

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF HARTLEY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN
THE PAVILION, MANOR FIELD, CHURCH ROAD,
ON MONDAY 8th JUNE 2009 AT 8.00 P.M.

Present : Cllr Mr L Abraham
Cllr Mr C Alford
Cllr Mr A Barnett
Cllr Mrs J Burns
Cllr Mr R Coates
Cllr Mrs P Cole
Cllr Mr J Gaywood (Chairman)
Cllr Mr D Graeme
Cllr Mr J Minns
Cllr Mrs A Oxtoby
Cllr Mr B Ramsay
Cllr Mr V Sewell

In attendance: Mrs J Hoad (Clerk)
9 members of the public

1. Apologies

Apologies for absences had been received from Cllr Granger due to work commitments.

RESOLVED: That, the absence of Cllr Granger be approved.

2. Declaration of acceptance of office

The Council received Cllr Coates' declaration of acceptance of office.

3. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Gaywood declared a personal interest under minute item 16 in respect of the payment of the accounts, as he was a recipient of one of the payments.

4. Register of Interest

Members were reminded of the duty to update the Register of Interest within 28 days of their interest changing.

5. Minutes

- (a) RESOLVED: That, the minutes of the Annual meeting of the Parish Council held on 11th May 2009 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to the following correction:
Page 2, minute item 7, Calendar of Meetings - delete "20th", insert "19th", so date reads 19th April 2010.
- (b) RESOLVED: That, the draft minutes of the meeting of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 15th May 2009 be received and noted.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.04 p.m. to receive reports from the District Councillors and to take questions from members of the public.

The meeting resumed at 8.15 p.m.

6. Appointment to committees

RESOLVED: That, Cllr Coates be appointed to the following committees: Burial Ground and Gardens of Remembrance Committee, Communications Committee and Finance & General Purposes Committee.

7. Hartley Wood

It was reported that at a meeting held on 12th May 2009 the Registration Authority, Kent County Council, approved the recommendation of the Inspector appointed to hear evidence at a non-statutory public inquiry and registered land at Hartley Wood as a Village Green.

RESOLVED: That,

(1) The Council welcomes the registration of Hartley Woods as a Village Green;

(2) the Council places on record its (a) grateful thanks to all of the residents who supported the Council's application and in particular those residents who gave evidence at the Public Inquiry and (b) thanks to Cllr Alan Barnett, the Clerk and Assistant Clerk for the work they undertook to secure the success of the application; and,

(3) the London Borough of Southwark be requested to (a) undertake an urgent safety assessment of its part of Hartley Wood, (b) consult with this Council about the result of the assessment and the work necessary to ensure public safety and (c) confirm that it has appropriate third party insurance cover in respect of the Wood.

8. Communication Committee

An inaccuracy in the minutes of the meeting of the Communications Committee held on 19th May 2009 was noted; page 1, minute item 5, review of the Terms of Reference, "Planning Committee" should read "Communications Committee". It was confirmed the minutes would be corrected at the next meeting of the Communications Committee.

RESOLVED: That, the minutes of the meeting of the Communications Committee held on 19th May 2009 be received and adopted.

9. Finance and General Purposes Committee

RESOLVED: That, the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 1st June 2009 and the recommendations contained therein be received and, where necessary, approved and adopted.

10. Planning Committee

RESOLVED: That, the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 13th May 2009 and 3rd June 2009 and the recommendation contained therein be received and, where necessary, approved and adopted.

11. Northfield

The meeting was adjourned at 8.35 p.m. to allow the resident of The Poplars to address the Council.

The meeting resumed at 8.40 p.m.

It was confirmed that the resident's views expressed during the public adjournment would be incorporated within the report.

RESOLVED: That, the report on a meeting held on 1st June 2009 to discuss the surface water run off from Northfield be received and noted.

12. Hartley Parish Plan Steering Committee

The minutes of the meeting of the Hartley Parish Plan Steering Committee held on 20th May 2009 were not available.

13. Routine Maintenance Contract

The Council considered a report on the letting of the routine maintenance contract for the period 1st June 2009 to 31st May 2010.

RESOLVED: That, the quotation for the total sum of £6,036.00 from T D Munday to undertake the works specified in the routine maintenance contract for the period 1st June 2009 to 31st May 2010 be accepted.

14. KALC

RESOLVED: That,

(1) the Parish News issue number 339 be received and noted; and

(2) Cllr Coates be authorised to attend the Councillors' Information on 29th July 2009 at Lenham.

