



WEST HOATHLY PARISH COUNCIL

representing Highbrook, Selsfield, Sharpthorne, Tyes Cross and West Hoathly

Document Reference 2107

Minutes of the Meeting of West Hoathly Asset and Highways Committee held on Monday 15 March 2021 at 7:30pm in West Hoathly Village Hall

Members

Paul Brown (Vice Chairman)	Jenny Edwards
Neil Greatorex (Chairman)	Claire Hilton
Martin Robinson	Douglas Denham St Pinnock
	Nicholas Griffin

* denotes absence

Also present:

Leanne Andrews (Clerk)
Andy Beams (Locum RFO)
Rita Des Forges (Tree warden)
Nick Des Forges (Tree Warden)

Due to the restrictions put in place in response to the Covid-19 pandemic this meeting was held using video conferencing technology

There was 1 member of the public present

329) To receive apologies for absence

There were none.

330) To receive declarations of interest from Councillors in respect of any matter on the Agenda

Neil Greatorex declared an interest as an allotment holder.

331) To approve minutes of the Meeting of the Asset & Highways Committee held on 16 November 2021 (Document Reference 2032)

The minutes were approved, and the Chairman will sign them as a true record at a later date.

332) To receive the clerk's report and note any points of interest

The Clerk's report was received and noted

An update was received on the fencing at The Warblers, it was noted that the water meter covers are loose and South East water have agreed to fix them.

The clerk read out an email from a resident, concerned with the parking on the junction of Highbrook Lane, outside the Fox. It was agreed for the issue to be monitored but that it was a West Sussex Highways matter.

333) To review expenditure against budget for the year to 28 February 2021

The expenditure was noted.

Assets

334) To receive report on Finche Field

a) To receive report on the Allotments

There were no issues to note.

Andy Beams left the meeting

b) To receive an update on the Community Orchard

Donations have been received from residents towards the costs of a new picnic bench. It was agreed to use these donations plus some of the remaining funds from the Community Orchard donations to purchase a picnic bench. The remaining funds include a grant that was received from East Grinstead Common Good Trust. The committee agreed that the picnic bench would be placed in the picnic area overlooking the community orchard and that any remaining funds would be kept for failed trees.

The Chairman suspended standing orders to allow the member of the public to speak.

The member of the public highlighted that the cost for replacement trees would be considerably lower than the original costings as it would not need to include deer protection.

It was also noted that the picnic benches would be wheelchair accessible.

The Chairman reinstated standing orders.

c) To monitor use of the Finche Field car park

It was noted that mud had formed on the area near to the top allotment site, Neil Greatorex offered to move the mud to try and reinstate the parking space.

335) To discuss the Greenhouse Policy on Allotments

The allotment policy was included in the clerk's report. After discussion it was agreed to make no changes to the current policy.

336) To consider a resident's request to hire North Lane Rec

The committee felt the request should be encouraged but agreed to contact West Hoathly Football Club to confirm their usage of the rec first.

A decision would be added to the next Parish Council meeting.

337) To receive an update from the Bluebell Woods working group

Quotes for soil and water testing have been received. The committee agreed to support the recommendation of the working group.

A tree condition report has now been obtained.

It was agreed that the clerk will arrange a meeting with Cluttons and Riverdale to discuss the condition report and ongoing drainage issue.

The working group are looking to set up a volunteer group to clear debris from the site and an access road is to be created to enable the removal of large items.

A letter will be sent to residents of Bluebell lane to ask that garden waste is not dumped on the site and that non-native plants are to not be planted.

Highways

338) To note issues on C319

The West Sussex cluster SID is in the parish until the 4th April. It will shortly move to Highbrook.

It was noted that the sink hole has reappeared on Chapel Row and that it will be reported to Highways.

It was agreed to ask West Sussex to cut back the Rhododendrons by Cookham Wood that are encroaching on the footway.

339) To note issues on parish footpaths and bridleways

a) Bridleway 43WH - Marjac - condition of bridleway and actions taken by sub-contractor.

A document was shared with the committee, after discussion it was agreed to send correspondence to the Mid Sussex Rights of Way team to establish the legalities of access and that a site visit with an Access Ranger would be beneficial.

340) To receive an update on the surface improvements for footpath WH1

It was noted that it would be beneficial to dig a trench on the field side of the footpath before changing the surface.

It was agreed it would be helpful for an Access Ranger to make a site visit.

341) To note an update on the proposed off- road cycling route from Sharpthorne to East Grinstead

It was noted that no feedback had yet been received from landowners.

342) To note correspondence received from MSDC on Dog waste charges and a service update.

The clerk read out a letter received from MSDC. The charges for bin collections will increase for 2021/22. It was also noted that the Councils waste collection is at capacity and cannot be extended without significant additional cost.

343) To note items of interest or for consideration at the next meeting

A date for the parish tidy day will be agreed later in the spring when covid restrictions lift.

Date of next meeting 19th July 2021

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:32

Chairman-----

DRAFT