

Hawkhurst Parish Council

Hawkhurst Parish Council

Meeting: **Full Council**
Date: 14th Dec 2015
Ref: nm.
Typed: 16th Dec 2015

Copt Hall

PRESENT

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

ADDITIONAL CIRCULATION

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

1 Adjournment for public speaking.

1.1 There were no public speakers present but PD read out a statement submitted from the agent for planning application 72, John Bullock.

2. Apologies for Absence:

2.1 Apologies were received from Mrs. A Hastie and Mr. P Jones.

3. Declaration of interests:

3.1 All Members declared that they had been lobbied by email by John Bullock, the agent for planning application 72.

4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting

4.1 BW, supported by MA, proposed acceptance of the amended Minutes of 12th October 2015 with the substitution of 'the Springetts Board of Trustees' with 'The Iddenden Trust and Springetts Board of Trustees' as requested by the Clerk of The Iddenden Trust and Springetts Trust. This was accepted with 3 abstentions.

4.2 PD, supported by MB, proposed acceptance of the Minutes of 9th November 2015. This was accepted with 4 abstentions.

4.3 PD, supported by GD, proposed acceptance of the Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting of 30th November 2015. This was accepted with 1 abstention.

5. Matters arising

5.1 Transport. MA reported that he is still pursuing an improvement of the bus information with KCC and would like to defer an action relating to the cost of correcting the bus information to FCM on January 11th.

5.2 Youth. JH reported that a meeting is planned on December 22nd with Eddie Walsh of KCC to discuss a proposal for a youth club for 11-14s at Copt Hall for 3 Wednesdays per month, plus Streetcruizer at KGV on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. JH said his 3 recent visits to Streetcruizer gave him the impression that it forms more of a social club than a youth club and that the attendance was low.

5.3 Police. JH reported that Crime statistics were 11 reports for November, which is very low, including 1 theft from a car, 3 thefts, 4 criminal damage, 1 burglary other than a dwelling, 1 possession of a classified substance and 1 assault.

5.4 Local Community

Speedwatch – The latest statistics from Speedwatch show an increase in speeders identified in the village. A meeting hosted by Helen Grant took place on December 4th, but apologies were sent from Hawkhurst, The next one will be on February 19th 2016. A fixed camera trial is taking place in Maidstone. Police and KCC disagree on who should bear the cost but the trial responds to Speedwatch statistics for the first time and Hawkhurst is hopeful that the trial can be extended here.

Footpath Map – MR reported that the cabinet for the map has been quoted at £680 by his preferred cabinet-maker, which is within budget.

HCT – PD read out an email received from Whitehead-Monckton responding to queries about charity commission views on selling of charity assets and combining them with other organisations e.g.: HPC. All agreed that the solicitors should carry on as before with getting the charity set up.

6 Reports of Committee Chairmen

6.1 Buildings – A meeting was held on 23rd November. The budget for 2016/17 was agreed. The doors to

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the Copt Hall are to be mended, a deep clean has taken place of the Sports Hall and the snooker table and table tennis table are to be moved to the Copt Hall for the new youth club, to make more space in the Sports Hall. GD has secured a saving of approximately £1,000 on the energy contract for 2016 for street lighting with Opus Energy and was greatly thanked by the Members for this. Estimates have been received to paint the outside of the Sports Hall, within budget, by the end of March. BF voiced his concern that the Sports Hall had been left very muddy after use on Saturday morning by a regular user. It was agreed that it had been very wet conditions but that a cleaning fee of £20 may need to be levied. The Clerk is to contact the hall user.

6.2 Land – CW reported that a meeting is due on 21st December. The guttering has been replaced and new water butts installed on the Cemetery shed creating a clean water supply for cemetery visitors and their flowers. A very good job has been done by the external caretaker.

6.3 F&GP – PD reported that a meeting on 16th November, a target of a 1.9% rise was agreed for the 2016/17 budget. A provision of £2,000 has been made for election costs for 2016.

