

HAWKHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes



STRATEGY, ADMINISTRATION AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Meeting held at the Copt Hall, Copt Hall Avenue, Hawkhurst on Monday 24th April 2022 at 7.15pm.

In attendance Cllr Anderson, Cllr Blake, Cllr Eccles, Cllr Green (chairman) and Cllr Veal.

1. **ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING:** The minute book was closed and the public forum took place.
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Apologies received from Cllr Faulkner and noted.
3. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** There were no such declarations were made.
4. **MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING:** Noted that minutes of the 12th December 2022 meeting had been approved at the last Full Council meeting.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

5. **Asset valuation & insurance:** The Committee unanimously resolved to commission a valuation of assets to be carried out by Barrett Corp & Harrington Ltd and use a NLAC-approved insurance broker to obtain insurance quotation before the end of the financial year. (Proposer Cllr Green, Seconder Cllr Andersen)
6. **Victoria Hall:** The Committee noted arrangements for the rent review and unanimously resolved to instruct the clerk to write to the Kino to remind them of the process and to put this on the agenda once the CPI figure for December 2023 is known. (Proposer Cllr Green, Seconder Cllr Eccles) The Committee resolved unanimously that the Clerk should confirm that our interest as freeholder has been noted in the Kino's insurance. (Proposer Cllr Green, Seconder Cllr Blake)
7. **Parish Notice Board:** The Committee unanimously resolved to approach Croft Glass to seek options for the replacement of the current scratched Perspex, and to make recommendations for the restoration and preservation of the wooden structure. Also, a spare key was needed to be kept in the office. (Proposer Cllr Green, Seconder Cllr Blake)
8. **Parish Office:** The Committee unanimously resolved to review the provision of IT hardware and software and made recommendations. The Committee further resolved that if proposals are within the budgeted £3,000 that the Clerk with the approval of the SAP chairman may proceed with any purchase in line with our Financial Regulations (Proposer Cllr Green, Seconder Cllr Eccles).

- 9. Openreach / fibre:** The Committee noted that the provision of fibre services will be a future agenda item only if there are exceptional issues.
- 10. Section 137 expenditure:** The Committee noted the current s137 limits, and unanimously resolved that the Council should consider bringing together all types of s137 expenditure under one budget heading for the next financial year. (Proposer Cllr Green, Seconder Cllr Blake)
- 11. Transparency:** The Committee unanimously resolved that the Council should abide by the Transparency Code in full. (Proposer Cllr Green, Seconder Cllr Blake)
- 12. Community Centre:** The Committee resolved to bring the following to the Full Council for debate and decision: "This Council does not support continuing with the building of a large community centre at the King George V Playing Fields as set out in the planning application approved in July 2022 by TWBC." (Proposer Cllr Green, Seconder Cllr Veale)
- 13. Three parcels of land:** The Committee noted the limited progress in adopting three triangles of land (two along the High Road out to the A21 (including the one with the old pub sign used as a village sign), and one at Horns Road. An update will be forthcoming following contact with our KCC councilor.
- 14. Land registry and ownership:** The Committee unanimously resolved to contact the solicitors Crips Pemberton Greenish to ascertain progress with Land Registry and secure documents they hold, and report back to the Committee. (Proposer Cllr Green, Seconder Cllr Veale)
- 15. Community Grant:** A Community Grant for the Fete Committee for £600 was unanimously agreed by the Committee. (Proposer Cllr Green, Seconder Cllr Andersen)
- 16. The Moor:** The Committee unanimously resolved to work with the Open Spaces Society to make an application to correct the omission of The Moor in the KCC official register of Village Greens. (Proposer Cllr Green, Seconder Cllr Veale)
- 17. Councillor questions/comments:** Cllr Parish gave an update on planned Coronation activity.
- 18. The meeting closed at 8.55pm**