

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF HARTLEY

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HARTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

HELD IN THE PAVILION, MANOR FIELD, CHURCH ROAD

ON MONDAY 13th FEBRUARY 2023 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present :

Cllr Larry Abraham
Cllr Chris Alford
Cllr Penny Cole
Cllr Perry Cole
Cllr Jim Colwell
Cllr Lesley Driscoll
Cllr Laurence Glander
Cllr David Graeme
Cllr Mally Malham
Cllr Anne Oxtoby – (*Chairman*)
Cllr Brian Ramsay
Cllr Ian Ross
Cllr Vincent Sewell

In attendance:

Mrs Jane Tyrrell - (*Assistant Clerk*)
Cllr David Brazier – (*Kent County Councillor*)

1. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Dispensations

There were no requests from Members for a dispensation.

4. Minutes

The Clerk reported that the minutes of the Hartley Parish Council meeting held on 9th January 2023, were incorrect, inasmuch as Cllr Ross's attendance had not been recorded, Cllr Graeme's surname was misspelt and Cllr Alford was recorded as present when he was not in attendance.

RESOLVED: That,

the minutes of the meeting of Hartley Parish Council held on 9th January 2023, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to the following corrections: Cllr Ross's name be added to the list of Councillors

attending the meeting, Cllr Graeme's name be corrected and Cllr Alford be removed from the list of attendees as his apologies had been accepted..

The meeting was adjourned at 7.35 p.m. to receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillors.

The meeting resumed at 7.50 p.m.

5. Planning Committee

RESOLVED: That,

the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 11th January 2023 and 25th January 2023 and the recommendations contained therein, be received and, where necessary, approved and adopted.

6. Community Transport Scheme

At the meeting of the Parish Council held on 9th January 2023, Cllr Cole reported that he had contacted Ash-cum-Ridley, Fawkham, Meopham and West Kingsdown Parish Councils, to gauge their interest in the scheme. A meeting had followed to pursue this idea further.

Cllr Cole advised Members that he had compiled and circulated a questionnaire to gauge Community interest and he had received 95 responses from that questionnaire. (The results were collated and distributed amongst the Members).

The questionnaire had been compiled to identify the number of people who use the buses, where they travel to, the frequency and reason for their journeys and the expected cost for their journeys.

Cllr Cole explained that a Clerk had found a potential full repairing lease for a minibus for £500.00 per month.

Due to the tight timeline of the grant scheme, Cllr Cole had submitted a grant on behalf of the Parish Council but this could be withdrawn if Members were not in agreement with the scheme in principal.

Members discussed the idea of a Community bus shared with New Ash Green, being stored at New Ash Green and run by volunteer drivers with passengers being charged a fare (to be decided). Everyone was in agreement to pursue the idea of a Community Transport Scheme.

RESOLVED: That,

the grant application, submitted by Cllr Cole is supported by the Councillors and once a response to the grant application is received, this idea is discussed in more detail.

7. Delegated Authority

At the meeting of the Parish Council held on 5th May 2021, it was resolved that:

- 1) in accordance with Section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972, authority be delegated to the Clerk or in the absence of the Clerk, the Assistant Clerk, to make decisions on behalf of the Council where such decision cannot be reasonably deferred and must be made in

order to comply with a commercial or statutory deadline, or the provision of ongoing Council services and business;

- 2) such decisions to be carried out where possible in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman by electronic means, or telephone;
- 3) any decisions made under this delegation shall be noted at the next meeting of the Council:
- 4) the delegation does not extend to matters expressly reserved to the council in legislation or in its Standing Orders or Financial Regulations and,
- 5) the resolution made by the Council on 15th April 2020, in relation to matters arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, whereby the Clerk, in consultation with **both** the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council, be delegated authority to authorise expenditure on behalf of the Council, which in the Clerk's judgement, it is necessary to carry out, whether or not there is any budgetary provision for the expenditure, with such expenditure being subject to a limit of £2,000.00. and being reported to the council as soon as practicable thereafter, be reconfirmed.

The Council had been requested to consider revoking the delegated authority as set out above, as it is no longer required.

RESOLVED: That,
the delegated authority as set out above, be revoked.

8. Payment

RESOLVED: That,

(a) the payment of accounts for February 2023 attached as **Appendix 1** to these Minutes, be approved.

(b) the Council detail report as at 27th January 2023, setting out actual income and expenditure against budgeted estimates be received and noted;

(c) the bank reconciliations for the Council's four bank accounts and Barclaycard account for January 2023, be verified by Cllr Anne Oxtoby after the close of the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8:26 p.m.

Signed:.....

Date:.....

