

Minutes of the Meeting of East Hoathly with Halland Parish Council held in the Village Hall, East Hoathly, on Monday, 28 June 2010 at 7.15 pm

Present

Cllr David Vaughan (Chair)
Cllr Mrs Susan Cole
Cllr Peter French
Cllr John Graham

Cllr Bryan Kidd
Cllr Mrs Susan Whitehead
Cllr Mrs Marian Wilson

Councillor Ms Barby Dashwood-Hall (WDC) [part].
Councillor Nick Bennett (ESCC) [part]

In attendance

Ann Newton - Clerk

Members of the Public – none.
Members of the Press – none.

Councillor Barby Dashwood-Hall (WDC) reported on the following items:-

- South Downs National Park. All planning applications within the Park are to be delegated for determination to Wealden District Council. WDC's costs will be covered.
- South East Plan. Eric Pickles (MP) had indicated by letter that the SE Plan is to be scrapped which would allow local planning authorities to make their own decisions on housing numbers. However, the Plan cannot be scrapped until something is in its place. At the same time, WDC must continue to ensure that there is a five-year supply of land for housing so that developer-led appeals don't become prevalent.
- Consultant/agency workers. At the last Cabinet meeting the quarterly performance indicator summary showed that the cost of such staff had been reduced by £600,000 – half of the annual staffing costs. This followed on from a report from a Working Party set up to look at the situation.
- Transformation Programme. The Programme is being implemented well – all factors are 'green'.
- Forward Plan. Changes have been made to the Constitution whereby the Forward Plan now covers 12 months. The Plan is on the Wealden website for anyone who wishes to look.
- Landraise. On 21 June 2010 Barby and Stuart Meier (CPRE) presented petitions to Councillor Matthew Lock at County Hall. The PCAG petition was recognised as being focussed on the general principle of landraise, not just local issues. Everyone should be in receipt of a leaflet 'What we do with Waste' on the various options.
- Doctors' Surgery, South Street site. As requested at the Annual Parish Meeting, Barby had obtained an answer to the question what was the trigger to set the implementation of the surgery in motion. It seemed as though Linden Homes only had to provide the land in a clean condition by the time of occupation of the 10th dwelling. On contacting the PCT, it seems as if the doctors based at the Buxted surgery are in the process of purchasing it by the end of the month. They still need to apply/obtain planning permission, comply with a number of PCT specifications (value for money) and obtain PCT Board approval. If all this is agreed, building should start in December 2010/January 2011 with the surgery potentially opening in early summer 2011.

John Graham voiced his concerns over the recent approval of the Halland Forge application and asked why the objections of the Council weren't taken into account. The Clerk read out the minutes from the Committee meeting where a response to the Council was given. No development will be allowed to commence until details of a scheme to secure improvements to recycling facilities serving the area and the mechanism to secure its implementation have been provided. Barby explained that the application was within WDC policy and it is therefore very difficult for a Committee to go against this which would mean finding relevant policies to back up their decision.

Councillor Nick Bennett (ESCC) reported on the following items:-

- Landraise. Nick was pleased that everyone had received a copy of the recent ESCC paper explaining the progress of the consultation process, which he had the opportunity to edit. The Officers are now looking at the range of options and on 23 July 2010 there is a meeting with Transport & Environment in Uckfield.
- ESCC is currently collaborating with the other six counties in the South East on a whole range of social issues including waste and minerals on which Kent CC is taking the lead. An agreement has been reached with them to have no net movement of waste between authorities.

- There is to be a Full Council briefing next week to look at ways to cut costs with a potential reduction in spending within T&E of £1.25 million in this financial year which would mean any traffic calming proposals would be scrapped.
- Halland speed camera – good news, that this is back up and working at the reduced limit of 30-mph.

(The minutes are detailed in the order in which they appeared on the agenda. Copies of reports will be attached to the minutes in the minute book).

1. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Roger More and Jenny Vaughan. Mrs Lindsay Wiggins (School Governor Representative).

2. Declarations of Interest

Councillors to give notice of declarations of personal and prejudicial interests in respect of items on the agenda. None were given at this stage in the meeting.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting (the AGM) held on 24 May 2010 for Approval

It was agreed to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 24 May 2010 having been circulated, adopted and signed as a correct record. (Proposed/seconded by SC/SW).

4. Matters Arising/Action List (April and May meetings)

- **Waste and Minerals Consultation – Update.** As detailed above.

