



NUTHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 20th March 2024, at Mannings Heath Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.

PRESENT: Cllr D Cotton (Chair), Cllr K McGovern, Cllr C Kenny (Vice Chair), Cllr V Court, Cllr S Catterall, Cllr W Bayley.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: (Locum Clerk) and 5 members of the public (MOP). CCllr Nigel Jupp and DCllr Dennis Livingstone.

364-24/25 **ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs SC and MO-P sent in their apologies prior to the meeting and were duly accepted.

365-24/25 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest for this meeting.

366-24/25 **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING-**

The Minutes of the Full Council meeting dating on the 20th March 2024 were accepted and approved as true record of the meeting. ***It was UNANIMOUSLY agreed that the chair of the meeting duly signed the minutes of 20th March 2024.***

367-24/25 **COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS**

The Minutes of the meetings held by the Planning Committee and Footpath, Roads and Open Spaces Committees dating the 6th March 2024 were accepted and approved as true record of the meeting. ***It was UNANIMOUSLY agreed that the chair of the meeting duly signed the minutes of the meetings held on the 6th March 2024 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.***

368-24/25 **CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME**

The Chair had nothing to report for this meeting.

369 – 24/25 **PUBLIC SESSION–**

There were no members of the public who wished to address the council.

370-24/25 **DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

DCllr DL addressed the meeting and stated that it has been one year since he was elected, and he stated that he had learnt a great deal in that time. He mentioned to the members that he sat in many committees such within HDC and that he attends other council meetings. He has also attended many training courses offered by HDC. He confirmed that HDC finances are very strong and not in a position of high risk. He went on the mention about the local HDC event that will take place on the 4th & 5th of May in the Carfax, Horsham. There will be music, art, food and stalls.

CCllr NJ addressed the meeting and spoke about the recent allocation of primary school places for the county. There are 8606 children needed school places. He confirmed that 99% of applications received their first three choice schools, which was an increase from the year before. This may be due to there being 300 less children

going into reception from last year. This may be due to a reduction in the birth rate. He went on the state that a planning consent for the West Works for Gaggle Wood was granted by the County Council for wastewater. And lastly, he mentioned that he had been copied into an email from Carbon Busters in relation to rewilding. He went on to mention about a piece of land in Church Road. He concluded that the status of the green was owned by Highway Land and not WSCC. There may be a possibility that the land is retained by the developers who built the Lime Kiln Development. The land may be put to auction at some point in the future. If this were to happen, the parish council may have to think about what it would like to do and suggested involving the community in that process. Cllr CK addressed the CCllr and asked about the state of potholes within the county. He presented a summary of treatments for potholes and asked whether it could be presented to WSCC Highways. CCllr NJ stated that the rain fall for March was above average. Within the first week of March there was a month's worth of rain. Up to 31st March, there had been 46000 potholes repaired within the county, which was an increase on 31600 for the previous year. In 2022/23, there were 22000 potholes repaired. Due to the vastly changing weather conditions, the county is seeing more potholes develop. CCllr NJ informed the members that the contract for the road maintenance, will be renewed and put to tender Spring 2025. The Clerk informed the CCllr that there is a error with the reporting system and asked whether it could be looked into.

371-24-25 **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES**

Nothing to report.

372-24/25 **VILLAGE GREEN AND PLAYGROUND**

Cllr DC presented his report to the meeting. He stated that a MOP of the public approached him and asked for a slab to be put in the front of the dog bin due to the condition of the ground. Cllr KMcG suggested putting straw down to help absorb the mud. Cllr VC suggested placing Grass Crete down. Cllr DC mentioned that the condition of the playground was not the best due to the mud. He suggested looking at the gateways in the future to help reduce the amount of mud. Cllr DC has an outstanding action to contact Wickstead. There were further suggestions about employing a parish council maintenance person to help with the maintenance round the parish. Cllr VC also stated that the Green's Lane Car Park was owned by the Village Hall. It was gifted to the Village Hall in 1972. The trees behind the Lane are owned by the Parish Council. Cllr WB made the suggestion that the council should resolve address the muddy areas. Cllr VC suggested adding it to the Parish Plan meeting for next week. Cllr KMcG proposed that she would purchase biodegradable material as a short-term measure. Cllr WB seconded the motion. ***It was UNANIMOUSLY agreed that the Cllr KMcG purchase biodegradable material for the purpose of laying down in the muddy areas in and around the playground.***

373-24/25 **POTHOLES**

Discussed in item 370-24/25.

374 – 24/25 **WINTERPIT LANE**

Nothing further to update the council on.

