

Hawkhurst Parish Council

Hawkhurst Parish Council

Meeting: **Full Council**
Date: 8th June 2015
Ref: nm.
Typed: 9th June 2015

Copt Hall

PRESENT

Mr. P Dartnell (Chairman), Mr. M Appelbe, Mrs. M Brinsley (Vice Chairman), Mr. G Davies, Mr. B Fitzpatrick, Mrs. A Hastie, Mr. P Jones, Mrs. J Newman, Dr M Robertson, Mrs. B Weeden, Mr. P Whittle, Mr. C Williamson.

ADDITIONAL CIRCULATION

Mr. S Holden, Mrs. B Palmer, Mr. N. Gray, Mr. Bland.

1 Adjournment for public speaking.

1.1 Cllr Bev Palmer spoke about TWBC news. She is now on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, of which Cllr Nathan Gray is Vice Chair. She is also on the Communities Cabinet Advisory Board. She confirmed that TWBC is coming out of the Shared Planning Services. TWBC have agreed upon additional litter and dog fouling enforcement officers but this will be mainly for deployment within Tunbridge Wells. A Farmstead Historical Protection Paper is underway, which is important for the rural landscape locally. Car parking provision in the borough is also again under review. TWBC will be visiting HPC on this next week. Cllr Palmer is on a working party for the Civic Amenity Vehicle drawing up proposals for the next financial year. The options will be discussed at next Tuesday's Parish Chairs Meeting. There will be £16k available for a service that costs approximately £34K per year to run. The service will continue but HPC could be asked to pay a share of the shortfall in the region of £860 per year (HPC were asked for £1,800 towards it originally). BW reminded BP that when Cranbrook Rural District Council was dissolved by the formation of TWBC the tip was closed at Cranbrook, the site sold and built on with a promise of the CAV into perpetuity. PW stated that fly tipping would increase without the CAV. BP emphasized that the CAV service will continue but options must be looked at.

1.2 Cllr Sean Holden addressed the meeting. He doesn't agree with farming out the cost of CAV to the parishes as it's a fundamental service and withdrawal would create traffic, pollution and personal costs to residents travelling to Tunbridge Wells otherwise. Also Fly tipping clean up is extremely expensive. SH spent time at a conference with Paul Carter which emphasized the value of local decision-making. SH is very supportive of HPC's request from KCC for a traffic movement survey as this data is integral to planning applications in the village. PD mentioned KCC could do one for £750. SH will discuss with Earl Bourner at Kent Highways and Transport and consider a grant for it from his Members Fund. PW pointed out a private survey would cost £3,000, although that would include video footage of queuing cars.

2. Apologies for Absence:

2.1 Apologies were received from Mr. J Hunt and Cllr G Bland.

3. Declaration of interests:

3.1 BW declared a personal interest in planning application no.23 as the owner is her son-in law.
MA declared a personal interest in planning application no.26 as he knows the owner.
MA declared a personal interest in planning application no.23 as he knows the owner.
MB declared a personal interest in planning application no.24 as she had chatted with the owner's sister about the application.
AH declared a personal interest in planning application no.26 as she knows the owner.

4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting

4.1 PD, supported by MB proposed acceptance of the Minutes of 11th May 2015. This was accepted with 2 abstentions.

5. Matters arising

5.1 Transport. MA had nothing to report.

5.2 Youth. The Streetcruizer service will start on Wednesday 17th June and take place on alternate Wednesdays thereafter. KCC Youth workers will be running a club on the Wednesdays in between. The inside of the Sports Hall is being repainted in July. Notices will be put up in the village to publicise the new service. Last week a glass jar of coffee had been smashed and left in the ladies toilet at Sports

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Hall on the evening of the Youth Club. Eddie Walsh is arranging replacement of the coffee and an apology for the caretaker.

