



WEST HOATHLY PARISH COUNCIL

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

Document Reference 2225

Minutes of the Meeting of West Hoathly Parish Council held on Monday 31st October 2022 at 7:30pm in West Hoathly Village Hall

Members

Ken Allfree
Will Buckley
Martin Robinson
Bob Darvill

Paul Brown
Kevin Gould (Vice Chairman)
Douglas Denham St Pinnock (Chairman)
Amy Marshall

* denotes absence

Also present:

Leanne Andrews (Clerk)
Anita Emery (RFO)
Cllr Garry Wall

There were no members of the public present

151) To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from District Cllr Lin Stockwell

152) To receive declarations of interest from Parish Councillors in respect of any matter on the agenda.

Cllr Paul Brown declared an interest and stated the following- "I am a member of the Planning Committee at Mid Sussex District Council which determines some planning applications in the district. Any views I give on applications on which the Parish Council is a statutory consultee are preliminary and I reserve my right to give a different view should the matter get determined at the Planning Committee."

151) To approve minutes of the Meeting of West Hoathly Parish Council held on 26th September 2022 (Document Reference 2222)

With the following amendments the minutes were approved, and the Chairman signed them as a true record.

Minute 110b:

Mid Sussex District Councillor Report -Cllr Brown

- Repairs have been made to the fencing and gate at Sharpthorne New Playground
- During the summer a working group has been looking at the Draft District Plan. The report from the working group will be issued in preparation for the Committee for Planning Scrutiny. Changes to the Draft District Plan are expected.

- Cllr Brown met with developer Ashill Regen on the 13th September regarding the development of the former brickworks site. – see minute 121.

152) To receive the clerk's report

The clerk's report was noted. Cllr Ken Allfree agreed to attend the MSDC Applauds event on Sunday 20th November

153) To receive Councillor reports

a) West Sussex County Councillor Report- Cllr Garry Wall

- Council Tax is expected to be the same as last year
- QVH trust merger is no longer happening.
- Social Care remains challenging, government funding hasn't come through yet
- The integrated care system is up and running
- Ukraine Refugee- dedicated care remains in place, lots of work is still being done.
- County Council are looking at how to help vulnerable people with warm hubs and government grants.
- Flu and Covid jabs continue to be rolled out to vulnerable groups
- The MSDC Waste Trial has had a 83% take up with 67% being recycled

b) Mid Sussex District Councillor Report -Cllr Brown

- The Draft District Plan has been to the Scrutiny Committee for Planning, Economic Growth, and Net Zero and is due to be approved by the District Council. There will be a 6-week public consultation that will be due to finish on the 19th December.
- Net Zero Carbon Emissions Plan was put to the Scrutiny Committee for Planning, Economic Growth, and Net Zero in October. Cllr Brown expressed that the plan is not complete and that it lacks ambition.
- Cllr Brown is due to meet with developer Ashill Regen in November for a third Pre application meeting regarding the development of the former brickworks site.
- New warding for Lindfield Rural and High Weald has resulted in changes to polling station arrangements. West Hoathly Parish is expected to have only one polling station.

154) Planning applications

a) To note decisions from the Local Authority

The following applications have been granted permission

DM/22/2405- Thaisa , Top Road
DM/22/2650- 1 East Lodge, Stonelands
DM/22/2429- The Conservatory
DM/22/2410- Site of Former Deanlands Place
DM/22/2692- Vine Yard Cottage

b) To consider planning applications received from the Local Authority

DM/22/2913 - Highbrook House, Hammingden Lane

1x Liquid Amber to remove and replace with smaller tree

As the trees are in the Conservation Area, the Council would like to request that the Mid Sussex Tree Officer is consulted on the application, the Council will support their comments.

DM/22/2887 - Chiddinglye Farmhouse, Chiddinglye, Selsfield Road, West Hoathly
Listed Building Consent

Installation of Stannah chairlift to main staircase.

