

LOWER HARDRES AND NACKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 4TH FEBRUARY 2020

In attendance were Cllrs McCully, Miss Grundy, Taylor, Moore, Beaumont, the Parish Clerk and four members of the public one of whom only stayed for part of the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest and completion of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests Register
Cllr McCully declared an interest in item 41 Finance Payments and Cllr Beaumont declared an interest in item 5iii Planning.

3. To Approve the Minutes of the Last Parish Council Meeting and Matters Arising

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

During the next item the meeting was suspended to allow members of the public to speak

Item 4 Matters Arising:

The Rev Last and the PCC Treasurer attended the meeting in order to answer questions put by the Parish Council about the discretionary grant towards the upkeep and maintenance of the Burial Ground. The Clerk explained that Parish Councils are more and more coming under scrutiny and having to be able to evidence by way of a paper trail of all expenditure and financial decisions. In future when requesting a grant we would require a formal letter headed by the Parochial Church Council and a copy of the annual accounts for Burial Ground maintenance. She further explained that as this is not a mandatory grant it could go up or down. A member added that if everything on our annual budget is paid it only leaves £1010.00 out of which the grant to the PCC is paid.

The Rev Last explained that the PCC only requested an increase because they were advised to. She and the Treasurer had kindly brought with them a copy of each invoice received from April 2019, a copy of the Churchyard expenses for the past three years and a copy of the PCC financial statement up to 31st December 2019 – which will remain confidential.

The Clerk then advised of the legacy £1000.00 received from a past resident. This was to be spent in Nackington, we had asked if there was anything tangible required in the Church but nothing really had been forthcoming other than information on the provision of a social area. Rev Last stated that this was the first time she has heard of this and will give it some thought. The Chairman thanked both for attended and resumed the meeting.

Item 4 Butts Court Car Park: Following a complaint from a member of the public about the dangers of cars in disrepair and a caravan on stands just above the downward slope in Butts Court car park, a reply to our query from EKH was received who advise there is no action they can take, however the estates officer will visit the site and take photos of the vehicles in question to see if they can locate the owners and speak to them.

4. Financial Matters

(i) To approve the following invoices for payment

CPRE	£	36.00	Annual Subscription
HMRC	£	62.80	PAYE December
HMRC	£	62.60	PAYE January
N.J.D. McCully	£	18.00	Travel Expenses
Parish Clerk	£	35.96	Expenses & Stationery Dec-Jan
Parish Clerk	£	16.85	Expenses & Stationery Jan-Feb

(ii) Members noted receipt of £58.40 interest from the NS&I account for 2019.

(iii) VE Day Celebrations

It was confirmed that the VE Day celebrations will take place on Friday 8th May 2020 from 3pm to 6pm. The event will be a BBQ/picnic and have a 1940's theme with fancy dress. Cllr Beaumont has purchased a CD with music and singers of the day, Mrs

McKeever has priced the sausages, burgers etc and will request guests to each bring a type of salad and their own alcohol. Soft drinks will be provided.

The Clerk to request a financial grant from our CCC Ward Councillors Members Fund.

(iv) Request for Funding

A further request has been received from Kent Environmental Community Network for funding towards legal fees for the second case against Canterbury's local plan to be heard in the High Court. On February 25th.

Having donated three times previously, It was agreed to defer any decision to the March meeting in order to know roughly what we have left in our reserves.

(v) Website Accessibility

Our website manager advised that Google informed him that Lower Hardres web has a problem with accessibility to mobiles. Rather than wait until nearer our compliance date, Mr Harris has fixed this.

(vi) Members approved the Payments Sheet and Draft Level of Reserves as follows:

Draft Level of Reserves 14 th January 2020		
Opening Balance 01.04.18		11818.84
Income Received to Date		
Precept	7480.00	
Concurrent Functions Funding	1774.15	
NSI Interest	58.40	
Total	9312.55	
Total Income & Reserves		21131.39
Less expenditure to date		8017.19
Balance		13114.20
Bank Balances as at 14 th January 2020		
Lloyds Account sheet 32		5755.93
National Savings Account		7358.27
Balance		13114.20

5. Planning Matters

- (i) CA/19/10348 Farnham House, Merton Lane, Lower Hardres
Proposed two-storey dwelling with detached garage, following demolition of the existing bungalow. No objection.
- (ii) CA/19/10400 Uniquely British Reclamation Yard, Merton Lane, Lower Hardres
Change of use from storage to shop with ancillary café and offices, new roof to existing buildings and re-use of existing/stationing of new containers for retail, workshop and storage purposes following removal of existing workshop. (Amended Plans/additional information)
Members considered that the Economic/Business plan was overly ambitious and doubted that their proposals would be viable. With the increase of containers it was agreed the site would become more unsightly and overdeveloped. It was proposed and seconded to object to the application citing a number of issues along with the relevant planning policies.
- (iii) CA/19/10310 4, Whitehill Close, Lower Hardres
Proposed extension to existing vehicular access
Members were somewhat concerned at this application as the existing drive is currently double sized and can hold four vehicles, if extended with a full open front to the road, it would comfortably hold two rows of seven cars side by side.. Members queried why such a large parking area is required and what future plans are proposed for the property to require such a massive drive. It was considered that this was not in keeping nor consistent with the rest of the properties in the cul-de-sac. The Parish Council to ask the Planning officer to look further into this application as to its purpose. It was therefore proposed and seconded that until concerns relating to the application for an extensive

- parking area are identified, the Parish Council cannot support the application.
- (iv) Following several requests from CCC to meet with the Parish Council regarding the future local plan, members agreed to meet with CCC Officers prior to the March Meeting.

6. Planning Decisions by CCC

- (i) CA/19/02186 Petcham House, 5, Nackington Park, Nackington Road, Lower Hardres
Proposed extension of existing guest accommodation including insertion of dormer to front elevation plus hip-to-gable roof. Granted by CCC
- (ii) 19/02027 The Farmhouse, 4, Stuppington Court Farm, Merton Lane, Lower Hardres.
Proposed detached double garage. Granted by CCC

7. Highway Issues and PROW

- The Clerk has heard from the CCC Highways Officer regarding yellow lines in School Lane who advises that this is not possible as it is too far to be policed. The meeting was informed that the new footpath in School Lane is already breaking up by the bollards.
- Update on complaints re lorry movements along the B2068
Although the HGV issue has reduced, each time the M20 is closed the problem arises again as it has this week. It was agreed to write to the Police Commissioner.
- The meeting was informed that the speedwatch equipment is beginning to deteriorate.

8. Broadband

Having written to the KCC officer responsible for BDUK asking him to attend a meeting with the Nackington residents who have shown an interest in the RGC scheme, a reply stated that KCC is not permitted to develop the community scheme. However he has said that he is happy to talk this through the Clerk in order to advise where we go next with the project. The Clerk to write again asking him to address Councillors.

9. Correspondence, Publications and any urgent matters

10. To Confirm Date of the next Meeting as 10th March 2020

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