

Hawkhurst Parish Council

Hawkhurst Parish Council

Meeting: **Full Council**
Date: 11th June 2012
Ref: am.
Typed: 12th June 2012

Copt Hall

PRESENT

Mr K Brown (Chairman), Mr M Appelbe, Mr J Billingham, Mrs M Brinsley, Mr P Dartnell, Mr B Fitzpatrick, Mr T Lee, Mrs B Weeden, Mr C Williamson.

ADDITIONAL CIRCULATION

Mr. R Weeden, Mrs. B Palmer, Mr. J Cunningham, Mr. R Manning
KM, K&SC

- A.1 Co-option of two Councillors.
- A.1.1 Four of the five applicants were in attendance and each gave a short introduction and took questions from Members.
- A.1.2 Following two rounds of voting members selected Mr Lee and Mr Dartnell who each received an overall majority in the voting rounds.
- A.1.3 Mr Lee and Mr Dartnell signed the declaration of acceptance of office.
- A.1.4 The Chairman welcomed the new Members and thanked all those who had put themselves forward. The new members joined the meeting.

- 1 Adjournment for public speaking.
- 1.1 TWBC Cllr Cunningham updated Members on the leadership changes at the Borough Council following the elections in May.
- 1.2 Mrs M Wilson then wished to raise some points with the Parish Council and Cllr Cunningham. He is aware and supportive of talks that have been held between TWBC Cllr Ms Palmer and Greg Clark, MP for this constituency concerning the designation of Highgate as a "town" in the TWBC Core Strategy. Further enquiries are being made into the comment made by Mr Clark that a "variation" of the Core Strategy could be fast tracked to an amendment. At this stage no time scale is known. He will keep the Parish Council informed of any developments.
- 1.3 KB advised the meeting that the Council was looking very closely at the detail required in order to begin a Neighbourhood Plan. The progress of Dawlish and Hurstpierpoint councils in their work was being monitored. Of critical importance is that in both these cases their district council's do not have an adopted core strategy, unlike TWBC. It is planned to start discussions on this topic with TWBC in the next few weeks.
- 1.4 Mr May spoke in support of his planning application, number 35 on the agenda.

- 2 Apologies for absence:
- 2.1 Apologies were received from Mr G Davies, Mr J Hunt, Mr P Jones and Mrs J Newman.

- 3. Declaration of interests:
- 3.1 CW declared a personal interest in planning item 38

- 4 Approval of minutes of previous meetings
- 4.1 Received Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 14th May 2012. Abstentions because of absence from BF, PD and TL.
- 4.2 Received Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th May 2012. Abstentions because of absence from BF, PD and TL
- 4.3 Received Minutes of the Land Committee meeting held on 28th May 2012
- 4.4 Received Minutes of the Buildings Committee meeting held on 28th May 2012
- 4.5 Noted minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly on 30th April 2012

