



WEST HOATHLY PARISH COUNCIL

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

Document Reference 2222

Minutes of the Meeting of West Hoathly Parish Council held on Monday 26th September 2022 at 7:30pm in West Hoathly Village Hall

Members

Ken Allfree

Will Buckley*

Martin Robinson

Bob Darvill

Paul Brown

Kevin Gould (Vice Chairman)*

Douglas Denham St Pinnock (Chairman)

Amy Marshall*

* denotes absence

Also present:

Leanne Andrews (Clerk)

Anita Emery (RFO)

There were no members of the public present

106) To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Kevin Gould and Cllr Amy Marshall. Cllr Will Buckley was absent.

107) To receive declarations of interest from Parish Councillors in respect of any matter on the agenda.

Cllr Paul Brown declared an interest and stated the following- "I am a member of the Planning Committee at Mid Sussex District Council which determines some planning applications in the district. Any views I give on applications on which the Parish Council is a statutory consultee are preliminary and I reserve my right to give a different view should the matter get determined at the Planning Committee."

108) To approve minutes of the Meeting of West Hoathly Parish Council held on 27th June 2022 (Document Reference 2221)

The minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the chairman.

109) To receive the clerk's report

The clerk's report was noted.

110) To receive Councillor reports

a) West Sussex County Councillor Report- No report available.

b) Mid Sussex District Councillor Report- Cllr Stockwell.

- All Council meetings are in person.
- Several electric vehicle charge points have been installed across the district. The next phase is to look at potential roadside locations. More

information and can be found here : [UK's largest public EV charging project \(connectedkerb.com\)](https://www.uk's-largest-public-ev-charging-project.com)

- A food waste trial started on the 12th September for 3000 households in parts of Ashurst Wood, Burgess Hill and Lindfield. The trial is for a period of 12 months. [Food waste collection trial gets underway - Mid Sussex District Council](#)

Mid Sussex District Councillor Report -Cllr Brown

- Repairs have been made to the fencing and gate at Sharpthorne New Playground
- During the summer a working group has been looking at the Draft District Plan. The report from the working group will be issued in preparation for the Committee for Planning Scrutiny. Changes to the Draft District Plan are expected.
- Cllr Brown met with developer Ashill Regen on the 13th September regarding the development of the former brickworks site. – see minute 121.

111) Planning applications

a) To note decisions from the Local Authority

The following applications have been granted permission

DM/22/0569 – 1A Hoathly Hill
DM/22/0291- Dodges House

b) To consider planning applications received from the Local Authority

DM/22/2692 – Vine Yard Cottage, North Lane, West Hoathly

Single-storey front extension and double storey rear extension at lower ground floor level (Amendments to previously approved DM/20/0663)

1 member of the council objected

The majority of the Parish Council had **no objections**.

DM/22/2429 – The Conservatory, Duckyls, Selsfield Road, West Hoathly

Variation of condition 2 from application DM/22/1489 - to replace approved plans to allow the enclosing of the rear open sided canopy with glazing.

The Parish Council had **no objections**.

DM/22/2489- Priory Cottage, 7 Hilltop Road, West Hoathly

Rear extension at first floor with new rooflights and dormers with obscured glazing up to 1.7m from finished floor level.

The Parish Council had **no objections**.

112) Civility and Respect

- a. To consider supporting the National Association of Local Councils/Society of Local Council Clerks Civility and Respect Pledge
- b. To approve the Dignity at Work Policy

It was agreed to support the Civility and Respect Pledge and the Dignity at Work Policy was approved.

113) To note the conclusion of the audit for the year ending 31st March 2022

The conclusion of the Audit was noted

114) To agree the specification to be submitted for tender for the maintenance contract for North Lane Recreation Ground

The specification was agreed

115) To agree a request for a memorial bench to be placed at North Lane Recreation Ground

The request was agreed. Clerk to agree location for bench to be installed.

116) To review the Local Winter Management Plan

The Local Winter Management Plan was reviewed.

117) To review the Financial Statements to 31st August 2022

- a) Parish Council Bank Reconciliation
- b) Parish Council Summary Receipts and Payments

The Parish Council Financial Statements were noted

- c) Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall Bank Reconciliation
- d) Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall Summary Receipts and Payments

The Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall Financial Statements were noted

118) To ratify and approve the payments for August and September 2022

- a) Parish Council Payments

The payments of £5,262.34 for August and payments of £4,037.72 for September were unanimously ratified and approved

- b) Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall Payments

The payments of £1,147.23 for August and the payments of £2,625.42 for September were unanimously ratified and approved

119) To receive Committee Reports

- a) To note Minutes of Meetings taken place
 - i) Asset & Highways Committee 18th July 2022 (document reference 2218)

The minutes were noted.

120) To receive update from Bluebell Woods working group

The Bluebell Woods working group met on the 5th September.

At the meeting the group recapped on the work that has already been done, which includes the Land Condition Report and the clearance of a large amount of metal from the site. A recommendation on signage has also been received and it was noted that there is a large badger set on the site.

It was agreed not to apply for grant funding from Sussex Lund this year as for the application to be considered favourably a robust Woodland Management Plan is needed, along with clear objectives for the project.

The group discussed the options available for the site, which are:

- Fence the area off
- Extract all the waste, including asbestos
- Or cover it

The working group agreed to investigate the possibility of covering the site. There are good examples of where this has been done locally and the group agreed it may be a way to generate some income which could then be used to fund replanting etc.

A Woodland Management plan was agreed as a priority, as it will enable the council to apply for funding and it will set out the aspirations for the woods.

The working group also discussed the ongoing drainage issues at the site.

Next steps:

- To make enquiries regarding the cost of a Woodland Management Plan
- To approach Combers to discuss the possibility of infilling
- To prepare a Vision Statement
- To arrange an ecology survey
- To contact Cluttons regarding the drainage ditch easement

121) To receive reports from external meetings attended by councillors

- Brickworks site visit with Ashill Regen – Monday 26th September (Douglas Denham St Pinnock, Ken Allfree and Clerk)

Ashill Regen informed the council that the sale is due to be completed in October. A map showing the land being purchased was shared with the group, it included the whole of the brickwork site. The area identified for development is the already build on area of the site, it did not include the entirety of the land that is being purchased. Access to the site was proposed to be via Hamsey Road. Ashill Regen are already in preapplication discussion with MSDC regarding the proposal to build houses on the site. The restoration of the site is due to continue to be undertaken by Ibstock under licence from Ashill Regen. They have agreed to keep the council and residents informed of their next steps. They are proposing to hold one to one meetings with some residents on Hamsey Road and will look to hold an open exhibition detailing their plans in Sharpthorne Hall in due course.

- MSALC AGM meeting (Douglas Denham St Pinnock, Martin Robinson)

Cllr Douglas Denham St Pinnock was elected as Chairman of MSALC. Cllr Martin Sheldon (Cuckfield Parish Council) was elected as Vice Chair.

Cllr Douglas Denham St Pinnock was re-elected to the Board of WSALC and Cllr Martin Sheldon was elected to the Board of WSALC.

122) To receive correspondence

There was none

123) To note items of interest or items for inclusion at next meeting of the Parish Council

Date of next meeting 31st October 2022

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:41

Chairman-----