- 5.3 Police. Crime statistics were not available but will be circulated if received. Concerns received about drug use and possible dealing have been passed to Ross Shearing, who is making enquiries.
- 5.4 Local Community – Speedwatch – PD is planning to have a local Speedwatch Meeting in anticipation of a meeting of The Speedwatch Working Group headed by MP Helen Grant will soon be meeting following the elections. GD asked if stats from the Police Speed monitoring van had been received yet. Clerk confirmed not but will chase for them.
- Footpath Map – MR showed a 75% print of the base map and explained plans to mark up all footpaths, bridle paths and byways on it as well as good walk routes. JH will be asked to take photos of certain footpaths for the map and images of points of interest will also be shown. MR will also look at the crossover between walking information at The Great House pub and what HPC plans to produce. The issue of accepting advertising for the map as well as producing walking booklets and the village directory were discussed. The Clerk believed the Parish Council itself can't transact that sort of business but the Village Magazine or the Wealden Ad could. MA has received information from The old Village Society and is considering it.
- HCT – The Clerk has heard from Whitehead Monckton on the possibility of transferring funds to a new charity. This is possible subject to the Charity Commission permission as the aims of a new charity must be in line with those of HCT. Therefore it is possible to start to create a new charity now, working closely with the Charity Commission. As the new aims are intended to be wider, it is felt this should not be a problem. The Clerk explained that if the new community centre is not on The Moor, this could simplify the process as the aims of Fields in Trust specifically are then not relevant. Members agreed that a copy of the draft NDP report should be sent to Whitehead Monckton once it has been received to keep them abreast of events in connection with a new community centre.

6 **Reports of Committee Chairmen**

- 6.1 Buildings – No meeting since last FCM. It is hoped to begin replacement of the Parish Council Office sign next week and also to redecorate the Sports Hall in July. Next meeting is 22nd June.
- 6.2 Land – A meeting was held on 18th May with a walkaround at 2pm and 7pm meeting. Park Leisure have been approached by letter to assist in the cost of repairing a 5 year old item at Hearten Oak and some help had been offered. Ockley allotments are to be reviewed for non-cultivation and letters will be sent shortly. The cemetery and Tennis Courts were also visited. The next meeting is due 27th July.
- 6.3 F&GP – No meeting since last FCM. GD is now progressing now has contact for State Bank of India with a view to investing reserves for HPC and also HCT.
- 6.4 Personnel – A meeting was held Monday 18th 6.30pm and also June 1st – see items 13 (i), (ii), (iii).
- 6.5 Fete – next meeting 9th May. A great deal of planning has taken place. Edwards Leisure has been booked as the Land Train was so popular at Cranbrook Fun Day.
- 6.6 NDP – The 3 day Design Workshop took place on 26-28 May. The feedback was all positive and it has been a great success. 70 plus people came in on each of the 3 days. The 3rd evening presentation once 'cleaned up' will be placed on the HPC website and an interim report is underway. Next steps are that dates will be agreed at the next NDP meeting June 10 for upcoming events. Fera is saying Spring may be more likely for the report for TWBC than December but JN will continue to push for Dec. PD expressed his great thanks to all of those who have given time and effort to the NDP. MA asked if the costs were on budget and JN confirmed they were.

7 **Matters for further discussion**

- 7.1 A request had been received from the WI towards maintenance of a flower bed opposite Tesco at the top of All Saints. The School had been looking after it but have since withdrawn, JH and CW cut the vegetation back last year but HPC would welcome WI's offer to look after it. PJ, supported by GD proposed *HPC make a grant of £50 from S.137 funds to WI towards the upkeep of this flower bed.* 11 were for, with one abstention.
- 7.2 Traffic survey. PD related that a traffic movement survey needs to be done in support of HPC's objection to the Highgate Hill planning appeal in September and also to inform the NDP work. There was some discussion about what HPC's Plan B would be for Highgate Hill if the appeal were lost and whether the inclusion of a community centre on the site might be sought. PW, supported by AH, proposed *provision of up to £1,000 be made for HPC to pay KCC for a traffic movement survey.* This was unanimously supported. The turning types of the different vehicles and transition times through the lights should be measured – CW to assist clerk in discussions with KCC on the spec of the report. MB felt that data from KCC would be more relied upon than from a consultant, which was agreed by Members.