The council had **no objections**

DM/22/3098- Furthur House, Hammingden Lane

1x (T1) Yew tree in rear garden - Reduce crown by one metre 1x (T2) Pear tree in front garden - fell 1x (T3) Maple tree in front garden – fell

As the trees are in the Conservation Area, the Council would like to request that the Mid Sussex Tree Officer is consulted on the application, the Council will support their comments.

DM/22/3059- Guillaume Keep, Selsfield Road, West Hoathly

Replacement of conservatory glazed roof with a solid insulated roof

The council had **no objections**

DM/22/2827- Wildgoose Stables, Selsfield Common

Upgrade of an access track on an existing track.

The council had **no objections**

DM/22/3165- 1A Hoathly Hill, West Hoathly

Variation of Condition no. 10 relating to planning application DM/21/2237

The council had **no objections**

DM/22/3182- Wickenden Farmhouse, Chilling Street, Sharpthorne

Demolition of the single storey side entrance porch and rear glass conservatory.
Construction of a new single storey side and rear extension and the refurbishment of the existing house to include a new front entrance porch, side balcony and windows.
Demolition of a single storey pool house and the construction of a replacement pool

house and pergola structure. Associated landscaping and creation of external paved terraces.

The council had **no objections**

DM/22/3190- 23 Hamsey Road, Sharpthorne

Proposed single storey side/rear extension

The council had **no objections**

155) To review and approve the following documents To review and approve the following documents

a. Financial Regulations

The updated Financial Regulations were reviewed and unanimously **approved**.

b. Publication Scheme

The updated Publication Scheme was reviewed and unanimously **approved**.

156) To discuss banking limits and consider the investment proposals prepared by the RFO

It was agreed to monitor the situation over the next 4 weeks. The council agreed to delegate the decision as to whether to reinvest in a bond to the clerk, RFO and Cllr Kevin Gould

157) To consider and if appropriate agree the associated costs for a legionnaires risk assessment and sampling

The legionnaires risk assessment and sampling quotation was agreed. It was noted that it should also include the Village Hall Flat

158) To consider views on the Horsted Keynes Neighbourhood Plan- Regulation 16 Consultation

The Parish Council had no comments

159) To discuss the proposed polling station arrangements for the 2023 elections

After discussion the council voted unanimously in favour of retaining two polling stations in the parish: Sharpthorne Hall and West Hoathly Village Hall. Clerk to feed this back to MSDC Electoral Services

160) To discuss how the Council can support the Sharpthorne Club being used as a warm hub

The council were grateful to the British Legion Club for offering to be available for use as a warm hub. It was agreed to ask the club whether there was any scope for extending the opening hours.

161) To consider a New Council Vision for 2023-2027

It was noted that Cllr Brown and Cllr Douglas Denham St Pinnock had met in October to discuss a vision, the notes from the meeting were shared with the council. It was agreed that some items would be discussed further by the Asset & Highways Committee on the 14th November, prior to preparing the draft budget. It was agreed that it would also be helpful to differentiate the projects as short term and longer term.

162) To review the Financial Statements to 30th September 2022

- a) Parish Council Bank Reconciliation
- b) Parish Council Summary Receipts and Payments

The Parish Council Financial Statements were noted

- c) Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall Bank Reconciliation
- d) Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall Summary Receipts and Payments

The Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall Financial Statements were noted

163) To ratify and approve the payments for October

- a) Parish Council Payments

The payments of £45,472.00 for October were unanimously ratified and approved, this included the second half of the precept payment from MSDC (£39,431) that was transferred to the Parish Council deposit account.

In addition, the following payments were unanimously approved

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - £50

Gary Coxhall- £230.00

- b) Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall Payments

The payments of £427.73 for October were unanimously ratified and approved.