10/04/29	Clerk to mention in the report for the Parish magazine that AIRS are conducting an investigation into broadband speeds in rural areas. This has been done.
10/04/30&33	Clerk to contact David White over the landraise car stickers/posters. This has been done.
10/04/31	Road Safety Week. Posters to be displayed around the village. The Week was completed successfully.
10/04/32	Lindsay Wiggins to email the Clerk asking if the PC would consider making a donation to the school to assist them in their project to video all pupils. The Clerk reported that Lindsay had sent her an email that morning but unfortunately the attachments containing the costings could not be accessed. The PC asked that the Clerk contact Lindsay for further clarification of the project and projected costings prior to any decision being made. <u>ACTION: 10/06/42 – CLERK/LW.</u>
10/04/34	Susan Whitehead and Marion Wilson to meet with the Dog Warden regarding the dog bins. Further update. After a couple of false starts, a new dog bin has been installed and a current one moved.
10/04/35	Provision of Allotments. Survey to be got underway. Clerk to confirm with WDC that the specification of the quote accepted is what is required. This was agreed. The survey has been received but is not complete – the management plan and mitigation measures have not been included. The Clerk was asked to write and request that the work is completed. <u>ACTION: 10/06/43 – CLERK.</u>
10/04/36	Woodlands. Transfer of the land. Confirmation from WDC that they are happy with the revised management plan. The Clerk reported that she had met with the Arboricultural Officer at WDC who had advised that there will need to be ‘an element of flexibility’ in the works, ie the first step if the public are to be allowed access, should be a risk assessment, followed by the necessary application to WDC to do any required works. This would probably not be contained with the management plan as such. WDC go on to say “a woodland management plan is exactly that – a plan. However, we all know plans often have to be modified during the execution stage to achieve the desired result’. The Clerk further stated that she had met with Hillreed and reached a conclusion over the details of the transfer of the woodlands, which was due to be finalised imminently. <u>ACTION: 10/06/44 – CLERK</u> – ongoing.
10/04/37	Clerk to report broken stile in Halland again and to ask for an update on the survey carried out last year. This had been done – an update would at some point be forthcoming.
10/04/38	Clerk to contact ESCC to see if the signs along the London Road could be cleared of graffiti, the sign rescued from the pond and the signs between East Hoathly and Halland reinstated. This had been done.
10/04/39	Clerk to ask for clarification of the tax/NI payments on the end of year finance sheet to

	be printed in the Parish magazine. This had been done.
10/04/40	Clerk to ask the RFO to allocate the appropriate gratuity funds in the accounts. This was yet to be done. ACTION: 10/06/45 – CLERK/RFO.
10/04/41	Clerk to ask ESCC to repair the pavement from the village to the playing fields. This had been done.

5. Matters arising from the Annual Assembly

- A request was made for investigation into the land drain, which runs from the newer dwellings in Thomas Turner Drive to the land at the Long Pond. The explained that this was proving difficult – the meeting agreed that any further work should cease at the present time.
- Youth Shelter – request for any young people in the Parish to come forward with ideas.
- Speed Camera in Halland – possible reactivation date? The camera has been reactivated as reported above.
- Clarification on the position of the proposed land for provision of a doctors' surgery on the South Street site. As detailed under Councillor Dashwood-Hall's report above.

6. Correspondence

Correspondence received relating to items contained in the agenda was discussed during the relevant points in the meeting.

WDC:

- Confirmation of road traffic order – East Hoathly with Halland Carnival, 13 November 2010.
- Environmental Partnership with Parishes and Town Councils. Clerk to reply reminding WDC of the wish of the PC to see a bring-site in Halland. **ACTION: 10/06/46 – CLERK.**

OTHER:

- East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service

7. Finance (JG, JV, DV and SW)

- **Formal approval of the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2010 and Statement of Assurance in line with the audit regulations.** Each Councillor was in receipt of a copy of the accounts. Both items were proposed for approval by John Graham, seconded by Susan Whitehead and agreed by all present. Clerk to complete the appropriate paperwork to Mazars. **ACTION: 10/06/47 - CLERK.**
- Schedule of Expenditure as at 31 May 2010 had been circulated prior to the meeting and was adopted as read (JG/DV).
- June 2010 Expenditure for approval and signing of cheques – as detailed below. (JG/MW).

