

NUTHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday, 17th November 2021 commencing at 7.30pm.

PRESENT: Cllr O Hydes OBE (Chairman), Cllr J Bromley, Cllr N Bryant (Vice Chairman), Cllr P Bullen, Cllr J Chaytor, Cllr W Ingram, Cllr C Kenny and Cllr T Nelson.

ALSO, IN ATTENDANCE: Sarah Hall (Parish Clerk), District Councillor Toni Bradnum, and six members of the public.

128-21/22 CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS AND RULES FOR THE SAFE CONDUCT OF THE MEETING

The Chairman welcomed the Councillors, District Councillor and members of the public to the November meeting. The Chairman requested for masks to be worn by everyone throughout the meeting, even when speaking and that attendees continue to social distance to keep everyone as safe as possible.

129-21/22 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** that apologies for absence were received from Cllr D Harber and County Councillor Nigel Jupp. Cllr J Assassi was absent and has subsequently apologised.

130-21/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** that Cllr C Kenny declared a Personal Interest in planning application DC/21/1230 (Stakers Gill Stud), the applicants land is next to Cllr C Kenny's small holding. Cllr T Nelson declared a personal interest in item 132-21/22, Daniel Lawrence is his son-in-law.

131-21/22 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FULL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** the [Minutes](#) of the Full Council meeting held on **20th October 2021** be confirmed as a correct record of the meeting and be signed by the Chairman. (Vote – unanimously approved).

132-21/22 CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR

There were two applicants for the vacancy created by Roger Cato's resignation. In alphabetical order – Wayne Bayley and Daniel Lawrence.

The Chairman **proposed** a ballot to select the successful candidate, the motion was **seconded** by Cllr N Bryant and approved by Councillors.

The applicants were given the opportunity to speak for two minutes, the Councillors were invited to ask questions and then vote.

The vote was a tie with both candidates receiving four votes. The Chairman's casting vote was invoked and as Daniel Lawrence was the successful candidate, it was **resolved** that he be co-opted onto the Parish Council.

133-21/22 COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes approved by the following Committees be **ADOPTED**.
[Roads and Footpath Committee](#) – 8th July 2021
[Planning Committee](#) – 7th October 2021

134-21/21

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman did not make any announcements.

135-21/22

PUBLIC SESSION – no member of the public wished to speak in the public forum.

136-21/22

DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

District Councillor Toni Bradnum provided an update on District Council business:

- Council Leader Paul Clarke has stepped down after just a few months. A new Leader of the Council will be elected in the not-too distant future

Our carbon footprint

- HDC have worked with a consultant to calculate our carbon footprint for 2018/19. The total emitted was approximately 18,000 tonnes from the council's activities; such as energy used in our buildings and from transport. This carbon baseline has been used to set a target for reducing our emissions and to inform our action plan, as detailed below
- The government is granting a substantial sum to West Sussex for electric vehicle charging points as all new cars *must be electric by 2035 with new hybrid cars being banned from 2030*.
- This will be a huge task because 40% of Horsham residents do not have private parking
- HDC has secured a concession with Connected Kerb who will be the providers. They will purchase, install, and operate the network on our behalf. This is expected to be paid for by a government grant
- The charge points will be on WSCC land, HDC land and Parish Councils will be asked to identify sites. There will also be destination points for visitors
- Working with other West Sussex councils to develop a strategy for dealing with food waste
- HDC has increased recycling rates to above 55%
- HDC is working with residents to improve the energy efficiency of their homes
- HDC is producing an action plan to move towards a carbon neutral organisation
- HDC are undertaking a carbon audit to understand their current carbon footprint
- The largest sources of emissions, accounting for 78% comes from leased buildings and contracts
- The remaining significant sources include gas and electricity used in council buildings and the council fleet
- The population of the Horsham District is 140,000
- District emissions in residential buildings (31%) Commercial buildings & facilities (4%) Institutional buildings & facilities (12%) Industrial buildings & facilities (8%) Agricultural buildings (1%) On-road (34%) Solid waste disposal (4%) Wastewater (1%) Industrial process (4%)
- 'Absolute' Net Zero: 2030 and 2050: A target based on a goal of carbon neutrality by a set date. Popular with Local Authorities
- There will be a complete audit for a minimum of 10 buildings to provide detailed costs for retrofitting and where practical installing renewable/low carbon energy technology
- HDC will be producing an external lighting replacement programme
- Update on the kerbside collection of textiles and small electrical items, **HDC** have collected 3,046 bags of textiles, 5,649 bags of small electrical items which is 6.47 tonnes. Only 4 bags have been rejected. HDC receives £40 per tonne for textiles
- Food waste collection is currently undergoing trials in Billingshurst

In reply to Cllr C Kenny's question about the Warnham incinerator, the District Councillor advised that the applicant had submitted an appeal and this was still pending.