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- 4.6 Noted the Minutes of the Fete Committee 19th, 26th April and 4th May 2012
- 5 Matters arising
- 5.1 Transport & Highways. (MA) KCC Cllr Manning has agreed to look at funding for the bus shelter lighting scheme using funds allocated to Local Members. Kent Highway Services have been asked to look again at the flooding on the tactile paving which occurs by the traffic lights by the old post office at Highgate. This is particularly dangerous for pedestrians during freezing conditions.
- 5.2 Youth Matters. KB gave a report regarding an outbreak of graffiti around the village. The police are aware and have a description of the possible offender. Residents are requested to keep an eye out for anyone carrying out this antisocial activity and report it to the police or the Parish Office.
- 5.3 Police. Reported crime figures for April and May were 12 each month.
- 5.4 Local Interest. (KB).
a) Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The events held over the Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend had all gone ahead without any major problems and it was agreed had been very successful and well received. KB thanked all those individuals and organisations involved in putting events together. He also thanked villagers for their support and attendance, which for the events at The Moor was around 4,000.
b) Village Appraisal 2012. KB thanked all those who had helped put this together and the Scouts for delivering the forms. The analysis and report are being prepared by JN.
c) Community Centre. The working group will be offering to visit user groups and local organisation to discuss further the plans and background to the project.
- 5.5 Hawkhurst Community Partnership. (BF). No activity to report
- 5.6 Community Involvement Awards. Members requested further proposals regarding who and why recipients could be selected. These initial suggestions will be circulated by the Clerk.
- 6 Reports of Committee Chairmen
- 6.1 Buildings Committee. (BW). The condition survey for the halls is expected in July. Members supported the recommendation of the committee not to allow a neighbour to erect a fence on land forming part of Copt Hall.
- 6.2 Land Committee. A seat commemorating the Diamond Jubilee has been installed at The Moor. The Clerk has been trying to get a cost to install the bench at Highgate from an approved KCC contractor as it is to be installed on their footpath.
- 6.3 F&GP Committee. (KB). The phase 2 street lighting upgrade works for this year are nearly completed. The committee will be looking closely at the appraisal results in order to update the Development Strategy.
- 6.4 Personnel Committee (MB). Nothing to report and there are no outstanding matters.
- 6.5 Fete Committee. (KB). See 5.4.a above.
- 7 Matters for further discussion
- 7.1 TWBC Core Strategy, NPPF and Hawkhurst – Draft Paper for discussion. Members noted the paper prepared by the Clerk. It was agreed to convene a special meeting of the Council on Friday 29th June at the Copt Hall commencing at 18:30 to specifically discuss the issues raised. The public are welcome to attend.
- 7.2 Pre-application planning advice and consultation. Members were informed of the requirements under the Localism Act 2011 for the compulsory pre-application consultation which must be undertaken by developers and promoters of certain large scale developments and the encouragement for smaller scale proposals to do the same. It is an informal process but Members are reminded of the need to still observe the rules by not fettering themselves at this stage.
- 7.3 Supporting local business. KB led the discussion explaining that where possible the council should help all local businesses and employers to promote their business and

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look at ways of improving their offer to meet the challenges faced in the current financial market and changes in peoples shopping habits. It was felt that the council could help by coordinating the services of a retail analyst to look at the overall situation.

8	<u>Correspondence</u>		
.1	01/06/12	5 applicants	Co-option applications from 5 candidates
.2	22/05/12	TWBC	Empty Homes Policy – reply from TWBC to questions from Members
.3	15/05/12	KCC	Reply from KCC regarding consultation for new development at Bowles Lodge
.4	21/05/12	Village Society	Request to participate in Neighbourhood Plan project and draft reply from HPC for approval.
.5	23/05/12	KALC	Possible parliamentary bill regarding planning appeals
.6	24/05/12	KALC	Newsletter
.7	27/05/12	KCC	Notice of Minerals and Waste Local Plan Consultation
.8	24/05/12	Scouts	Thanks for donation

.3 Members were disappointed that KCC have not made it a tender condition that the developer of the Bowles Lodge undertakes a pre-application consultation with the village. The letter still leaves some uncertainty as to whether the plan will include a day centre.
 .4 Members agreed with the draft letter to the Village Society with information regarding the council's progress towards undertaking a Neighbourhood Plan.

9. Finance

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE MAY 2012

Accounts for payment	£	8,316.33
Payment received	£	155.00
Net Expenditure	£	8,161.33
Lloyds High Interest Reserve	£	50,000.00
Lloyds Current	£	10,001.00
Lloyds Access Reserve	£	79,784.25
Lloyds Float	£	1,000.00
Petty Cash	-£	8.25
Working Balance	£	9,001.00
Direct Debit Allowance	£	3,000.00
Working Balance	£	2,160.33

9.1 BF, supported by BW, proposed the accounts for payment be accepted. All agreed.

10. Planning

10.1 Planning and Highways Information

Ref. No.	Proposal	Location	Comments
12/01343	Two storey extension	39 Smugglers Mews	2 objections from residents (Item 29)
Resident	Village planning		CC letter to TWBC Cllr Ms Palmer.
KALC	Campaign to change planning appeal process	Nationwide	MP's Parliamentary Bill Ballot.
TPO works	Residents objection	Lechmere, Copthall Avenue	HPC were against this application

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			14/05/12
Resident	High Street traffic speeds	High Street	CC e-mail to KHS
12/00766	Retrospective rooflights	Barnfield Barn, High Street	Application withdrawn