Cheques to pay

000533	£198.94	Mrs Caroline Kent (webmaster – annual invoice)
000534	£150.00	Mr R Knowlden (repairs to concrete path – playing fields)
000535	£209.00	B F Reilly Carpentry Services (repairs to Pavilion bench)
000536	£55.48	Framfield Parish Council (share of BT invoice)
000537	£160.00	Mr Derek Keeley (Grounds Manager) – June gross salary (£200.00). (Cheque written net of tax/NI).
000538	£25.00	Mrs Trina Hunt (book keeper) – June.
000539	£499.63	Mrs Ann Newton – June (gross salary £555.10); mileage (£6.01); reimbursement for a printer cartridge (£58.44) (cheque written net of tax/NI).
000540	£170.30	HMRC (June tax and NI payments).

TOTAL: £1,468.35

Direct Debit to PWLB - £2,502.25

Cash banked

£4.50 copying charges

£13.60 income from selling Parish Plan.

Balances as at 31 May 2010

Deposit Account	£17,777.04
Current Account	£28,009.50
Saving Certificates	£2,069.58

8. Planning Committee (SW (Chairman), SC, PF, JG and BK – RM/DV ex-officio)

- The minutes of the meetings held on 7 and 26 April 2010 and 17 May 2010 have already been circulated. The agenda for the meeting scheduled for prior to the PC meeting was attached to the agenda.
 - Halland Forge application – update. As detailed above.

9. Committee of the War Memorial Sports Ground Trust (PC acting as Trustee).

Matters Arising/Action List

- East Hoathly Eagles – update if available. The Clerk reported that the EHE had informed her that no amalgamation had been agreed with the Wealden Colts and any decision would be made at their AGM held some ten days previously. No correspondence has been received or any fees paid. The Clerk was asked to resend the letter asking for clarification of their position. **ACTION: 10/06/48 – CLERK.**

Finance

- Sign-off of WMSGT accounts for the year to 31 March 2010. This was proposed by David Vaughan, seconded by John Graham and agreed by all present.
- Schedule of Income and Expenditure as at 31 May 2010 – had been circulated at the meeting and was adopted as read (JG/MW). The item on the expenditure sheet for £281.06 is still being withheld following on from a conversation with a member of the WDC refuse/waste team who was dubious that charitable trusts had to pay for a refuse collection.

Cheques received - Playing Fields

Carnival Society - £250.00
Tennis Club - £664.00
Cricket Club - £450.00
Rifle Club - £250.00
Eastbourne Rovers Cycling Club - £40.00

Any Other Business

- Letter from the Rifle Club asking for permission to take vehicles onto the playing field for its annual working party, weather permitting. The Clerk was asked to reply in the affirmative. **ACTION: 10/06/49 – CLERK.**
- Decision on the separation of the banking arrangements and amount to 'grant' to the WMSGT account for the year. This was agreed and suggested that the intricacies of separating the accounts be referred to a Finance Committee meeting to be convened shortly. **ACTION: 10/06/49 – FINANCE COMMITTEE.**
- Susan Whitehead reported that Derek Keeley had very admirably 'seen off' some youths who had parked their car on the playing fields so that they could listen to the radio! Thanks went to Derek for all his hard work.

10. Reports from Representatives (where necessary)

- **Village Hall** – Bryan Kidd reported that some of the windows were to be replaced at a cost of £1,250. The WI were organising some blinds courtesy of his wife. A cleaner was being sorted out.
- **Twinning** – John Graham had nothing in particular to report on the Twinning but gave thanks to the PC for their generous donation of the £100 first prize cheque at the recent Church Fete, which raised an amazing £3,000.
- **SALC/WDALC (SC)**. Nothing to report.
- **Parish Planning Panel (c/o Clerk)** – nothing to report.

11. Parish Plan: Portfolio Reports.

- **Housing and Commercial and Recreation (JG, JV, DV and MW)**. Nothing to report.
- **Roads and Transport, Utilities, Emergency Planning and Policing (JG, BK, JV and DV)**.

- **Footpaths, Trees and Ponds (SC, PF, SW and MW).** Nothing to report
- **Environment and Ecosystem including Recycling (SC, PF, JV and MW).** Nothing to report.

12. Urgent Business at the Discretion of the Chairman

- Bryan Kidd asked for clarification on who would eventually own the spare land adjacent to the School on the Church Marks Green estate. The Clerk explained that the County Council Education Services had the option on it for a further four years.
- The Clerk reported that she had reduced the paperwork in the vestry and would be sending some historical minute books etc to the Archive Office.
- The Clerk reminded members to update their Register of Interests if their situation changes in any way.

13. Date of the Next Parish Council Meeting: Monday, 26 July 2010, at 7.15 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Chairman.....

Date.....