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8: Correspondence

	Date Received	From	Subject	Action
1	09.05.15	Resident	One way road system Queens Rd	Clerk to write to KCC about the matters raised.
2	18.05.15	TW CAB	New system of outreach appointments	Clerk to ask how the new system will be communicated.
3	18.05.2015	M.O. TWBC	Removal of 3 month rule	Members Vote in favour of removal.
4	23.05.2015	Resident	Complaint fair booked for The Moor	Clerk has replied.
5	23.05.2015	Resident	Concern fair booked for The Moor	Clerk has replied.
6	23.05.2015	Cllr B Palmer	Re: Complaint from resident re: fair booked for The Moor	Clerk has replied. Many other residents gave positive feedback after the fair.
7	27.05.15	Local Govt Boundary Commission	Draft Recommendations for the Electoral review of Kent	Noted
8	28.05.15	Resident	Objection to planning application 15/502431	Clerk has replied.
9	08.06.15	Mr R Weeden	Retirement	Noted

9: Finance

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE MAY 2015

Accounts for payment	£	5,817.61
Payment received	£	4,225.00
Net Expenditure	-£	1,592.61
Cambridge & Counties Reserve	£	86,147.60
Lloyds Current	£	10,780.00
Lloyds Access Reserve	£	124,425.17
Petty Cash	£	157.35

9.1 Payments were examined and voted for unanimously. Members noted that a £1,000.00 donation has been received from Hawkhurst Gang Bonfire Society towards the provision of a defibrillator at Highgate. Members voted unanimously for *HPC to stand the cost of an electrician if required to wire in the defibrillator cabinet.*

9.2 PD confirmed that he had checked the petty cash and the bank rec.

10. Planning

Bellway Homes has requested a meeting with HPC relating to the Woodham Hall site. PD, MB, BW and JN volunteered to attend.

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PD attended TWBC Planning Committee for Lillesden Frith. The Committee voted 8:3 to grant it.

10.1 10.1. Planning & Highways Information:

Ref. No.	Proposal	Location	Comments
15/503361/SUB	Conditions re: hardsurfacing	Tesco Rye Road	This requests a variation to the 2011 planning consent to improve the drainage problems of the carpark.
KCC Highways & Transportation	Poynton Scheme at Highgate Hill lights	Highgate Hill lights	Graeme Lansell, design team believes inadequate space.
Steven Noad KCC Highways & Transportation	Flashing 30 sign	Outside Tesco, Rye Rd	This will be replaced.
Royal Tunbridge Wells Planning	Urban Design Framework	Tunbridge Wells Town Centre	6 week consultation Period

10.2 Planning TWBC Approved:

Ref. No.	Proposal	Location	Comments/Valid
KCC/TW/0127/2015	Installation of Agricultural Dryer	Conghurst Farm	No objection from TWBC
15/502242/FU LL	Proposed orangery	The Cottage, High St	
15/501235/FU LL	Creation of outer lobby and addition of dormer window	1 Ford Villas, Highgate Hill	
15/502775/FU LL	Erection of single storey rear extension	The Mangle Horns Rd	
15/501487/FU LL	Change of use from dog parlour to flat.	Post Office High Street Hawkhurst	
14/506864/FU LL	Change of use from Office, meeting room and chapel to maisonette	All Saints Lodge, Rye Rd	
15/503025/FU LL	Lawful Devpt Certificate for erection of stable block and use of land for private horse keeping	1 Springfield Cottages, Sopers Lane	
15/502192/FU LL	External Flue to North side elevation	1 Ford Villas, Highgate Hill	