10.2 Planning TWBC Approved:

Ref. No.	Proposal	Location	Comments/Valid
12/00801	Loft conversion	6 Oaklands Road	10/05/12
12/00658	Change of use to D! (Community)	Grove Mills, Cranbrook Road	11/05/12
12/00308	LBC. Install electricity supply box	6 Colonnade, Rye Road	14/05/12
12/00392	LBC. Conversion to seven flats	All Saints Church, Rye Road	16/05/12 Extension of time.
12/00741	Dormer windows at front and rear	5 Norman Villas, Cranbrook Road	18/05/12
12/00795	CAC. Demolish Sports Pavilion	KGV Playing Field, The Moor	22/05/12 Extension of time
12/00793	Hall and changing rooms	KGV Playing Field, The Moor	22/05/12 Extension of time
12/00823	625 solar panels	Ditchells Farm, Delmonden Lane	24/05/12

10.3 Planning TWBC Refused:

Ref. No.	Proposal	Location	Comments/Valid
12/00767	LDC. Use as a dwelling house	North Hill saw mill, North Hill Road	17/05/12 Insufficient evidence.

10.4 Planning Applications

Item	Application No	Proposal	Location	Comments	Decision	Agree	Against	Abstain	Call in
29	12/01343/ HOUSE/S E2	Two storey side extension	39 Smugglers Mews	Members noted comments from other residents were generally concerned about non planning matters.	Agree	5	BW	CW, PD, TL	No
30	12/01361/ House/CL C	Detached garage/store	Dell Farm, Horns Road		Agree	7		PD, TL	No
31	11/02037/F UL/TA1	Variation. Rear extension reduced in size	1 Norman Villas, Cranbrook Road	Too large and traffic. Previously requested it be determined by EAPC	Against	MA	5	MB, PD, TL	Yes
32	12/01368/L BC/SE2	LBC. Three storey side extension to include basement	Rowan Cottage, Attwaters Lane		Agree	7		PD, TL	No

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Item	Application No	Proposal	Location	Comments	Decision	Agree	Against	Abstain	Call in
33	12/01408/HOUSE/GM2	Outbuilding for hobbies and home office	Hill View, Western Road		Agree	6		MA, PD, TL	No
34	12/01421/FUL/TA1	Extension of time. Change of use of shop to residential	The Pulse, Ockley Road		Agree	6		JB, PD, TL	No
35	12/01435/FUL/TA1	Replace existing dwelling	Paddocks, Stream Lane		Agree	7		PD, TL	No
36	12/00478/HOUSE/CLC	Revision. Pergola and fencing	The Old Bakehouse, The Moor	To include replacement boarded fence between the Parish Office and Eight Bells.	Agree	7		PD, TL	No
37	12/01617/HOUSE/EA1	Replacement garage/office	Honeysuckle Cottage, Water Lane		Agree	7		PD, TL	No
38	12/01568/FUL/TA1	Car parking area	Timber yard, Limes Grove		Agree	4		BW, MA, CW, PD, TL	No
39	12/01513/FUL/EA1	Roof lanterns	Martins Electrical, Cranbrook Road		Agree	7		PD, TL	No

Note: As PD and TL only became Members of the Council by co-option at this meeting they abstained from voting on all planning applications.

11 | Burial & Memorial

Interment Date	Deceased	
31/05/12	Daphne Lee	Inter ashes

12 Notes and Information

	Date	From	Subject
1	24/04/12	Hidden Britain	Newsletter
2	27/04/12	South East Water	Water Resources Update

- 13 **Confidential:** Pursuant to section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and the press leave the meeting during consideration of the following items:
- 13.1 Staff and Members dealing with pre-application planning consultation. Further to the discussion at 7.2 and advice given by the Clerk regarding pre-application informal consultation by developers as a requirement of the Localism Act 2011, MA and CW stated they did not support this. Members discussed some previous cases where this had satisfactorily happened and generally could not see the point made by the objection. The Chairman invited MA to submit a written paper to the next meeting outlining his concerns and stating how he would expect this process to proceed.

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- 14 Closure
- 14.1 The meeting closed at 21:55

- 15 Future Meetings
- 15.1 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at Copt Hall on Friday 29th June 2012 commencing at 18:30 (see 7.1) and a full meeting at Copt Hall and 9th July at Copt Hall commencing at 19:45.

Signed.....Date.....
Keith Brown, Chairman of the Parish Council.