6.4 Personnel – Caretaker appraisals have both been carried out. Nothing else to report.

6.5 Fete –CW reported that The Hawkhurst Christmas Festival took place on 12th December. All agreed it was a great success and great thanks were given by the Members to the hard workers of the Fete Committee. Thanks were also expressed to the Royal Oak for the use of its car park. The fireworks had to be cancelled because of the very gusty strong winds. A new Team of volunteers put up all the trees and lights in the village ahead of the festival, who were also thanked. Most stallholders reported a very successful afternoon.

6.6 NDP – JN reported that the last meeting was on November 11th. It had evaluated the drop-in consultation on the 4th and 5th November. The online survey closed on December 7th and the evaluation showed very positive support for the NDP draft policies with an average support rating of 86% across all of the policies. In particular, very helpful and detailed comments had been received back from the TWBC Planning Policy team. JN, supported by PD, proposed *a letter of thanks should be sent to Kelvin Hinton*. 10 agreed with 1 abstention from BW. The Regulation 14 draft version of the NDP is now being put together for submission to TWBC. It will be highlighting the historic aspects of Hawkhurst e.g.: route ways, ancient woodland, historic farmsteads, over 200 listed buildings. MR is speaking to walking groups for their assistance in pinpointing important views. The Community Hall sub-committee are carrying on with their fact-finding for All Saints. JN will approach a contact in the Church of England for information on running and conversion costs for old churches. JN has spoken to Cranbrook TC about their consultation for adding car park leases to the precept and their fundraising efforts for their new community centre. Dr Dewing is keeping JN in touch with their project for a new medical centre. The government grant of £7995 towards NDP costs has now been applied for and offered. Matthew Balfour at KCC will be chased on his action to look into the A229 as a designated HGV route. JN will be presenting at a conference in Ashford on NDPs on 16th December. The NDP Committee resolved that HPC should not make a call for sites and that TWBC should make a call for sites using the criteria in Hawkhurst's NDP. JN updated on the traffic junction issues. Following Sean Holden's kind offer to pay for a topographical survey, the cost has come down as some of the data is already available. The contractor will get the full set to Ferial before Christmas for them to work up some concepts for the A228/A229 junction to include in the Regulation 14 draft NDP document. PD updated on the negotiations for All Saints. All Members had voted by email to appoint Lambert and Foster on HPC's behalf. They have now met with Peter Buswell and opened discussions, declaring the Parish Council's serious interest in the site.

7. **Matters for further discussion**

7.1 The HPC Development Strategy was reviewed. F&GP reviewed this in November and PD, supported by MB proposed *HPC accept F&GP's recommendation to add the words 'particularly relating to HGVs' to section 6 i.)*.

7.2 PD updated the Members on Fowlers Car Park. At the meeting at Fowlers Park with the KCC surveyor, a figure of £1,500 per annum was suggested as a figure that KCC could agree to for a lease of the car park. HPC have written to KCC Cllr Roger Gough, Portfolio holder for Education, asserting a moral obligation on KCC to provide this car park for the safety of younger children being dropped off and collected from their classroom. The letter has been acknowledged but not replied to. It was agreed that this letter would be copied to Greg Clark MP, KCC Cllr Sean Holden, TWBC Cllrs Bev Palmer, Nathan Grey and Godfrey Bland. MB, supported by GD proposed that *HPC does not rush in to pay £1,500 per annum for Fowlers Car Park until more information has been received*. JN and JH expressed concern as the village very much needs Fowlers Car Park. The motion was supported with 8 in favour and JH, JN and PD abstaining.

7.3 The Clerk announced the winner of the KALC Community Awards Scheme, voted for by HPC Members, as Mrs Carole Williamson for all of her many contributions in supporting efforts in the

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community and in particular at WRAP, The Hospital League of Friends Green Shop, HPC Fete Committee, Bonfire Society and past Community Correspondent in Hawkhurst for the Courier newspaper. Mrs. Williamson will be awarded with her framed certificate at the Annual Parish Assembly on April 25th 2016.