In addition, the following payments were unanimously approved

Identify Drainage - £120.00

Rob Coomber Garden Services - £200.00

164) To receive Committee Reports

- a) To note Minutes of Meetings taken place
 - i) Asset & Highways Committee 10th October 2022 (document reference 2218)

The minutes were noted

165) To receive report from the Management Committee of West Hoathly Village Hall (meeting held on 17th October (document reference 2224)

It was noted that the minutes had been circulated to the council. The management committee have agreed some work in the garden as requested by West Hoathly Preschool. This includes two new gates in the rear garden and clearance of the shrubs and weed.. It was noted that most of the work had been completed in the October half term.

166) To receive reports from external meetings attended by councillors

- **CAGNE 11th October 2022 (Cllr Martin Robinson)**

Minutes have been circulated

- **Ashdown Forest Liaison Meeting – 12th October 2022 (Cllr Douglas Denham St Pinnock)**

Report from Cllr Douglas Denham St Pinnock:

Car Parking have planning permission for signs in all car parks.. User groups are on side. Concessions for low-income users. Annual ticket costs £80 and applies to two registration numbers. £5 per day or less for fewer hours; phone call or app which has been tested for a signal in all car parks.

Projections £77k net income to Forest. Horizon Parking who handle Epping Forest get 25% and Ashdown Forest get 75%.

Attack on Nature. Possibly academic now but it was a swift response to the Truss premiership plans to remove planning constraints protecting open spaces like the Forest. Overwhelming coming together of all the big names and many others like the Forest. National Trust announcement was stronger than anything previously seen. One risk is to Environmental Land Management grant (Countryside Stewardship) with "investment zones" in AONB and national Parks. This is still a risk though, through the Bill in Parliament that abolishes all residual EU legislation, including the 7Km protection zone around the Forest.

Weald to Waves. NOT A REWILDING PROJECT. Just because Knepp is included it should not be confused with rewilding. It is about Pathways to allow insects, birds, reptiles and mammals to move freely as possible. Wakehurst is signing up soon and Gravetye are in discussions. Second corridor down to Brighton, including Sheffield Park is planned. I am liaising with ESALC to spread W2W eastwards.

Remembrance Service/Airmans Grave. Needs volunteers to steward on 13/11/22.

Ashdown Park Hotel fund raising dinner with Horsted Keynes resident, the BBC's Katie Derham.

2026 is centenary of Winnie the Pooh. Early stage discussions with rights owner Disney. Other rights expire 2027 and paintings in 2047.

Sculpture Trail on South Drive. Temporary exhibition each year. No light and no noise. September to November, a 1 hour walk.

Composting toilets, daytime only, are being considered at 3 or 4 car parks as Forest does not want plumbed water. 1.5 million visitors a year.
Next meeting same time 7th December.

- **WSALC Chairs and Clerks Forum- 11th/13th October 2022 (Cllr Douglas Denham St Pinnock, Clerk)**
- **WSALC Board meeting 13th October 2022- (Cllr Douglas Denham St Pinnock)**

There was a Rural Engagement Presentation by the Rural Engagement Officers. The Service is currently carrying out approximately 4000 home visits per year but have the capacity for 8000

Local councils can assist the Service by advising them of vulnerable members of the community that they can link with, either by visiting them at home or by telephone call

167) To receive correspondence

The correspondence was noted

168) To resolve in the light of the possible confidential nature of the business to be transacted, that in the public interest, the press and public be temporarily excluded and instructed to withdraw

No press or public were in attendance

169) To note the Clerks completion of CiLCA and note the increase in salary as agreed at the Parish Council meeting on the 26th July 2021 (Document reference 2121)

The clerk was congratulated on her achievement of becoming a qualified clerk and the increase in salary as agreed at the Parish Council meeting on the 26th July (Document reference 2121) was noted.

170) To note items of interest or items for inclusion at next meeting of the Parish Council

Date of next meeting 28th November 2022 at 7:30pm

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:17

Chairman-----