



WEST HOATHLY PARISH COUNCIL

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

Document Reference 2226

Minutes of the Meeting of West Hoathly Asset and Highways Committee held on Monday 14th November 2022 at 7:30pm in West Hoathly Village Hall

Members

Paul Brown (Chairman)
Bob Darvill
Martin Robinson

Douglas Denham St Pinnock
Amy Marshall (Vice Chairman)

* denotes absence

Also present:

Leanne Andrews (Clerk)
Anita Emery (RFO)

There were 3 members of the public present.

A member of the public expressed their views on the recent changes to the allotment rules that has resulted in bonfires no longer being permitted at Finche Field. The committee outlined that this decision was made because of the large areas of dumping that have accumulated at both the upper and lower allotment sites. It was noted that the council were unable to revisit the decision for a period of six months

1 member of the public left the meeting

A member of the public attended the meeting to provide more detail on agenda item 13. The resident expressed that we have wonderful green spaces in the parish that are widely used by all, but it would be good to consider future improvements, particularly facilities that could be available for older primary aged children and teenagers.

A member of the public made representation regarding the condition of Footpath WH1 and Bridleway 43WH and provided details of the correspondence that they had had with the WSCC Public Rights of Way team. The member of the public felt that the drainage on the footpath is not sufficient and needs addressing.

171) To receive apologies for absence

There were none

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

Cllr Amy Marshall declared an interest as the Treasurer of West Hoathly Preschool
Cllr Bob Darvill declared an interest as a Governor of West Hoathly Primary School

173) To approve minutes of the Meeting of the Asset & Highways Committee held on 10th October 2022 (Document Reference 2223)

The minutes were approved, and the Chairman signed them as a true record

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

The Clerk's report was noted

It was agreed to move items 9 on the agenda

175) To note issues on parish footpaths and bridleways

The condition of footpath WH1 and Bridleway 43WH was discussed. It was noted that the water leak at the top of footpath WH1 has now been fixed but the condition of the path has subsequently not improved. It was noted that the drainage ditch on Bridleway 43WH has not been cambered properly, this results in flooding on Bluebell Lane.

It was agreed that the condition of the footpath is primarily a WSCC responsibility and that the Parish Council have limited funds available for footpath improvements. Clerk to contact County Cllr Garry Wall and PROW team.

It was noted that the stile at the entrance to New Coombe Farm has been wired up in a way that means that dogs can no longer pass through without having to be lifted over. Cllrs to discuss with landowner.

It was agreed to move item 13 on the agenda

176) To discuss a residents email request to consider

- a) Improving the perimeter path around North Lane Rec
- b) An Outdoor Gym at North Lane Rec
- c) Skateboard/ Scooter ramp at North Lane Rec
- d) Cycle dirt track at Finche Field
- e) Coronation Clump, working party to dig out brambles

It was noted that the ideas were well received suggestions and will be considered in light of resources available at budget setting.

The committee agreed that a volunteer working party should be set up to clear Coronation Clump. Suggested date, 31st Dec 2022

177) To review expenditure against budget for the year to 31st October 2022

The expenditure was noted.

Assets

178) To receive report on Finche Field & the allotments

It was agreed to proceed with the Handyman's recommendation to install post and rail fencing at the top of the steep steps in Finche Field opposed to installing wire between the concrete posts as previously discussed.

- a) To discuss the lower allotment plots

It was noted that several of the allotments plots on the Hollow side need attention, it was agreed that many of the plots are heavily shaded by the bordering trees. The committee discussed the possibility of creating new plots in Finche Field. As an initial

step, it was agreed to investigate the costs of getting a plan of the allotments drawn up. Cllr Bob Darvill to obtain a quote.

179) To receive report on North Lane Recreation Ground

- a) To review responses to the tender for the maintenance contract 2023-2025 and award the contract.

The tender had been sent to 5 companies, only 2 responses had been received. The quotes were reviewed and after discussion it was agreed to award the contract to the current contractor.

180) To consider residents request for an additional dog waste bin on Bluebell Lane

The committee did not agree to the request for an additional dog waste bin on Bluebell Lane. It was noted that MSDC no longer supply larger bins. Clerk to put up a sign asking residents to take waste home and place it in their black bin, if the bin is full.

Highways

181) To receive the rural fingerpost report

The rural fingerpost report was noted. It was agreed to ask the handyman whether it would be possible to put some loose hardcore at the base of the sign at Vowels Lane

General

182) To consider the Asset & Highways Vision for 2023-2027 and the priorities for the 2023-2024 budget

The Asset & Highways Vision for 2023-2027 was discussed. The committee agreed to make a recommendation to Full Council that allocated S106 money should be used to purchase a parish owned portable speed indicator device

183) To discuss Sharpthorne New Playground

It was agreed for the clerk to speak to Ashurst Wood Parish Council regarding the recent improvements that have been made to their playground. Clerk to research costs for play equipment that could be purchased with allocated S106 funds.

184) To prepare a budget for the year 2023-24

A proposed budget for ongoing costs was discussed. This would be consolidated with the Administration budget and a first draft budget brought to the December Parish Council meeting for review

185) To note any correspondence received

An item of correspondence from the chair of West Hoathly Preschool was shared with the committee. The Preschool have asked the Parish Council to investigate the possibility of installing a painted pavement from West Hoathly Village Hall to West Hoathly School. The committee agreed to investigate. Clerk to speak to Highways as an initial step.

An item of correspondence was noted from a resident regarding the Parish Bonfire at North Lane Rec. Clerk to follow up.

A governor of West Hoathly Primary School approached the clerk regarding cars using the spaces reserved for school staff only outside North Lane Rec. Clerk to make up notices to be placed on cars.

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

- Sharpthorne New Playground
- Painted pavement on North Lane
- TRO

Link to WSCC Speed Limit Policy Proposal:

[Title of report \(moderngov.co.uk\)](https://www.moderngov.co.uk/2022/11/18/wsc-speed-limit-policy-proposal/)

[Agenda for Communities, Highways and Environment Scrutiny Committee on Friday, 18 November 2022, 10.30 am \(moderngov.co.uk\)](https://www.moderngov.co.uk/2022/11/18/wsc-speed-limit-policy-proposal/)

Date of next meeting 16th January 2023

There being no further business the meeting closed at 22:17

Chairman-----