

Hawkhurst Parish Council

Hawkhurst Parish Council

Meeting: **Full Council**
Date: 11th July 2016
Ref: NG.
Typed: 19th July 2016

Copt Hall

PRESENT

Mrs. J Newman (Chairman), Mr. M Appelbe, Mrs. M Brinsley, Miss M. Cronin, Mr. P Dartnell, Mr. B Fitzpatrick, Mrs. A Hastie, Mr. J Hunt, Mr. P Jones, Dr M Robertson, Mrs. B Weeden and Mr. P Whittle.

ADDITIONAL CIRCULATION

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

- 1 **Adjournment for public speaking.**
- 1.1 A resident spoke to request that HPC give her permission to create a cultivated space on the surface of her mother's grave at Hawkhurst Cemetery. She assured the Members that her family would keep the plot well tended but wished to be able to choose what they would like on it. She wished to plant into the space so that flowers could be seen there all year round. JN acknowledged that this is a sensitive area. The Clerk explained that what is bought is a Right to Burial but that ownership and control of the land and the surface of the grave remains with the burial authority (HPC in this case). Furthermore, HPC is under a duty to maintain the whole of the cemetery and is unable to pass over control of parts of it. MR explained that whilst HPC very much wishes to listen to the family, Hawkhurst is run as a mown cemetery, the Cemetery Regulations reflect that and its simplicity and naturalness is a large part of the appeal for many people. MR encouraged the family to speak to him after the meeting to explore what other avenues might be available.
- 1.2 The owner of the Smugglers Alehouse spoke to give further background to his letter to Members at Item 8.1. He considered that a lack of parking and the increased variety of new food offerings amongst the Hawkhurst pubs had created a very difficult trading environment for his pub. After considering many options, his conclusion is that one dwelling would be the best use of the building.
- 1.3 Cllr Beverley Palmer addressed the meeting. She attended the Speedwatch meeting on July 1st in Hawkhurst, also attended by Greg Clark MP and Police Commissioner Matthew Scott. She reported considerable support for the use of the Speedwatch stats in consideration towards highways safety measures. The TWBC Scrutiny Committee are also supportive and looking at rural speeding.
- 1.4 Cllr Sean Holden addressed the meeting, also pleased with the positive support at the July 1st Speedwatch meeting. 3 local papers had included the story. KCC are carrying out a £4 million pothole blitz using government money. KCC are carrying out a Waste Disposal Strategy Consultation. KCC accepts there is a gap in recycling facilities between Tunbridge Wells and Ashford. The Chairs of Benenden and Cranbrook PCs have been tasked by KALC with looking for a suitable site for this. Since Brexit the devolution programme for directly elected mayors is on hold. JN asked SH for his specific and urgent support with seeking feasibility studies from KCC for the NDP Crossroads proposal and the Tesco to All Saints zebra crossing.
2. **Apologies for Absence:**
- 2.1 Apologies were received from, Mr. C Williamson and TWBC Cllr G Bland.
3. **Declaration of interests:**
- 3.1 Item 8.1 All Members were contacted by the writer with an identical letter.
- 3.2 MB declared a personal interest in Planning Item 27 as she knows the owner of the property.
4. **Approval of minutes of previous meetings**
- 4.1 The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 13th June 2016 were unanimously approved.
- 4.2 Minutes of Fete Committee 21st June 2016, of Land Committee 27th June 2016 and of the NDP Committee 22nd June 2016 were noted.
5. **Matters arising**
- 5.1 Transport. KCC Highways have said they plan to retain the remainder of the £35K Tesco funding to 'evaluate' the effectiveness of the £16K already spent on traffic light improvements. Therefore this is not available to fund a zebra crossing feasibility study. AH believes this should be challenged. The KEEP