137-21/22

PLANNING MATTERS

i. New Applications

Comments to Horsham District Council (HDC) on current planning applications were unanimously agreed.

Standing Orders were suspended at 8.05pm and re-instated at 8.06pm

Number	Applicant & Reason
DC/21/1230 28.10.2021 RESOLVED	<p>Erection of a log cabin for rural worker. Stakers Gill Stud, Stakers Lane, Southwater</p> <p>The Parish Council has no objection in principle to the provision of accommodation in rural areas where it is fully justified to support an established rural business and therefore would support this application provided that HDC and its agricultural consultants are fully satisfied, in line with Policy 20 of the HDPF, that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rural business, namely the combined agriculture/equestrian facility, is viable. The Parish Council notes that the applicant has not provided any evidence on viability; • There is a functional need for a dwelling to house permanently on a 24/7 basis a rural worker to support the business; and • Furthermore, the applicant can meet the latest requirements on water supply neutrality for new accommodation. <p>The Parish Council also strongly recommends that, if HDC is minded to approve the application, it makes a condition of approval along the lines of: <i>"the accommodation hereby approved shall be used solely in connection with the operation of Stakers Gill Stud as an agriculture/equestrian facility and not as a separate independent residential unit."</i></p>
DISC/21/0249 03.11.2021 RESOLVED	<p>Approval of details reserved by conditions 3,4,5,6 and 7 to approved application DC/21/0685 Holly Farm, Winterpit Lane, Mannings Heath</p> <p>The Parish Council commented on this application in October this year. Since then, the applicant has submitted new documents in support of this discharge of conditions application relating to drainage, ecology, contamination and construction. The Parish Council agreed that these documents did not change its original comments which are repeated below for ease of reference.</p> <p>The Parish Council has no objection to the approval of condition 7 as the materials of construction proposed appear to comply with the guidance in the Parish Design Statement. The Parish Council does not have the experience or expertise to comment on the approval of conditions 3, 4, 5 and 6 and leaves these matters to HDC's specialist officers and consultants.</p>

DC/21/2406 05.11.2021 RESOLVED	Erection of a single storey rear conservatory New Orchard Cottage, Sedgwick Lane, Horsham The Parish Council has no objection to this application. It notes that the proposed materials of construction comply with the Parish Design Statement.
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ii. **DECISIONS**

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** HDC planning [decisions](#) and [Enforcement Numbers](#).

iii. **BUCK BARN AND THE LOCAL PLAN**

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** this will be included in Planning Updates.

iv. **PLANNING UPDATES**

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the following planning updates:

ENFORCEMENT

New HDC Enforcement Policy

HDC has produced a new Enforcement Policy. It contains a little more detail than the old policy but the basic points remain the same.

Planning Authorities are not obliged by law to undertake any enforcement activity when there have been transgressions of Planning Permissions. Despite this, HDC possesses a small enforcement team which has a power to take action but that power is discretionary. When HDC is notified of alleged breaches of planning permission, it will consider whether it is “expedient” to take on the case. This may be a workload issue for them, or that they do not consider that the transgression has caused any planning “harm”.

HDC’s usual course is to ask the transgressor to submit a retrospective planning application to regularise the breaches, this application is usually permitted.

Hawthorns

The Case Officer does not consider that there is a development breach on the most recent report submitted by the Parish Council. However, the Officer will be arranging a site visit to have a ‘general discussion’ about the site.

Land at Ghyll House Farm

HDC will be serving an enforcement notice for the storage containers, hardstanding, workshop fence and sand school on land at Ghyll House Farm.

THE ENVIRONMENT BILL HAS NOW BECOME LAW

Following a huge loss of trees and wildlife in the last fifty years, worse in the UK than anywhere else in Europe, the Government has recently passed a wide-ranging Environment Act. It aims to do many things including: improving air and water quality; restoring natural habitats; improving bio-diversity; and increasing re-cycling.

It is not clear what the new Act will mean for the Parish when there is a proposal for a development project of 3,500 new homes, a 50-acre industrial site and major road building at Buck Barn. The Parish Council will rely on Knepp Castle’s ecologists to study the Act and see how it can help us to combat this potential obliteration of the countryside and wildlife at Buck Barn.

The Environment Act requires developments to improve bio-diversity by at least 10%. Yet, it has been reported that developers are claiming ridiculous bio-diversity gain figures by double-counting and buying biodiversity credits.

