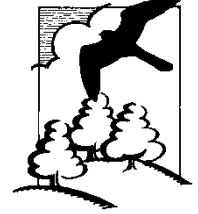


HAWKHURST PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES 15th November 2021

Present: Cllr Escombe (Chairman) Cllr Taylor-Smith (Vice Chairman) Cllr Weeden, Cllr Green, Cllr Paish, Cllr Hunt, Cllr Blake, Cllr Lloyd-Owen, Cllr Ridley, Cllr Pyne and Cllr Cory

1. ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

- i) Sean Holden, KCC Member noted the ongoing campaign for removing HGV's from rural areas and enhancing the environment for Bees. Also that he is keen to liaise with the Council to help support students and parents of impacted by the closure of High Weald Academy.
- ii) Cranbrook Rd / Heartenoak junction – Cllr Palmer, noted the enforcement action letter recently sent.
- iii) Lillesden Speed Signage – Planning condition - Cllr Thompson to chase up
- iv) A resident thanked the Council for their hard work and making the Remembrance Sunday a success. There was a good turn out and good numbers on the Parade. Equally, the Council thanked the resident for all her hard work in the Community to make the day such a success.

2. **APOLOGIES AND REASON FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr Faulkner joined by zoom as member of the public and Cllr Anderson is recuperating

3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** *To receive notice of personal interests, whether of a prejudicial nature or otherwise, in respect of items on this agenda, in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct. NA*

4. MINUTES:

4.1 Approval

- i) Cllr Paish proposed and Cllr Taylor-Smith seconded to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 18th October 2021 – agreed unanimously
- ii) Cllr Blake proposed and Cllr Green seconded to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 25th October 2021 – agreed majority 10, for, 0 against 1 abstained as not present

4.2 Note

- i) The minutes of the Facilities and Services Committee 13th September 2021 and Planning Committee 21st October 2021 were noted

5. OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

- i) **Hawkhurst Broadband - Community Interest Company** – (14.12.20/5.7) – all invited to a meeting 18.11.21, 10:30am
- ii) **Update on KGV boiler (17.6.2021/6.6)** Cllr Paish noted they are waiting a final sign off and hope to have it installed soon.
- iii) **Verbal update on the Hawkhurst Golf Club planning appeal (19.7.21/6.2)** – Cllr Escombe still waiting nothing to add
- iv) **Update on Chairman's Group meeting (16.8.21/6.2)** – Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Committee Terms of Reference – Clerk noted meeting delayed by COVID 19 new meeting to be arranged

6. MATTERS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION:

- 6.1 **External Audit Report** – RFO introduced the report. A discussion followed and identified the need for councillors to double-check the reported figures. The Council is now aware that, contrary to the advice received, if the public rights exercise were to start late in future, it should be reported as not being undertaken on external audit form.

Cllr Green proposed and Cllr Ridley seconded to note the attached report, approve and undertake actions – agreed unanimously

- 6.2 **Appointment of Internal Auditor** – RFO introduced the item

Cllr Escombe proposed and Cllr Hunt seconded to appoint David Bucket as Internal Auditor – agreed majority 9 for, 0 against and 2 abstain

- 6.3 **Proposed fees and charges** – Cllr Cory introduced the report and following a discussion;

Cllr Cory proposed and Cllr Ridley seconded to retain the existing Fees and Charges – agreed unanimously

- 6.4 **Planning Committee membership** – Clerk raised the point that the Planning Committee was still short of one Councillor and asked if any Councillor would like to join the Committee, no one stepped forward. Then Cllr Escombe introduced the proposed amendment, following a discussion.

Cllr Escombe proposed and Cllr Cory seconded to adopt the attached amendment to the Planning Committee Terms of Reference - agreed majority 11 for 1 against and 0 abstained

- 6.5 **Reappointment of IT support services** – following a discussion subject to an update to windows 11.

Cllr Escombe proposed and Cllr Paish seconded to appoint Microshade on a 3-year contract attached plus upgrade to windows 11 – agreed majority 10 for, 1 against and 0 abstain

- 6.6 **Approval of Community and Sports Centre planning application fee** – following a discussion

Cllr Weeden proposed and Cllr Taylor-Smith seconded to approve the Community and Sports Centre planning application fee of £3,234 – agreed majority 6 for, 3 against and 2 abstain

6.7 **Update on McCarthy and Stone car parking issue** – Cllr Lloyd-Owen updated the Council that the McCarthy and Stone Site Manager has only just come back with the potential to tarmac the Copt Hall car park and to use the car park for their vehicles. There was a mixed view of the use of the Copt Hall car park by McCarthy and Stone contractors. Cllr Lloyd - Owen to continue discussions with McCarthy and Stone and report back to FAS Committee

7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND UPDATES

7.1 Facility and Services Committee – 8th November 2021 - Cllr Cory updated the Council on the Allotments, Cemetery, Copt Hall, KGV and Parish Office.

7.2 Planning Committee – 21st October 2021 - Cllr Escombe minutes circulated nothing to add.

8. Finance

8.1 Financial position – was noted

8.2 Agreement to pay payments schedule – circulated

Cllr Taylor-Smith proposed and Cllr Green seconded to approve the circulated payment list plus the auditor’s fee and the planning application fee – agreed unanimously

9. CORRESPONDENCE

No	From	Issue	
1	Various residents	Concerns about the waste garden collection – or lack of them	Lobbied TWBC – now a phased collection
2	Various residents	Concerns about cameras in the village	Explained it was part of the Dandara’s traffic survey – note in the independents schools half term.
3	Various residents	Complaints about broadband	Agreed and still seeking a meeting with KCC / Openreach
4	A resident	Concern about Community and Sports Centre costs and lack of transparency	Need to be transparent with costs – article in Parish Newsletter to start / update FAQ’s

10. NOTES & INFORMATION

11. BURIALS AND MEMORIALS - none

12. CONFIDENTIAL:

12.1 Update on Parish Office Cllr Cory led a discussion

CLOSURE:

Signed.....

Date.....