8: Correspondence

	Date Received	From	Subject	Action
1	04.11.15	Resident	Concern with overgrowth of hedges on Rye Road	Noted that this is now with KCC Enforcement.
2	11.11.15	Chiddingstone PC Clerk	Gatwick flight path concerns	Noted but no action to be taken.
3	20.11.15	TW CAB	Request for grant	PD, supported by CW proposed a grant of £100 from S.137 funds, unanimously supported.
4	23.11.15	The Counselling Centre	Request for grant	BW, supported by MB, proposed a grant of £120 from S.137 funds, supported with 8 for and 3 against.
5	02.12.15	A resident	CC letter received from G Clark MP re planning application for 62 houses on Highgate Hill, appeal granted.	Noted
6	02.12.15	Greg Clark MP	Letter in response to HPC letter of concern re: Highgate Hill appeal grant.	Noted
7	14.12.15	Greg Clark MP	Christmas card	Noted

9: Finance

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE NOVEMBER 2015

Accounts for payment	£ 23,716.81
Payment received	£ 2,567.00
Net Expenditure	-£ 21,149.81
Cambridge & Counties Reserve	£ 86,147.60
Lloyds Current	£ 10,940.00
Lloyds Access Reserve	£ 118,786.89
Petty Cash	£ 44.36

9.1 Payments were examined and voted for unanimously.

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

10. Planning

MB attended the Site Allocation DPD Examination on behalf of the Parish Council. Countryside Properties are still seeking to have the Highgate Hill site put back into the SADPD despite having won planning permission for their scheme. The Inspector agreed to reference Hawkhurst as a 'village' throughout the SADPD. MB told the Inspector that despite Hawkhurst's current over-allocation at 267 of 240, HPC believed that the brownfield sites should be allocated as they were within the LBD and needed to be developed or they would remain as 'grot spots'.

PD briefed Members on the Planning workshop he had attended regarding modern additions to historic

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buildings. Whilst he agreed that additions that are only linked to historic buildings are less concerning as they may only be temporary, he was still less convinced by extensions that become part of the historic building but are themselves very modern in style. Head of Planning Jane Lynch has offered to meet with HPC to discuss individual cases ahead of determination if required.

10.1. Planning & Highways Information:

Ref. No.	Proposal	Location	Comments
07.12.2015	TWBC SCI (Statement of Community Involvement) consultation	TWBC Planning Dept.	How TWBC will involve the community in preparation and review of planning policy and in planning decisions. Runs 07.12.15 – 15.01.16. All Members will send submissions for Clerk to collate and send in.
Highways England	Lorry Park consultation	2 potential locations to west and south east of M20 J11	Comments by 25 th January 2016. All agreed not to send in a representation.

10.2 Planning TWBC Approved:

Ref. No.	Proposal	Location	Comments/Valid
15/507839/FULL	Retrospective replacement outbuilding	8 Plum Tree Cottages, Horns Road	
15/508088/FULL	Erection of side extension and changes to fenestration	12 Tory Row, Heartenoak Rd	
15/508059/FULL	Increase in length of rear facing dormer due to internal alterations, excavating garden for parking of 2 vehicles	Dronwood, Horns Rd	
15/508183/FULL	Joint application to demolish dilapidated garden room at No.11 and conservatory at no. 19 and construct 2 storey extension each plus extension of residential curtilage by 10m.	11 and 19 Smugglers	
15/508611/TCA	Conservation area notification to fell 2 birch, 1 maple, and reduce crown of 1 other birch and maple by 30%	Highgate Service Station, Rye Road.	

10.3 Planning TWBC Refused:

Ref. No.	Proposal	Location	Comments/Valid
15/504609/FULL	New dwelling with annex joined by glazed link and 3 bay garage	OS Plot 2074 High Street	Introduces new residential use to unsustainable rural location within AONB and outside LBD, sensitive location, harms AONB, potential to damage roots of a TPO tree.
15/507605/FULL	Erection of first floor extension over existing single ground floor extension to rear of property	3 Lavender Square, Ockley Road	Unsympathetic and out of character with rest of building, overbearing for no. 4 with loss of light.