375 – 24/25 **COMMUNICATION FOR THE COMMUNITY**

Cllr DC spoke about the council's FB page. The previous clerk had set up the FB page using her own FB pages. The Locum Clerk set up a new FB page, which had been reported by the residents and removed by FB. The Clerk had used the Clerk's email address, which can no longer be used. Cllr VC mentioned about the website, she ranged concerns about the website. Cllr DC will go round to Cllr VC to check. Cllr DC

suggested go to the IT provider to see whether they would be able to help set up a new FB Page.

376 – 24/25 **HIGHWAYS MATTERS**

Nothing to report at this meeting. The Clerk is still waiting for WSCC Highways to reply to her. Cllr WB enquired about Champion Gate. Cllr CK mentioned that the Gate was closed until the 26th April for Highways work, but couldn't say what work that was. The Clerk confirmed that West Grinstead Parish Council would like to engage in working with Nuthurst Parish Council. The Clerk is waiting for West Grinstead to come back to her.

377 – 24/25 **CO-OP OF COUNCILLORS**

Cllr WB and the Clerk mentioned that there was one potential candidate and that they had all the forms to fill. The hope is that the forms are returned ahead of the next full council meeting. Cllr VC and DC asked if the Clerk would prepare an advert for the noticeboards. **Action: The Clerk**

378 – 24/25 **PLANNING MATTERS**

PLANNING MATTERS	
NEW APPLICATIONS - Current Planning Applications to be considered for comment to Horsham District Council.	
Number	Applicant & Reason
DC/22/1027	<p>Proposal: Retrospective application for an improved access onto Hammerpond Lane from the existing right of way BW 2822</p> <p>Site Address: Mannings Heath Golf Club</p> <p>Decision: The council concluded that the planning application had already been decided and that this was for information only. Cllr DC that he will be attending a meeting with the Golf Club, along with Cllr DC and Cllrs from Lower Beeding Parish Council. Cllr DC will report back to council at the next meeting. Until there is a further application put in to HDC the council will be unable to comment further.</p>
DC/24/0204	<p>Holbrook Animal Rescue Centre – Cllr DC mentioned that Cllr CK had raised this application and stated that the application is not within the parish, but the council recognise that the application will have a bearing on the road and traffic increase.</p> <p>Council agreed to write an object to the application on the grounds of road and traffic issues.</p>
DC/24/0491	<p>Proposal: Change of use of existing ancillary garage and summerhouse to independent self-contained residential accommodation.</p> <p>Site Address: 2 Castle Lodge Broadwater Lane Copsale Horsham West Sussex RH13 6QJ</p> <p><i>The Council Objects to the application</i></p> <p><i>There have been planning applications for this in the past DC/20/2036 and DC/20/2053 both of which have been withdrawn/refused. The current application is no different to previous</i></p> <p><i>The proposed development is located outside the settlement boundary, in the countryside, in an unsustainable rural location and not allocates on the Nuthurst Neighbourhood plan NNP(Policy1). It would be contrary to policies 1,2,3,4,25 and 40 on the HDPF 2015</i></p> <p><i>It is not required in the Parish as identified by the NNP</i></p> <p><i>Access and parking has issues with TPO trees.</i></p> <p><i>It is in a remote area not services by public transport.</i></p>
DC/24/0473	<p>Proposal: Removal of Condition 3 of previously approved application DC/21/2042 (Demolition of existing residential outbuilding and erection of a replacement residential outbuilding) Relating to the materials and finishes.</p> <p>Site Address: Lake Cottage, Nuthurst Street, Horsham, RH13 6RG</p>

Decision: The Council has no objection to this planning application.
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379 – 24/25 **EMPLOYMENT OF CLERK**

The Clerk had sent out a revised advert for council to sign off. Comments previous sent in by Cllrs KMcG and SC were discussed and concluded that they should be included and resent for approval. **Action: The Clerk**

380-24/25 **CLERK/EMPLOYMENT POLICIES**

Deferred again until the next Full Council meeting.

381-24/25 **FINANCE**

1. Approve payments - ***It was UNANIMOUSLY agreed that the council approve the payments totalling £330.62 It was noted that the council is unable to access the banking system due to the changing of signatories.***
2. Sign cheques – ***It was UNANIMOUSLY agreed that the signatories Cllr VC and CK signed the cheques totalling £330.62***

382-24/25 **MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr VC would like defibrillators and an update on storage.

383-24-25 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Chair of the meeting requested that a standing item be placed on the agenda for Councillors to have items placed on the agenda. The next meeting of Nuthurst Annual Parish and General Full Parish Council Meeting will be held on 22nd May 2024, at Mannings Heath Village Hall, commencing at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 20.55hrs.

Signed.....

Dated.....