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- 5.2 CLEAR instruction is to be painted at the Cranbrook Rd/Ockley Rd junction by July 18th. Youth. JH and JN had a meeting with Dan McBride of KCC to express concerns about recent incidents at the Royal British Legion Hall. Although positive, the suggestions from it appeared not to have been passed to the youth workers involved. JN will take up with DMcB. JH had seen 12 youngsters at the club the previous week and he and RBL felt the club showed improvement.
- 5.3 Police. JH reported that Crime statistics were 12 for the month, including 1 harrassment, 4 thefts, 2 assaults, 1 vehicle interference, 1 making off without payment, 1 act of outraging public decency, 1 breach of molestation order and 1 criminal damage.
- 5.4 Local Community
- Speedwatch – Meeting morning of July 1st was attended by JN, see Items 1.3 and 1.4. PD sent apologies for the meeting with Helen Grant MP and SH in Maidstone on the afternoon of July 1.
 - Footpaths – MR reported that he has improved waymarking signage on footpaths close to the Cottage Hospital using KCC signs. He has reviewed some of the footpaths in the old Village Society walking booklets and identified improvements that should be made before the booklets are re-published
 - HCT – HPC awaits a full response from VVW's (Veale Wasbrough Vizards) and a new draft constitution.
 - Car Parking. NTR

6.1 **6 Reports of Committee Chairmen**

- Buildings – A new broadband line will be needed for the proposed CCTV service at the Sports Hall. Redecoration is planned in Copt Hall. CCTV is being looked at for the Sports Hall. The next meeting is on July 25th at 7.15 pm in the Copt Hall.
- Land – A meeting was held on 27th June. MR was elected chairman and CW was elected vice chairman with PJ remaining as representative for F&GP Committee. Playgrounds will remain under the scrutiny of Land Committee and AH stood forward to create a schedule of improvements. The annual walkaround took place on 7th July. 2 areas of concern were identified, being the cemetery and play areas. See Item 1.1. 3 of 4 plots at the cemetery had made the requested changes and would soon be turfed to facilitate mowing. MR had held an amicable phone conversation with the 4th party who had agreed to make the requested changes. Unfortunately this had not been done. MR to review in one week. Wooden edges identified as a medium risk in the ROSPA report are being removed. The skate park was discussed and sent to full council see item 7.3. Best wishes were sent to CW by Members.
- 6.3 F&GP – NTR. Meeting due on 18th July.
- 6.4 Personnel – NTR.
- 6.5 Fete – NTR. Meeting planned for September.
- 6.6 NDP – JN reported that a meeting is planned for 20th July. JN hopes to have all Regulation 16 documentation ready to recommend to full council on July 25th. All agreed to hold an extraordinary general meeting on that date at 8pm in the Copt Hall.

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7.1 **Matters for further discussion**

- 7.1 Hawkhurst Parish Council's Neighbourhood Development Plan – item deferred to 25th July extraordinary general meeting.
- 7.2 Resubmission of planning permission for Copt Hall. MB, supported by BF proposed that *Hawkhurst Parish Council submits a new planning application solely on its own land of the Copt Hall and not jointly with adjoining land*. This was agreed by 11 Members with one abstention (MC). It was agreed that the Clerk will liaise with C Schalberg and the neighbouring resident for the purpose of drawings for the application. The Buildings Committee will liaise with the adjoining owner with regards to drains.
- 7.3 Skate Park – MA related that the 2012 Village Appraisal identified a skate park as the most requested additional new facility. There has been no progress but he now seeks an accurate costing for a concrete park. A structural engineer has visited Hawkhurst and also the Tunbridge Wells Skate Garden. They have made a more detailed design proposal and would require approximately £2K to cost the scheme. He believes demand in the village can be demonstrated for this facility but there has not yet been full council support for it. PD is against the concrete urban park style. AH believes it could form part of an overall plan for young people as part of an outdoor activity plan. MC suggested Tesco grant funding could be sought. JN and MB both felt some show of enthusiasm for it from the community was needed and research from other parishes. AH volunteered to look at activities and a strategy for youth to bring to the September 12th full council meeting and consider what ticks boxes for funding. MA agreed with this and agreed to find out more about who would use it and what preferences for designs were and why. All agreed the skate park should be and item on the September 12th agenda.

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8: Correspondence

	Date Received	From	Subject	Action
1	04/07/16	Owner of the Smugglers Alehouse	Future potential use of the premises.	Noted.
2	11/07/16	Resident	Permission to place a bench in memory of husband opposite Kino	Members request proposal of other locations.

