



WEST HOATHLY PARISH COUNCIL

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

Document Reference 2414

Minutes of the Meeting of West Hoathly Asset and Highways Committee held on Monday 15th July 2024 at 7:30pm in West Hoathly Village Hall

Members

Paul Brown (Chairman)
Bob Darvill
Martin Robinson
Claire Hilton

Douglas Denham St Pinnock
Amy Marshall (Vice Chairman)*
Manfred Lindfield

* denotes absence

Also present:

There were no members of the public present.

70)To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Amy Marshall

71)To receive declarations of interest from Councillors in respect of any matter on the Agenda

There were none

72)To approve minutes of the Meeting of the Asset & Highways Committee held on 18th March 2024 (Document Reference 2406)

Amendments were made to minute 318 to read - Agreed to get a quotation to replace the wall mounted heaters in the Pavilion and ceiling heaters in the Public Toilets and bring to the next meeting.

Minutes 325 was amended to read - Quote for wall heater at pavilion and ceiling heater at public toilets

With these changes, the minutes were approved, and the Chairman signed them as a true record

73)To receive the clerk's report and note any points of interest

The Clerks report was received.

74)To review expenditure against budget for the year to 9th July 2024

The expenditure was noted.

Cllr Douglas Denham St Pinnock arrived

Assets

75)To receive report on Finche Field & the Allotments

a) To receive feedback from the annual meeting of the allotment holders

It was noted that attendance at the Allotments Holders meeting was low. The issue of uncultivated plots was discussed, allotment holders were not agreeable to the idea from A&H that there could be a working day for allotment holders to clear up rubbish from disused allotments and other areas.

b) To consider an item of correspondence from an allotment holder

The item of correspondence was discussed, it was agreed that the clerk will arrange for a waste removal company to clear the rubbish, along with the fruit caging at plot A2 at the lower allotments.

c) To discuss Vinos Cross planter competition launch

It was agreed to add further details and a reminder in the next chronicle article. Cllr Darvill agreed to put further details together, ready to be promoted in the Autumn.

76)To receive report on North Lane Recreation Ground

a) To receive an update on the Public Conveniences cleaning contract

The clerk provided an update on the cleaning contract work, it was noted that temporary arrangements have been made to ensure that the toilets are cleaned during the interim.

b) To receive the quotation to replace the wall mounted heaters at the Pavilion & Public Conveniences

The clerk advised that despite chasing, no quotation has been received to date. It was agreed to go ahead with the replacement of the wall heaters at the Pavilion as this is like for like work. It was agreed that the clerk would ask the plumber what other options are available at the public conveniences to reduce the risk of the pipes freezing during the winter.

c) To receive an update on the Wallgate machine repair and agree next steps

The contractor that had previously agreed to complete the work is no longer able to. After discussion it was agreed that the Wallgate machines will be removed and stainless-steel basins with percussion cold water taps will be installed. Clerk to discuss with plumber and report back to committee members.

77)To receive the Arboricultural Survey quotations and agree next steps

Three quotations were obtained for comparison. After discussion, it was agreed to proceed with one of the quotations at the cost of £1,520 plus VAT for stage 1 and £770 plus VAT for stage 2. It was noted that there will also be additional fees for Mastermaps and mileage.

78)To receive an update from the Clerk and discuss how to progress the work at Sharpthorne New Playground.

The Clerk updated the committee on how several emails have been sent to officers at MSDC to try and progress the improvements, however, despite chasing no replies have been received to date. Following discussion, it was agreed to add an agenda item to Parish Council, to discuss whether West Hoathly PC should ask to take over ownership.

Highways

79) To note issues on parish footpaths and bridleways

The Clerk updated the committee on how she had reported Footpath 26_2WH to the Public Rights of Way team as the side vegetation was making the path impassable, particularly for the younger school children that use this path to access the Forest School site.

The Local Access Ranger had advised that he would try to clear some of the vegetation, however, before this work could be done a resident of Ridleys kindly volunteered and cut back the vegetation with a strimmer. Cllr Ken Allfree helped the resident to sweep the path clear. A letter of thanks has been sent.

Cllr Claire Hilton gave an update on FP 23WH which has also been reported to the Public Rights of Way Team due to the extreme mud on the stretch of the footpath between North Lane and the Chiddinglye boundary. The Local Access Ranger advised that the footpath will be included in a scoring system for re-surfacing works that goes to a bidding process for the capital expenditure budget. Cllr Claire Hilton explained that it can sometimes help the scoring if local councils are able to help partially fund. After discussion it was agreed to ask the clerk to contact the Access Ranger to enquire whether this may help to progress some improvements.

Cllr Bob Darvill raised the issue of the overgrown hedges encroaching on the footpath along Top Road opposite The Fox, down to opposite Bulldogs Bank – clerk to report to Highways Officer.

80) To receive a report on SID deployment

It was noted that the SID has now been deployed continuously since October 2023 and has been rotated around the agreed locations, which included 6 weeks in Highbrook. The 2nd bracket has also now been installed. Cllr Paul Brown advised that he intends to complete another data download soon.

General

81) To receive an update on the Finche Field Management Plan

It was agreed to progress the review it would be helpful to have another working group meeting. Cllr Sinead Young and Cllr Claire Hilton agreed to be part of the working group - Cllr Paul Brown to arrange meeting in September.

82) To note any correspondence received

An item of correspondence was shared with the committee. Cllr Douglas Denham St Pinnock volunteered to visit the residents to discuss further.

83) To note items of interest or for consideration at the next meeting

- **Finche Field Management Plan**
- **84 Bus Service**

Date of next meeting 23rd September 2024

There being no further business the meeting closed at 21:12

Chairman-----

DRAFT