15. Training

(a) RESOLVED: That, Cllrs Abraham and Granger be authorised to attend the training seminar on the power of well being to be held on 24th June 2009 at Sevenoaks Town Council offices at a cost of £20 per member.

(b) RESOLVED: That, the Clerk be authorised to attend a training event on "Local Councils as Trustees" organised by the Society of Local Council Clerks on 14th September 2009 at Woking at a cost of £65.

16. Payments

RESOLVED: That,

(1) the payment of the accounts for June 2009, attached as appendix 1 to these minutes, be approved; and

(2) the summary of receipts and payments as at 2nd June 2009 be received and noted.

17. Exclusion of the public

RESOLVED: That, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of minute item 18 in respect of the "New Burial Ground" on the grounds that the likely disclosure of exempt information would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

The public left the meeting at 9.00 p.m.

18. New Burial Ground

The Council considered a report from its legal advisor. The report set out how the Council could achieve its objective to establish a burial ground on land owned by the Council at Manor Field through a negotiated settlement with the adjoining landowners. Failing agreement with the landowners, the Council was advised it could proceed with the exercise of compulsory powers and that its likelihood of success was good.

The report referred to negotiations that had taken place with the agents acting for the landowners, but the consideration sought by the agents had been in excess of market of

value. The Council's legal advisor confirmed that the Council was not empowered to pay in excess of the market value.

RESOLVED: That,

(1) the report from the Council's legal advisor be received and noted, and the recommendations contained therein accepted;

(2) having regard to legal and valuation advice, the landowners be offered, subject to contract, a one-off payment of £500 in full and final settlement to

(a) modify the restrictive covenants to include use as a burial ground as a permitted use of the south east corner of Manor Field and,

(b) extend the right of way to include a pedestrian and vehicular right of way over the access strips for the purposes of the use of the south east corner of Manor Field as a burial ground; and

(3) subject to the landowners' agreement to the terms set out in (2) above, the Council agrees to pay the reasonable legal and valuation fees directly related to the legal costs giving effect to any agreement.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Signed:.....

Date:

Chairman of the Council

Schedule of Payments June 2009

| Chq No | Payment to | Particulars | Net | VAT | Total |
|---------------|-------------------------------|---|------------|------------|-----------------|
| 104893 | J Hoad | Salary 01/06/09 - 31/06/09 (prev approved) | 1,698.71 | - | - |
| | | Reimbursement of refreshments purchased for Parish Meeting | 55.28 | - | <u>1,753.99</u> |
| 104894 | H Gilder | Salary 01/06/09 - 30/06/09 (prev approved) | 880.30 | - | 880.30 |
| 104895 | H M Revenue & Customs | Month 3 Employer & Employee NIC & PAYE | 915.23 | - | 915.23 |
| 104896 | Kent County Council | Employer & Employees pension contributions June 2009 | 545.80 | - | 545.80 |
| 104897 | Mr D Cunningham | Clean Pavilion June 2009 inv 06/2009 | 80.00 | - | - |
| | | Additional cleaning under section B of Schedule inv 06/2009 | 60.00 | - | - |
| | | Water temp testing & descaling inv 06/2009 | 20.00 | - | - |
| | | Carry out works under section D of schedule inv 06/2009 | 10.00 | - | - |
| | | Carry out works under section E of Schedule inv 06/2009 | 50.00 | - | <u>220.00</u> |
| 104898 | Kent County Council (KCS) | Stationery inv IN230867 | 54.06 | 8.11 | - |
| | | Stationery inv IN248409 | 21.50 | 3.23 | - |
| | | Stationery inv IN254789 | 4.47 | 0.67 | <u>92.04</u> |
| 104899 | Sevenoaks District Council | 2000 gallons from cesspool 20/05/09 inv 83782 | 145.00 | - | - |
| | | 50 bundles of garden sacks inv 83650 | 225.00 | - | - |
| | | 30 bundles of garden sacks inv 83759 | 135.00 | - | - |
| | | 50 bundles of garden sacks inv 84186 | 225.00 | - | <u>730.00</u> |
| 104900 | Sevenoaks District Council | 40 rolls of recycling sacks inv 2020704 | 20.00 | - | - |
| | | 40 rolls of recycling sacks inv 2020669 | 20.00 | - | <u>40.00</u> |
| 104901 | J B Westwood | Grounds maintenance - grass cutting 06/04/09 - 08/05/09 inv 2901 | 1,260.00 | 189.00 | 1,449.00 |
| 104902 | R Malpas | 5 year fixed wiring test @ Pavilion inv 87 | 140.00 | - | 140.00 |
| 104903 | Ash-cum-Ridley Parish Council | Contribution to HAWK Youth Project y/e 31 March 2010 | 1,350.00 | - | 1,350.00 |
| 104904 | Floors N Walls Ltd | To supply and lay Carpet tiles in Parish Office inv 6715 | 788.42 | 118.26 | 906.68 |
| 104905 | South Eastern Plumbers | Repair stopcock in kitchen @ Pavilion | 90.00 | - | - |
| | | Spring service at Pavilion - showers and pump, re-instatement of water heater & supply & install new silphos balls in water softeners | 160.00 | - | <u>250.00</u> |

