Travel saver, libraries, basically every discretionary service is under review. The current levels (and the only trajectory is upwards) are unsustainable.”

Fly Tipping Issues: TMBC Cllr Lark advised that due to increased issues with littering and fly tipping, council have increased the amount payable in fines from offenders. Most common offenders appear to be commercial companies. TMBC mobile cameras are still in use and can be placed at any hotspots.

4680 To receive report from Police & Community Warden

No reports received.

4681 To Receive Clerk & Chairman’s report.

The Chair confirmed the resignation of Mr John Kennett; the co-option vacancy had been published. Cllr Collins expressed his thanks to Mr Kennett.

4682 Public Time & Parish Matters

a) Cycle Path A26 Hadlow to Tonbridge Update:

Cllr Crisp advised that clearing had started on a section of the cycle path. Further clearing would be required by a digger before the whole of the A26 section would become accessible. Awaiting decision on the cycle path proposal funding – due March 2024.

b) Changes to BT telephone network:

Cllr Collins raised concerns that many elderly and vulnerable people could be affected by the installation of the new network, particularly those relying on medical alarms which may not work after the installation. Currently there doesn’t appear to be much clarity regarding support or assistance for vulnerable people. A matter for future review.

c) Making Space for Nature:

Councillor Carey attended a workshop on the 8th of February on the implications of Making Space for Nature (MS4N) in Kent, this region's Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), part of the current national attempt to restore the natural environment in England. Further details available in Appendix B below.

d) **Memorial Bench:** request to place memorial bench at Williams Field in memory of a resident who passed away last year. Funds for the bench would be raised by friends. Concerns were voiced that there are already issues with vandalism of the bench currently at Williams Field and that another bench would receive the same vandalism. Deputy Clerk will speak with the family of the deceased regarding the issues and propose placing the bench in view of CCTV cameras or potentially erecting the bench in the cemetery. The family will need to be aware that the bench and its upkeep would be the responsibility of the family and not the council.

e) **Signage to Village Hall:** Cllr Collins has received a request for better signage to the Village Hall to make it easier for users to find the facilities. Cllr Collins has since noted that there are currently adequate signs along the route and no further action is necessary.

4683 Correspondence

- a) **To resolve:** Down To Earth Quote as discussed in P&E Meeting 23/01/24 – costings.

RESOLVED to approve the followings parts of quote R20948 for works at St Mary’s Churchyard with the option for the Church to either accept the balance of works which were not considered to be a matter of health and safety but aesthetics.

- 1) T1 to T3 £220 (2 x English Yew on southern side of the building & Irish Yew on north side of the building pruning))
- 2) G1 £220 (Mixed species, mainly English Yew on the southern boundary wall (pruning))
- 3) Option B £40 (T4 Weeping Ash, on eastern side of the church remove deadwood as necessary.
- 4) Herbicide treatment for Church Wall and Footpath (Part of cost £210.
Note: the balance of the herbicide costing was for the Church to consider and act upon.

Proposed Cllr Carey seconded Cllr Bright and carried unanimously.

RESOLVED to approve quote RF20949 Tree works Old School Hall Carpark in its entirety at a cost of £200 net.

Proposed Cllr Carey seconded Cllr Bright and carried unanimously.

4684 Request from The Hurricanes baseball team to use the baseball facilities at Williams Field

The request was considered by Council. Concerns were expressed that one individual prominent in the development of The Hurricanes had proved very difficult to deal with when The Kent Buccaneers were establishing themselves as the resident baseball club at Williams Field. Furthermore, The Kent Buccaneers have invested significant amounts of money and time into improving and maintaining the pitch and the diamond at Williams Field. Any other club applying to use the facilities would need to agree with The Buccaneer’s properly the amount to contribute to the upkeep of the facilities. It was felt that it wouldn’t be a viable option to have two clubs using the site unless they could work together amicably. The Kent Buccaneers had lodged a formal objection to the request from The Hurricanes.

Resolved: Application rejected. Proposed Cllr Collins, seconded Cllr Newman. Carried unanimously.

4685 To receive reports from representatives of committees and pass such resolutions thereon as may be necessary:

(1) Finance & General Purposes Committee - Cllr Harvey to report

- a) **To resolve payments to date** (appendix a)

Resolved to approve payments to date. Proposed Cllr Harvey, seconded Cllr Collins and carried unanimously.