10.3 Planning TWBC Refused:

Ref. No.	Proposal	Location	Comments/Valid
	None		

10.4 Planning Applications

No.	Application No	Proposal	Location	Comments	Decision	Agree	Against	Abstain	Plan Cttee
13	15/502701/FU	Demolition of	2 Gills	Resubmitted with	Agree	All			N

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No.	Application No	Proposal	Location	Comments	Decision	Agree	Against	Abstain	Plan Cttee
	LL	outbuilding and construction of single storey rear extension for annexe and breakfast room to main dwelling	Green Cottages	additional site plans					
16	15/503272/FULL	Change of use from self-contained annexe to self-contained dwelling	4 Ockley Terrace, Ockley Lane	The original permission in 2008 was right to restrict permission to use as an annexe. The lack of parking would cause congestion in this very narrow lane. Furthermore, there are many such legitimate annexe properties in the village and this would set a dangerous precedent for expansion by the 'back door'.	Against	0	all	0	N
17	15/502743/FULL	Retrospective Application for erection of close boarded feather edge fence to replace existing hedge and neighbouring boundary	2 Four Throws Cottages, Conghurst Lane	The previous hedge was unhealthy and unsightly. This fence is a real improvement.	Agree	11	0	CW	N
18	15/501921/FULL	Part retrospective application for change of use of land for stationing of 1 mobile home and 1 touring caravan for only gypsy/traveller family. Provision of associated hard and soft landscaping	OS Plot 6535 Hartenock Road	The proposed site is excessive for one unit in comparison to the other plots and if redesignated could become subdivided. Members are also concerned that this is a retrospective application in the AONB which merits protection.	Against	MA	11	0	N
19	15/503368/FULL	Variation of permission 14/505790 to have windows that open but still with obscure glaze	The Nook, Copthall Avenue	Suggest louvred obscure glass windows to preserve privacy but allow a flow of air.	Against	MA,PJ,NN	9	0	N
20	15/503613/FULL	Change of use of unused shop and Post Office to a single residential dwelling	Old Moor Post Office, The Moor		Agree	10	MA,CW	0	N
21	15/503764/LBC	LBC for: Change of use of unused shop and Post Office to a single residential dwelling	Old Moor Post Office, The Moor		Agree	10	MA,CW	0	N
22	15/503513/FULL	Conversion of roof with	Ashwood,		Agree	All	0	0	N

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No.	Application No	Proposal	Location	Comments	Decision	Agree	Against	Abstain	Plan Cttee
	LL	insertion of 2 pitched roof dormers, insertion of rooflights and changes to fenestration	Copthall Avenue						
23	15/503255/FULL	construction of a new conservatory to the rear elevation	Rydal Water Copthall Avenue		Agree	11	0	0	N
24	15/5044081/FULL	Demolition of ground floor extension at rear and conversion of commercial butchers to 3 residential properties. Internal alterations, extension and proposed balcony to existing property.	Old Chestnuts, Talbot Rd		Agree	All	0	0	N
25	15/503777/FULL	Proposed first floor extension and loft conversion	3 Ockley Cottages, Ockley Lane		Agree	All	0	0	N
26	15/503779/FULL	Two storey side extension	April Cottage, Ockley Lane		Agree	All	0	0	N

11 Burials and Memorial

Interment Date	Deceased	
	None	

12 Notes and Information

	Date	from	subject
1	11.05.15	KALC	Parish News newsletter
2	12.05.15	Demelza House	Open Gardens

13 Confidential

- 13.1 Members voted to increase the pay of the Clerk and also of the Assistant Clerk from May.
 13.2 PD gave a statement to Members, to which CW replied. Members voted to *accept in good faith an apology made in good faith.*
 13.3

14 Closure

- 14.1 The meeting closed at 22.10

15 Future Meetings

- 15.1 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at Copt Hall on Monday 13th July 2015 commencing at 19:45.

Signed.....Date.....

Peter Dartnell, Chairman of the Parish Council.

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