| | | | | | |
|--------|--|--|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| 104906 | Kent County Playing Fields Association | Annual Subscription | 20.00 | - | 20.00 |
| 104907 | Campaign to Protect Rural England | Annual Membership fee | 29.00 | - | 29.00 |
| 104908 | Ash Setting & Printing | To print & deliver Annual Report & deliver June newsletter inv 8848 | 554.06 | - | - |
| | | Printing of the June edition of the Hartley Herald | 299.90 | | <u>853.96</u> |
| 104909 | Cash | Reimburse petty cash - 04/09 100 x 1st class stamps | 39.00 | - | 39.00 |
| 104910 | Kent BTCV | Annual subscription | 100.00 | - | 100.00 |
| 104911 | Mr J Gaywood | Chairman's Allowance 2009/10 | 475.00 | - | 475.00 |
| 104912 | T D Munday | Routine maintenance - litter pick @ Manor Field inv 16 | 56.00 | - | - |
| | | Inspect playground equipment inv 16 | 192.00 | - | - |
| | | Litter pick @ Rectory Meadow inv 16 | 48.00 | - | - |
| | | Litter pick Hartley greens inv 16 | 32.00 | - | - |
| | | Litter pick @ pond inv 16 | 20.00 | - | - |
| | | Litter pick @ Gorse Wood inv 16 | 48.00 | - | <u>396.00</u> |
| 104913 | T D Munday | Garden maintenance @ BG inv 15 | 120.00 | - | - |
| | | Burial Ground visual inspection inv 17 | 18.50 | - | - |
| | | Grass cutting at BG inv 18 | 104.00 | - | - |
| | | Strim grass BG, verge & pond inv 18 | 16.00 | - | - |
| | | Grass cutting @ All Saints inv 19 | 80.00 | - | - |
| | | Grass cutting Hartley memorial green inv 20 | 60.00 | - | <u>398.50</u> |
| 104914 | T D Munday | Cut back bushes at Woodland Avenue recreation ground inv 21 | 20.00 | - | - |
| | | Repair fence @ Woodland Avenue inv 21 | 20.00 | - | - |
| | | Erection of parking sign @ Cherry Trees inv 22 | 15.00 | - | - |
| | | Installation of new bench @ Billings Hill Shaw inv 23 | 70.00 | - | - |
| | | Repairs to playground equipment as per Quarterly Operational report inv 24 | 50.00 | - | <u>175.00</u> |
| 104915 | Craigdene Ltd | Quarterly inspection of playgrounds inv 600/09 | 150.00 | 22.50 | <u>172.50</u> |
| | | TOTAL | <u>11,590.23</u> | <u>341.77</u> | <u>11,932.00</u> |

Adjournment 1

The meeting was adjourned at 8.04 p.m. to receive reports from the District Councillors and to take questions from members of the public.

Cllr Ramsay reported that it was hoped that £950,000 would be repaid to Sevenoaks District Council by the Landis Bank.

Mr Mayer expressed concerns about the length of grass on the verge at the bottom of Hoselands Hill.

Cllr Mrs Burns asked questions about the recent increases in members' allowances at Sevenoaks District Council.

Mrs Sharp enquired about the Sevenoaks Christmas party.

Mr Mayer enquired about Sevenoaks District Council members' travel expenses.

The meeting resumed at 8.15 p.m.

Adjournment 2

The meeting was adjourned at 8.35 p.m. to allow the resident of The Poplars to address the Council.

The owner of The Poplars informed the Council that, at the meeting held on 1st June 2009, he had referred to a ruling in 2003 which imposed a duty of care in respect of flooding leading to damage.

The meeting was resumed at 8.40 p.m.