



WEST HOATHLY PARISH COUNCIL

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

Document Reference 2325

Minutes of the Meeting of West Hoathly Parish Council held on Monday 18th December 2023 at 7:30pm in West Hoathly Village Hall

Members

Ken Allfree

Will Buckley*

Martin Robinson (Vice
Chairman)

Bob Darvill

Peter Browne

Paul Brown

Claire Hilton

Douglas Denham St Pinnock (Chairman)

Amy Marshall

* denotes absence

Also present:

Leanne Andrews (clerk)

Anita Emery (RFO)

County Cllr Garry Wall

District Cllr Lorraine Carvalho

There was 1 member of the public present. The member of the public introduced themselves as a resident of Hamsey Road and outlined their objections to application DM/23/0827 that is on the agenda. The residents letter of objection was shared with the Council and the member of the public read out and elaborated on the objections detailed in the letter. These objections included concerns with the site drainage and subsequent flooding, objections to the potential closure of the Bluebell Railway footway crossing and demolition of the 'Old Workshop' and office block.

229) To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Will Buckley

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

There were none

231) To approve minutes of the Meeting of West Hoathly Parish Council held on 27th November 2023 (Document Reference 2323)

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

232) To receive the clerk's report

It was noted that the Parish Office will be closed from the 19th December – 2nd January 2024.

233) To receive Councillor reports

a) West Sussex County Councillor Report – Cllr Garry Wall

- Budget prep continues to be challenging. £3 Million needs to be added as a result of the minimum wage increase.
- WSCC have made representation on the Smoke Free Consultation
- Recent rainfall has put added pressure on the road network team.
- NHS- Brighton Hospital Trust- Operation Bramber is underway looking at the failings. Cllr Wall explained it is an open and transparent process.

In view of the motion passed at the last meeting members asked County Cllr Garry Wall if he would support the Council in trying to improve the 84 bus service.

Mid Sussex District Councillor Report- Lorraine Carvalho

- Could you be a **West Sussex County Councillor?**
[West Sussex County Council | Local Government Association](#)
- **Clair Hall** work is still ongoing, and the plan is being followed.
- **Polling Districts and Polling Places Review** - On Monday (20th November) Mid Sussex District Council launched its statutory consultation on the proposed scheme of Polling Districts and Polling Places for UK Parliamentary General Elections. [Polling Districts & Places Review - Mid Sussex District Council](#)
- **Armed Forces Veterans Drop-In Sessions and Breakfast Clubs**
Drop-in sessions will take place in East Grinstead every Wednesday and Breakfast Club will be every other Sunday. Similar arrangements will be put in place in Haywards Heath and Burgess Hill.
- **AONB Rebranding** - on 22nd November 2023 all Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) were renamed as National Landscapes. This included a logo change.

b) Mid Sussex District Councillor Report- Cllr Paul Brown

Mid Sussex District Councillor Report - Paul Brown

Following almost unanimous approval at Full Council on 13th December, the Reg.19 District Plan 2021-2039 will go for a six week public consultation starting on 12th January 2024. Any representations will go to PINS.

Both Cllr Carvalho and I are members of the 12 Clair Hall Cross Party working group which will meet on the afternoon of 20th Dec.

Land North of Top Road (WH NP Policy WH8a) has been submitted to MSDC Planning for pre-app advice. I received an invitation to attend the pre-application meeting on 13th December and have advised that I would prefer a date in January..

Land next to Cookhams (WH NP Policy WHP8b) DM/22/1384 has been approved by Planning Committee. I asked the Planning Officer, Susan Dubberley for an update on 29th November. She replied as follows 'There have unfortunately been some delays in agreeing some of the wording in the S106 with the developer but these have just recently been resolved. I am now anticipating the agreement being completed in the next week or so following which the planning permission will be issued.' This application is still shown as 'awaiting decision'.

Conversion of Barns at Philpots Manor School. Further extension requested by Planning Officer dated 4th December offers the opportunity for call in if PC requested and MSDC Cllrs agreed.

West Hoathly Parish Council agreed to ask District Cllrs Lorraine Carvalho and Paul Brown to call in the application.