Chairman of Hartley Parish Council

Schedule of Payments February 2023 - Paid by Internet Banking from Unity Trust Bank					
Ref:	Payment to	Particulars	Net	VAT	Total
723502470		PAID 24/01/23 - Telephone & broadband 01/01/23-31/03/23 Inv Q078OK	156.80	31.36	188.16
347551124		PAID 24/01/23 - Tree survey inv INV-0522	2,055.00	411.00	2,466.00
874511895		PAID 24/01/23 - Hedge cutting at Manor Field inv 7570	225.00	45.00	270.00
686294940		PAID 24/01/23 - Planning support re response to SDC Local Plan inv HA/6	3,664.10	-	3,664.10
141200167		Salary 01/02/23 - 28/02/23 (Pre-approved)	2,463.34	-	2,463.34
61387030		Salary 01/02/23 - 28/02/23 (Pre-approved)	1,318.38	-	1,318.38
352046506		Employer & Employee pension contributions February	1,564.71	-	1,564.71
45676795		Month 11 Employer & Employee NIC & PAYE	1,408.35	-	1,408.35
33270527		Stationery inv I4147082	20.94	4.19	25.13
572476750		Quarterly grounds maint Oct 22 inv LS205644	90.22	18.04	-
77181871		Set out football pitch @ MF inv LS205608	237.20	47.44	-
806702220		Mow football pitch re Hartle De Sales inv LS205607	89.00	17.80	499.70
8838175690		Chalk grassland management Rectory Meadow inv 900164306	1,750.00	-	1,750.00
147388493		Annual membership fee	36.00	-	36.00
		Standing charge inv 35795457	19.61	0.98	20.59
286165338		Pitchmarker SuperC x 2 inv SI224480	63.02	12.60	75.62
937402641		Fee for reviewing payroll 01/04/22-31/03/23	120.00	-	120.00
586655077		Wet pour repairs @ Woodland Avenue inv 999520	2,946.00	589.20	3,535.20
769439692		Emergency light repairs @ Pavilion inv 1211	225.00	45.00	270.00
847592267		Remove failed limb at BG re QTRA inv 2158	80.00	16.00	96.00
728079607		Cleaning of Pavilion + disinfection inv 04212	158.66	-	158.66
791146713		One off I-Mop in Pavilion on 30/01/23 after footballers hire	20.00	-	20.00
665158799		Stationery inv I4158058	30.48	6.10	36.58
644566902		Replacement security tag to extinguisher in Pavilion INV 404	20.00	4.00	24.00
388589425		Routine Maintenance contract inv 136 (9/1-6/2)	865.00	-	-
		Assemble and installation of benches 4hrs @£12.00	48.00	-	-
		Cement	6.40	-	-
		Marking out of pitches 13/1 & 27/1	67.00	-	-
		Ground preparation for interment of ashes 1/2	25.00	-	1,011.40
846912319		Garden maint at BG Jan inv 48	145.00	-	-
		BG Visual inspection Jan inv 48	18.50	-	163.50

			19,936.71	1,248.71	21,185.42
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Schedule of Payments February 2023 - Paid by cheque/DDR from Barclays Bank					
Chq No	Payment to	Particulars	Net	VAT	Total
107050		Donation	100.00	-	100.00
107051		Top up Unity Bank	58,000.00	-	58,000.00
DDR		Period 14/11-12/12 mixed plan charges	10.10	-	10.10
DDR		Period 13/12 - 12/01 mixed plan charges	16.11	-	16.11
107052		100 x 95p stamps	95.00		
		200 x 68p stamps	136.00		
		50 x 10p stamps	5.00		236.00
			58,362.21	-	58,362.21

Schedule of Payments February 2023 - Paid by Barclaycard					
Ref:	Payment to	Particulars	Net	VAT	Total
		PAID - 27/01/23 1 pack blue trade sacks	80.35	-	80.35
			80.35	-	80.35

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7.35 p.m.

Cllr Brazier reported that KCC had now managed to achieve a balanced budget, but that to achieve this, a programme of stringent savings had been necessary.

KCC had withdrawn support for 35 services to make necessary savings and although some additional funding was close to being agreed by the Treasury, this would not mean that withdrawn bus services would be reinstated.

Cllr Brazier reported that there was no funding for the annual “pothole blitz” and that therefore, potholes would take longer to be repaired.

Cllr Brazier reported that as part of KCC’s Community Asset Plan, the Council would be looking at the buildings that it owned, what they were currently used for and whether some services could be provided in alternative locations.

Members noted that as part of the savings, KCC would be looking to close 38 childrens’ centres, including New Ash Green but that people will be directed to alternative centres.

Cllr Brazier had suggested other existing venues in New Ash Green as possible alternatives to keep the facility local if possible.

Cllr Brazier concluded his report by reminding everyone of the forthcoming nightly road closure of the Ash Road from New Ash Green to Longfield commencing 14th February 2023 for up to 21 nights from 20:00-05:00 hours.

Cllr Oxtoby had received a letter from North West Kent branch of Age UK and was concerned to read about the possible closure of the branch.

Cllr Penny Cole reported that she had been part of a team looking at Adult Social Care and explained that all the branches of Age UK were run and managed differently. Certain branches were more pro-active than others in applying for funding and therefore, receiving grants.

If any branches were forced to close, residents would be re-directed to other centres for support.

The meeting resumed at 7.50 p.m