- b) **To resolve January accounts in their entirety**

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

Planning & Environment Committee – Cllr Baldock to report

(a) Planning Applications

- **TM/24/00048/PA** - New stables building and ground works. Land Parcel K491841 West of Cinders Barn, Ashes Lane, Hadlow

HPC No major objection however any permission for the new stables building should be conditioned to prevent its future use/development as a separate hereditament for conversion to a habitable building. All waste from the stables must be dealt with in accordance with current/future Environment Agency legislation.

- **TM/24/00123/PA** – Tree conservation. North Frith, North Frith Park, Hadlow

HPC No objection

- **TM/23/03517** - Construction of 3G pitch for school and community use, additional car park for staff and pitch users, pitch floodlighting and ancillary facilities. Hadlow Rural Community School, Tonbridge Road, Hadlow TN11 0AU

HPC No major objection however LED downward facing floodlights should be considered to improve light pollution.

- **TM/24/00093/PA** – Tree trimming in neighbour's property (The Roundhouse). Tree Preservation Order. Dene Park, Shipbourne Road, Hadlow TN11 9NS

HPC No objection

- **TM/24/00086/PA** - Two storey rear extension. 21 Medway View, Three Elm Lane, Golden Green, Tonbridge TN11 0BG

HPC No objection

4686 To receive reports from representatives of external committees and pass such resolutions thereon as may be necessary.

- KALC – Cllr Bright's notes from last meeting have now been distributed.
- TMBC Parish Partnership Panel – Cllr Bright and Cllr Newman had attended the Agile presentation. Both found it useful but reported that the enforcement portal was not yet working and the maps only worked intermittently. Slides from the online Agile meeting will be distributed to Council shortly.
- TMBC Joint Transportation Board – no meeting.
- TMBC Standards Committee – meeting date awaited.

4687 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).

No motion required.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.36 Hrs.