234) Planning applications

a) To note decisions from the Local Authority

The following applications have been granted permission

DM/23/0395 - Lower Barn

DM/23/0394 - Lower Barn

DM/23/2213/ DM/23/2214 - Old Coombe House

DM/23/1031/ DM/23/1032 - Upper Pendent

b) To consider planning applications received from the Local Authority

DM/23/0827 - West Hoathly Brickworks, Hamsey Road, Sharpthorne

Full planning application for the demolition of existing structures and redevelopment of the site to provide 108 residential dwellings (Class C3) and associated works, including the provision of an on-site SANG, access, landscaping, parking and associated works. (Amended plans received showing minor changes to scheme, as detailed in applicant's letter dated 13th November)

The Parish Council agreed that our previous **objections** still stand. After considering the updated application and drainage issues that have been brought to our attention, West Hoathly Parish Council have major concerns over the drainage plans and the responses from Southern Water who have not commented on the ability of the New Coombe Wastewater Treatment Plant to cater for the additional wastewater, or on surface water drainage from the application site, both of which flow into Coombe Brook and Weirwood Reservoir. The Parish Council additionally **objects** on these grounds.

DM/23/2936 - All Saints Church, Hammingden Lane, Highbrook

Plane Tree (T1) Repollard to original points by approx 3.5metres. Lime Tree (T2) Pollard by approx 3-3.5metres. Sycamore (T3) Pollard by approx 4.5metres

It was noted that this application has already been determined.

DM/23/2994 - Wickenden Farm, Chilling Street, Sharpthorne

Creation a new swimming pond in courtyard

The Parish Council had **no objections**

DM/23/3093 - 2 The Dunnings, Sandy Lane, West Hoathly

Proposed demolition of detached garage outbuilding and development of a single storey wrap around extension, together with 2no conservation area type roof lights.

The Parish Council had **no objections**

DM/23/2927 - St Dunstans Church, North Lane, West Hoathly

Change of use in order to convert St Dunstan's Chapel into a dwellinghouse (C3), together with the construction of a summer house in the garden, and relocation of existing gate.

The Parish Council had **no objections**

235) To review the Financial Statements

a) To approve the **Parish Council** bank reconciliations against corresponding bank statements

b) To note the **Parish Council** combined bank rec and year to date accounts

The Parish Council Financial Statements were noted.

c) To approve the **Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall** bank reconciliations against corresponding bank statements

d) To note the **Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall** combined bank rec and year to date accounts

The Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall Financial Statements were noted

236) To ratify and approve the payments for December 2023

a) To approve the **Parish Council** expenditure as itemised on the schedule

Two additional payments was presented for November-

1. £80.00 – Gary Coxhall

The payments of £4,073.58 for December were unanimously ratified and approved.

b) To approve the **Trustees of West Hoathly Village Hall** expenditure as itemised on the schedule

The payments of £318.99 for December were unanimously ratified and approved

237) To review the initial draft budget proposals for 2024-25

It was noted that the Finance Committee had met on the 4th December to prepare the budget. Three different proposals were reviewed and after discussion it was agreed to recommend option 3, which is a precept of £96,470 and increase of 8.58% for approval at the Parish Council meeting on Monday 29th January 2024.

238) To agree an agenda for the Parish Assembly on the 4th March 2024

After discussion two topics were proposed, these were the 84-bus service and potential disruption from multiple developments. The Clerk suggested it was added to the next agenda for agreement.

239) To receive feedback from meeting held on 5th December 2023 to discuss the future of the Sawmills site

Cllr Peter Browne provided an update and explained how he has a meeting arranged to discuss whether the land could be of interest to the Community Land Trust.

240) To receive Committee Reports

- a) To note Minutes of Meetings taken place
 - i) Finance Committee meeting 4th December 2023 (document reference 2324)

The minutes were noted

241) To receive reports from external meetings attended by councillors

As Chairman of WSALC, Douglas Denham St Pinnock attended a working group meeting looking to improve the relationship and comms between Town and Parish Councils and Mid Sussex District Council.

242) To receive correspondence

A letter of thanks was received from the Royal British Legion in response to the donation made for the poppy wreath

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

- Agree budget & precept request
- Parish assembly

Date of next meeting 29th January 2024

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:58

Chairman-----