9: Finance

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE JUNE 2016

Accounts for payment	£	9,307.73
Payment received	£	8,578.77
Net Expenditure	-£	728.96
Cambridge & Counties Reserve	£	75,000.00
Lloyds Current	£	10,000.00
Lloyds Access Reserve	£	133,915.61
Petty Cash	£	67.16

9.1 Payments were examined and voted for unanimously.

9.2 JN confirmed that she had checked the petty cash and the bank rec.

10. Planning

10.1. Planning & Highways Information:

Ref. No.	Proposal	Location	Comments
KCC	Road closure 8 th Aug 5 days	Water Lane (Attwaters Lane to Woodsden Barn Park Farm)	Overhead cabling
TWBC Planning	Site Allocations Plan, receipt of Inspector's Final Report	TW Borough (Hawkhurst Chapter 7)	Accepted by TWBC Cabinet 22 June. To be considered by TWBC Full Council 20 July. HPC's proposed brownfield sites are included by the inspector for allocation. Highgate Hill is not allocated.
16/502297/FUL	Change of use from retail to residential	The Charity Shop Cranbrook Rd	Application withdrawn.
14 June 2016	Parish Chairman Briefing	TW Borough – Local Plan Review	Parish Council engagement requested by TWBC.

10.2 Planning TWBC Approved:

Ref	Proposal	Location	Comments/Valid
16/502248/FULL	Demolition of existing garages and erection of 1 x 2 bed affordable home with 4 parking spaces	Garages, Park Cottages	
16/503231/SUB	Discharge of condition 3 of 16/501203 re: materials	Watkins & Doncaster, Conghurst Lane	
16/504199/FULL	Retrospective permission for change of use of ground floor and land for temporary storage associated with landscaping business	Bokes Oast Farm, Horns Hill	
16/503712/FULL	Single Storey rear extension and	Wayside, The Moor	

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	replacement outbuilding		
16/504341/FULL	1 st floor side extension, 2 storey and single storey rear extensions with weatherboard cladding to 1 st floor.	2 Gingerbread Lane, Hawkhurst	

10.3 Planning TWBC Refused:

Ref. No.	Proposal	Location	Comments/Valid
16/503860/NMA MD	Non Material Amendment to remove side window and insert sky light under ref 07/02954/FUL.	Briars Bank, Rye Road	Would result in a material alteration to the development.
15/504609/FULL ; APP/M2270/W/15/3141313	A new dwelling with annex joined by glazed link and 3 bay garage.	OS Plot 2074, High Street, Hawkhurst	Damage to AONB and strongly verdant character; potential damage to TPO Silver Birch; damage to views; proximity to Chittenden House and Marlborough House, both Grade II listed; suburbanization of streetscene, contrary to 2010 Core Strategy, 2006 Local Plan, Landscape Character Assessment 2009, High Weald AONB Mgt Plan 2014-19.
16/505028/LAW PRO	Lawful Development Certificate for swimming pool	Updown House Conghurst Lane	Not a permitted development as not entirely within residential curtilage; area exceeds 10 m sq and is more than 20m from dwellinghouse.

10.4 Planning Applications

Nu mb er	Applica tion No	Proposal	Location	Comments	Decisi on	Agr ee	Ag ain st	Ab stai n	Pla n Ctt ee
22	16/504392 /FULL	External alterations and extension with an addition of a 1st floor to create 2 self contained residential units.	Barclays Bank plc, High Street	HPC does not want to see the loss of retail space in the heart of the village, particularly having lost almost all at The Moor. The Application does not demonstrate concerted efforts to re-let the premises. There is no parking provision for prospective new owners.	Against	3	9	0	N
23	16/504593 /LBC	LBC for amended car parking and landscaping arrangement with a new entrance wall and gate to listed building setting.	Lillesden Park, Hastings Rd		Agree	11	0	PJ	N
24	16/504687 /FULL	Remove existing tiles hanging from 1st floor elevation. Clad all elevations from DPC with white Cedral Weatherboard.	The Wrens Nest, Hastings Rd	Members felt that the tile hung elevations were more vernacular than weatherboarding. If cladding were considered, HPC NDP supports the use of local timber rather than artificial alternatives.	Against	3	9	0	N