10.4 Planning Applications

Number	Application No	Proposal	Location	Comments	Decision	Agree	Against	Abstain	Plan Cttee
72	15/509164/FULL	Two storey side extension, loft conversion with	The Spinney, Rye Road	The bulk and mass of the extension is prominent and bulky and is inappropriate on	Against	3	6	MR, JN	N

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		dormer windows and rooflights		the building and in this location and represents a distortion of the original building.					
73	15/50932 0/FULL	Conversion of coach house to 2 units of residential accommodation	The Studio (The Coach House), Collingwood House, Hastings Road	The Members wondered why no separate LBC application had been submitted relating to this application?	Agree	All			N
74	15/50895 4/FULL	Demolition of existing building and erection of 9 dwellings with garaging, parking provision and new access	Brook House, Cranbrook Road	The streetlight should be managed by the developer.	Agree	9	CW	GD	N
75	15/50961 0/FULL	Demolition of single garage and flat roof addition; erection of 2 storey side extension and alterations	6 Plum Tree Cottages, Horns Road	The mass of the extension is over-large and imposes on the neighbouring property. There is inadequate turning space for forward exit onto the highway without a garage.	Against	0	8	JH,MB,MA	N
76	15/50878 3/FULL	Part retrospective construction of a greenhouse in garden	Slip Mill Cottage, Slip Mill Lane		Agree	All			N
77	15/50607 4/LBC	LBC for removal of timber windows and replace with timber double glazed windows with dummy sashes. Replace front door with timber door and rear door with timber stable door.	Lower Conghurst Oast, Conghurst Lane		Agree	All			N
78	15/50960 1/FULL	Erection of single storey rear extension to form garden room, single storey side extension and internal alterations.	7 Highgate Hill		Agree	All			N
79	15/50980 0/FULL	Replacement decking to rear of house with new, larger	Bakery Cottage, Winchester Road		Agree	10	0	MB	N

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	decking						
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10 **Burials and Memorial**

Interment Date	Deceased	
09 November 2015	Jean Marion Spice	Burial
12 November 2015	Irene Joan Kennaird	Burial

12 **Notes and Information**

- 12.1 Hop Pickers Line – PD announced that on January 8th, press information will be made available about the project. MR will give a public statement about the project to Full Council on January 11th.
- 12.2 CW reported that the Community Automated External Defibrillator is now installed on the front right wall of the Royal Oak Public House. It is fully automatic, giving spoken instructions so can be used by any member of the public. A familiarisation session was held at the Royal Oak for 30 people on December 7, which was much appreciated by those present. Thanks are due to the Royal Oak and John Rivers of KALC, who gave time and premises free of charge and to Hawkhurst Gang Bonfire Society who raised most of the funds for the defibrillator for the village. A letter has been sent by the Clerk to HGBS thanking them on behalf of the village for the provision of the defibrillator.
- 12.3 Re: Item 2: Members agreed to make the Sports Hall available to Fire Fighters as a base for rest and operational control should it be needed when dealing with a local incident. The Clerk will request a map of fire hydrants from KALC so that their accessibility can be monitored for the Fire Service. Members agreed that priority should be placed on the formation of a disaster recovery/community resilience plan once the NDP was completed.

	Date	from	subject
1	20.11.15	ACRE Kent	Annual Summary 2014-15
2	19.10.15	KALC/Kent FRS	Information Update
3	20.11.15	Fete Committee	Minutes 27.10 & 17.11 & 02.12.15
4	10.11.15	KCC Highways	How Roadworks are managed
5	01.12.15	Country Eye	Rural Safety App (means of logging fly tipping to TWBC)

13 **Confidential**

13.1 None

14 **Closure**

14.1 The meeting closed at 22.08.

15 **Future Meetings**

15.1 The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at Copt Hall on Monday 11th January 2016 commencing at 19:45.

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

Peter Dartnell, Chairman of the Parish Council.