

LOWER HARDRES AND NACKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 9TH APRIL 2019

In attendance were Cllr Miss Grundy (Acting Chair), Taylor, Moore, Beaumont, two members of the public and the Parish Clerk.

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr McCully sent his apologies

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllrs Miss Grundy and Moore declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 4i finance payments for the village hall.

3. To Approve the Minutes of the last Meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2019 were approved and signed by the Vice-Chairman as a true and correct record.

Item 5iv Trees: Following receipt of a letter from a resident regarding the recently fallen tree in the village and the condition of some other trees, the Highways Steward advised that she will follow the matter up.

Item 7 Merton Lane road verge: The Highways Steward telephoned the clerk and explained that work is scheduled to be carried out on the crumbling sides in the dip. At the same time the drainage engineer will be working alongside to alleviate the flooding.

She also advised that according to their records Highways has not filled any potholes in the vicinity of Church Lane, the Clerk said she may have given the wrong location and will check with members. Following discussion the Clerk to advise Highways that the pothole is still there in the vicinity of the Nackington War Memorial.

4. Financial Matters

(i) The following invoices were approved for payment

Lower Hardres Village Hall	£ 110.00	Annual Rent
HMRC	£ 00.20)	Underpayment of tax 2018-19
HMRC	£ 54.80)	PAYE – April 2019-20
Parish Clerk	£ 23.71	Expenses & Stationery

(ii) To confirm end of year P60 for tax purposes.

The Clerk explained that she had underpaid the tax payments by 20pence and has added this to the April payment. On the salary side she has been underpaid by 0.12 pence, members approved and accepted the figures in the P60 received from our Accountants,

(iii) To consider suggestions for the use of the legacy left to the Parish Council. The meeting was informed that a specific area of the Church is being improved and it may be that once complete, the area may benefit from an item

(iv) To consider re-joining Action with Communities in Rural Kent

After discussion members agreed not to take up membership at this time.

(v) Improving Air Quality in Canterbury

A further request was received from KECN for funding towards an Appeal to the Supreme Court. Although they were unsuccessful at the Court of Appeal, they do feel that they have excellent grounds to present. Members agreed to a sum of £250.00 but would like a proviso that the money is returned should the hearing not go ahead. They would also request more feedback on the progress.

(vi) To Note draft End of Year Accounts and to consider appointment of Internal Auditor.

The Clerk took members through the end of year accounts and following discussion, it was proposed and seconded to approve the End of Year accounts subject to the underpayment of 20pence tax being included. The Annual Return and other papers to conclude the full end of year will be available at the next meeting.

It was agreed to appoint our usual Internal Auditor.

Draft Level of Reserves 31st March 2019

Opening Balance 01.04.18		9566.33
Income Received to Date		
Precept	6681.65	
Concurrent Functions Funding	1786.90	
NS&I Interest 2018-2019	52.56	
Legacy from past resident	1000.00	
VAT Refund 2016-2018	903.55	
Total	10424.66	
Total Income & Reserves		19990.99
Less expenditure to date		7081.35
Balance		12909.64
Bank Balances as at 12 th March 2019		
Lloyds Account sheet 11		5609.77
National Savings Account		7299.87
Balance		12909.64

5. Planning Matters

- (i) 19/00508 The Farmhouse, 4, Stuppington Court Farm, Merton Lane,, Lower Hardres
Proposed detached double garage.
This item was deferred as a number of members could not access this on the CCC web.
- (ii) 19/00518 1, Highfield Cottages, Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres
Proposed new access and driveway. No objection

6. Planning Decisions

- (iii) Notice Of Proposed Work To Trees In A Conservation Area.
Village Green at the Junction of School Lane and Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres,
Application No: 18/00392 Proposal: Blue Atlas Cedar Tree - 30% crown reduction and
20% crown thin to re-balance. Removal of major deadwood from crown and pinch back
lower lateral boughs.
Permission only granted for - 20% crown thin. Removal of major deadwood from crown
and pinch back lower lateral boughs.
At this point a member of the public advised that permission has now been granted for
the full application as submitted. The Clerk to check with CCC and if necessary arrange
for a further inspection and quotation to be obtained.

7. Highways – Operation Brock

Following a letter from a resident to Highways England requesting information on the use of other roads by HGV's when Operation Brock is in use and also asking whether a "No HGVs" type sign could be placed to prevent lorries running through Lower Hardres near Canterbury. Highways England responded that one proposal is that Kent County Council have plans to put out on various roads the type of "No HGVs" signs, last used during 2015 for Operation Stack. The letter then suggested that we may wish to contact Kent Highways to ask whether the roads around our village have been included in their plans or could be added to them. Following discussion, it was proposed and seconded and the motion carried that;

- 1) Ask whether the roads around our village **have been** included in their plans. or
- 2) Ask whether the roads around our village **could be** added to their plans

8. Elections

The Clerk advised that as far as Lower Hardres and Nackington is concerned there will not be an election in the Parish as there were only five candidates for five places. A notice of the outcome of the Uncontested Election has been posted on the notice boards and website.

The Clerk explained that they remain as Councillors until 7th May, and on 8th May 2019 the new Council commences, however all members must sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in the presence of the Proper Officer before any business may be carried out.

9. Correspondence, Publications and Urgent Matters of Importance

- It appears there is a problem with the lower hardres and nackington emails via the server. Two members are looking into this matter.
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- *Due to the confidentiality of the next item the press and public were excluded.*
- A member reported a possible serious problem relating to a PROW. The Clerk to write to the department at KCC

10. Confirmed the Date of the Annual Parish Council Meeting as 14th May 2019 5pm to be followed at 6pm by the Annual Parish Meeting.

Signed.....Date.....

The meeting closed at 6.55pm