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25	16/504842 /FULL	Minor material amendment to 16/501203/FULL to include porches to House Type A and B	Watkins & Doncaster, Conghurst Lane		Agree	All	0	0	N
26	16/505057 /FULL	Single Storey Extension at front	25 Smugglers Hawkhurst		Agree	8	4	0	N
27	16/504929 /FULL	Material alterations to the approved planning Ref: 15/508486/FULL (Remodel existing bungalow to include**	Green Lawns, Stream Lane		Agree	All	0	0	N
28	16/504989 /LBC	LBC for proposed new ensuite bathroom at 1st floor.	Primrose Hill, Slip Mill Lane		Agree	All	0	0	N
29	16/504769 /FULL	Erection of a garden/storage building (retrospective)	Mono House, Ockley Road		Agree	9	2	MC	N
30	16/504589 /FULL	Part retrospective - amended car parking and landscaping arrangement with a new entrance wall and gate to listed building setting.	Lillesden Park, Hastings Rd		Agree	11	0	PJ	N
31	16/505222 /OUT	Outline for 2 light industrial units, parking and new vehicular/pedestrian units (access onto Whites Lane)	Land to rear of Hartnokes	HPC were concerned about the impact on ancient woodland and surface water draining into ancient woodland creating a contamination risk. Proximity to housing raised concerns of loss of residential amenity and noise pollution. HPC would support provision of employment but not at this location. The application and drawings give different parking space numbers. A further observation from the Members of Hawkhurst Parish Council was concern that the steep drop off at the back of the plot would require a considerable amount of infill.	Against	All	0	0	N
32	15/510058 /FULL	Part retrospective - change of use of existing church into 5 residential units including roof	Methodist Church, Highgate Hill	HPC feel this is overdevelopment and feel there is inadequate provision for visitor parking	Against	MA	9	PJ, MC	N

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		extension to rear, changes to fenestration and other alterations.							
33	16/505145 /FULL	New 3 bay timber garage and removal of existing timber garage	The Wrens Nest, Hastings Rd	HPC approves of the design, but supports the use of local timber instead of artificial alternatives.	Against	5	6	MR	N
34	16/505178 /FULL	Site alterations to pedestrian area, shop front, car park.	Jempsons Store, Rye Road	HPC wish to express concern at a reduction of 14 spaces as there is already pressure on parking in the village. They would also prefer to see the 2 'poor' trees replaced.	Agree	7	4	MC	N

** demolition of rear conservatory, brick outbuilding, dormer extension and remove chimney stacks. Replacement windows & doors and slate roof tiles. Erection of a new side and rear extension, entrance porch and replacement garage). Change approved flat roof structure to pitched roof to rear extension, Change approved colour render external walls to vertical timber cladding.

11 Burials and Memorial

Interment Date	Deceased	
	None	

12 Notes and Information

12.1

	Date	from	subject
1.	27.06.16	Kent Trust for Youth Sport	Grants available
2.	27.06.16	TWBC Housing Register Form	Shows Hawkhurst Village
3.	04.07.16	Kent County Playing Fields Association	Newsletter
4.	11.07.16	KCC	Consultation – Kent Waste Disposal Strategy. PW to formulate a response from HPC supporting a recycling centre in Cranbrook.

13 Confidential

13.1 A report from Peter Hodges of Lambert & Foster was considered. It was agreed to make one final attempt to make an offer for All Saints Church up to an agreed limit. 11 agreed with one against.

13.2 The Kepner-Tregoe analysis of 12 potential village hall sites was reviewed and all agreed that it should be included as an appendix in the R.16 NDP document.

14 Closure

14.1 The meeting closed at 22.50

15 Future Meetings

15.1 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at Copt Hall on Monday 01st August 2016 commencing at 19:45.

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

Julia Newman, Chairman of the Parish Council.