Date of next meeting: Monday 11 March 7.30pm at Old School Hall

Signed

Date

Date: 12/02/2024

Time: 18:12

Current Bank A/c

List of Payments made between 10/01/2024 and
12/02/2024

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>Payee Name</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Amount Paid</u>	<u>Authorized Ref</u>	<u>Transaction Detail</u>
10/01/2024	Deputy Clerk	FP1219	1,800.13	JM	Dep Clerk Wk 48
11/01/2024	Clerk's Wages	FP1218	2,739.89	JM	Clerk's wages
11/01/2024	Grounds Staff	FP1220	781.10	JM	Caretaker Wages WK 44
11/01/2024	Grounds Staff	FP1223	147.25	JM	Caretaker wages adjust wk44
11/01/2024	Borough Green Garage Ltd	DEB	96.00	JM	116351 - 10 wk insp DK19
12/01/2024	HMRC	FP1221/22	1,627.83		PAYE Wk44
15/01/2024	Lloyds TSB	PAY	7.00	JM	Lloyds Bank Service Charge
16/01/2024	Dartford Crossing Charge	FP1224	10.00	JM	Top up - visa debit
16/01/2024	Nisbets	FP1228	123.57	JM	304/203 Tea Urn HOS
16/01/2024	RM Electrical	FP1226	115.00	JM	037 Tmr Carpark fld light OSH
16/01/2024	Kidman's Ltd	FP1227	76.40	JM	078 Leaf blower repair OSH
16/01/2024	R G Media & IT Services	FP1229	1,776.00	JM	365 CCTV Ann maint HOS
16/01/2024	Spy Alarms Ltd	FP1230	674.40	JM	9M2 Ann Maint HOS
16/01/2024	Borough Green Garage Ltd	FP1231	96.00	JM	390 10wk MB insp CA65
16/01/2024	Knockout Print	FP1225	300.00	JM	491 Signage SP p/pymt
16/01/2024	Aviva Pension	DD	253.84	JM	Cncl contribution clk pension
16/01/2024	Instit Cemetery & Crem Mngment	FP1232	102.00	JM	17156 Cem train crse JM
17/01/2024	Three Elm Service Station	DEB	49.23	JM	DK19 fuel
17/01/2024	Three Elm Service Station	DEB	74.66	JM	CA65 Fuel
19/01/2024	Castle Water	DD	6.03	JM	840 Cemetery Water
22/01/2024	Tonbridge & Malling B.C.	DD	84.00	Jm	Cemetery Rates
23/01/2024	Business Stream	DD	53.05	JM	HOS water
25/01/2024	Total Energies	DD	42.10	JM	720 Ball Court electricity
25/01/2024	Total Energies	DD	360.53	JM	542/24 HOS gas
25/01/2024	Total Energies	DD	578.33	JM	763/24 HOS Elec
29/01/2024	Veolia	DD	36.12	JM	630 Eurobin waste
30/01/2024	Flower Smiths	DEB	50.00	JM	Clerk get well flowers
05/02/2024	Miltos Plumbing & Heating Ltd	FP1233	84.00	JM	Inv1468 Heating maintenance
05/02/2024	Silva Arboriculture Ltd	FP1234	465.00	JM	23114 tree inspect HOS c park
05/02/2024	Glass Supplies	FP1235	138.00	JM	050014 repair atrim glass roof
05/02/2024	Flash Mobile Welding Svs	FP1236	240.00	JM	8342 gate repair churchyard
05/02/2024	CSG Global Education	FP1237	121.14	JM	978 cleaning products
05/02/2024	Zest Commercial Cleaning	FP1238	683.40	JM	6054 clean HOS/Hy Arts Jan
05/02/2024	Datasharp I Solutions	FP1239	36.00	JM	80322 Pcopier usage Jan 24
05/02/2024	D Evans	FP1240	55.00	JM	HOS windown cleaning Feb 24
09/02/2024	4th Platform	FP1241	2,175.60	JM	9609 New comp eqp remote work
09/02/2024	Knockout Print	FP1243	300.00	JM	9491 signage signpost field
09/02/2024	Clerk's Wages	FP1244	2,740.09	JM	Clerk's Wages - wk 48
09/02/2024	Deputy Clerk	FP1245	1,800.13	JM	Deputy Clerk WK 48
09/02/2024	Caretaker Wages WK 48	FP1246	952.35	JM	Caretaker wages Wk 48
09/02/2024	HMRC	FP1247	1,893.95	JM	HMRC WK48
09/02/2024	Travis Perkins Trading Co Ltd	FP1242	89.92	JM	959 gravel for cemetery
09/02/2024	Flash Mobile Welding Svs	FP1248	72.00	JM	8098 MC repair access gate
09/02/2024	Spy Alarms Ltd	FP1249	699.60	JM	3Z1/6J0 MC annual alarm
09/02/2024	4th Platform	FP1250	524.80	JM	9638 Quarterly computer charge
Total Payments			25,131.44		

Making Space for Nature:

What does the Government mean by Nature Recovery in England?

By 2030, halt the decline in species abundance

By 2042, increase species abundance so it is greater than 2022 and at least 10% greater in 2030.

By 2042, restore or create in excess of 500,000 hectares of wildlife-rich habitats outside protected sites.

By 2042, improve GB Red List Index for species extinction compared to 2022 levels.

By 2050, increase tree canopy and woodland cover to 16.5% of total land area.

By 2042, ensure that 70% of designated features in Marine Protected Areas are in favourable condition, with the remainder in recovering condition.

(source – Environmental Improvement Plan 2023 – [GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk))

It is anticipated that the action to recover nature in Kent and Medway will include the following mechanisms:

Planning: The LNRS will have a statutory role in influencing all tiers of planning, with the express requirement that strategic development, minerals and waste, neighbourhood and local plans must all take account of any local nature recovery strategy that relates to all or part of the local planning authority's area.

Development management: The LNRS will highlight where developers can most effectively fulfil their mandatory Biodiversity Net Gain duties from Feb 2024, which requires first major, and then in a few months, minor developers (not individual householders) to deliver a 10% uplift in biodiversity. Whilst in some cases, BNG will be delivered onsite as a designed component of new developments, a large proportion will be better sought offsite, and the LNRS will pinpoint where the most biodiversity gains can meaningfully be achieved through nature recovery actions.

Nature-based solutions: Nature-based solutions (NbS) are where we work with nature to address societal challenges – such as restoring saltmarshes to sequester carbon, building leaky dams or to regulate water flow and manage flooding in times of increased rainfall, or planting trees in urban environments to reduce ambient temperatures and improve air quality. The LNRS aims to identify where nature recovery action can also deliver NbS to the greatest benefit of the county.