Already, Thakeham Homes has claimed 40% bio-diversity gain, who is going to evaluate these kinds of claims?

The proposed Buck Barn development has many complications. Not only is there the new Environment Act but also the water shortage issue in West Sussex. There's also the political push for more development in the North of England as part of the levelling up agenda. And then, there's the push to reduce the amount of carbon in the atmosphere. Much of the existing carbon from traffic movements is soaked up by the fields and woodland at Buck Barn but there will be a double hit if Buck Barn goes ahead. Not only will this carbon reduction disappear but the additional traffic from 3500 new houses and an industrial estate will put masses more carbon into the atmosphere.

The Parish Council will remain very involved with the other three parish councils affected by Buck Barn, with Knepp Castle and District Councillor Toni Bradnum.

138-21/22

FINANCE

- i) It was **RESOLVED** that the schedule of invoices totalling **£3,337.20** be **APPROVED** for payment.

Cheque/Ref	Payee Name	Details	Net £	VAT £	Total £
Direct Debit 01.09.2021	Clerk	Off Allowance	87.50	0	87.50
Direct Debit 16 November	SSE Energy (October)	Unmetered Electricity Supply	126.59	6.32	132.91
S/Order 1 November	Profitable Website	Website/Email Support (November 2021)	30.00	0	30.00
002160	S Hall (Clerk)	Expenses	230.09	27.95	258.04
002161	WSCC	Clerks Salary October (inv 8001569121)	1,839.51	0	1,839.51
002162	WSCC	Payroll Service (inv 8001567790)	39.78	7.96	47.74
002163	Copsale Hall	Hall Hire October (inv NPC1021)	20.00	0	20.00
002163	Copsale Hall	Hall Hire November (inv NPC1121)	30.00	0	30.00
002164	Horsham Fencing	Repair Fence around Children's Play Area (inv 36237)	675.00	135.00	810.00
002165	M/Heath Community Council	Hall Hire 20.10.2021 (inv 21.80)	23.00	0	23.00
002166	Netcom IT	IT Support (inv 20105)	48.75	9.75	58.50
Total			3,150.22	186.98	3,337.20

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the receipts in September 2021 totalling **£24,921.65**

Payment Method	Payer Name	Details	Net £	VAT £	Total £
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FPI	Nat West	Interest August 2021	0.65	0	0.65
FPI	HDC	Precept 2 nd Installment	24,921.00	0	24,921.00
Grand Total			24,921.65	0	24,921.65

- ii) It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the bank reconciliations for the [Nat West current](#) account and [Nat West savings](#) account for September 2021.
- iii) It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the [detailed Receipts and Payments](#) for September 2021.

139-21/22 **LOCAL ASSOCIATION, OTHER BODIES AND TRAINING REPORTS**

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** Cllr O Hydes attended the WSALC AGM on 29th October 2021 and Cllr J Chaytor was unable to attend the HDOPF meeting on 5th November 2021.

140-21/22 **OPEN SPACES IN THE PARISH**

i) **Children's Play Area**

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the content of the [November Report](#) on the children's play area. The wet pour under the slide is coming away from the edges and Horsham Fencing have erected a fence on the corner to the wet pour to prevent a trip hazard. Horsham Fencing have also repaired the fencing and wire around the play area.

141-21/22 **WINTER MANAGEMENT PLAN**

It was **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the updated [Winter Management Plan](#).

142-21/22 **WILDFLOWER VERGE, MONKS GATE**

It was **RESOLVED** to **SUPPORT** the application, submitted by MoGRA, for a [wildflower verge](#) in Monks Gate.

143-21/22 **DEFIBRILLATORS IN THE PARISH**

It was **RESOLVED** that the following Councillors would undertake the **ROUTINE MAINTENANCE** on the defibrillators in the south of the parish. The Clerk will provide further information on the maintenance checks and Webnos listing.

- Cllr J Chaytor – Nuthurst (Black Horse pub)
- Cllr J Bromley – Maplehurst (White Horse pub)
- Cllr W Ingram – Copsale (Copsale Hall)

A defibrillator will soon be installed on the wall next to the bus stop in Monks Gate.

144-21/22 **THE QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE**

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** that the leaders of the organisations in the parish will be invited to a meeting next year to discuss setting up a committee.

145-21/22 **MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT AGENDA**

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** that the Councillors did not request for any items to be included on December's agenda.

146-21/22 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** to **NOTE** the next meeting will be held on 15th December 2021 in Mannings Heath Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.37pm

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Chairman of the meeting

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Date