

LOWER HARDRES AND NACKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10TH MARCH 2020

In attendance were Cllrs McCully, Miss Grundy, Taylor, Beaumont, the Parish Clerk and six members of the public which included CCC Cllr Robert Thomas.

Apologies were received from Cllr Moore

1. **Declarations of Interest and completion of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests Register**
 Cllr McCully declared an interest in item 3ii Finance Payments, Cllr Miss Grundy has an interest in item 4iii Planning Matters and Cllr Beaumont has an interest in item 5 Planning Decisions.

2. **To Approve the Minutes of the Last Parish Council Meeting and Matters Arising**
 The minutes of the meeting held on 4th February were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

3. **Financial Matters** *During items 3iii and 3v the meeting was suspended to allow the public to speak*
 - (i) Requests for grant funding have been received from the following: Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership, Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance, Lower Hardres Cricket Club and KECN (Kent Environmental Community Network)
 Members to consider the requests following item 3iv Draft End of Year Accounts
 - (ii) The following invoices were approved for payment

HMRC	£ 62.80	PAYE - February
N.J.D. McCully	£ 18.00	Travel Expenses
Parish Clerk	£ 16.85	Expenses & Stationery – Feb/March
 - (iii) VE Day Celebrations: Mrs McKeever firstly pointed out that the event may have to be deferred due to the outbreak of coronavirus and that we should know for sure in two weeks. She has prepared an invitation to residents to attend a fancy dress BBQ and Family Picnic at the Baker White Memorial Hall, hopefully on Friday 8th May 2020. There will be a small charge of £2.50 per ticket to cover the cost of the food, each family are asked to bring a bowl of salad, their own alcohol and a picnic rug. The event will take place from 3pm to 7pm at which time Church bells in the UK will ring out.
 - (iv) Members approved the payments sheet and the draft level of reserves.as at 25-02-20

Draft Level of Reserves 25 th February 2020	
Opening Balance 01.04.19	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	8401.31
Balance	12730.08
Bank Balances as at 25 th February 2020	
Lloyds Account sheet 34	5371.81
National Savings Account	7358.27
Balance	12730.08

- (v) Request for Grants
 The Clerk outlined each of the four requests for funding following which it was agreed that at this time we are unable to make a contribution to the Air Ambulance and the Kentish Countryside partnership. It was further agreed to defer any decision on the KECN request as the High Court Hearing has been deferred. As members wished to carry out a due diligence check on the accounts of Street End cricket club, it was agreed to consider this item at the end of the meeting with the public excluded.

4. **Planning Matters** *Due to time constraints items 4i and 4ii have already been considered*
- (i) CA/20/00128 Little Catts Farm, Catt's Wood Road, Lower Hardres
Proposed single-storey detached outbuilding. No objection
 - (ii) CA/20/00307 Willow House, Nackington Road, Lower Hardres
Proposed porch to front elevation. No objection
 - (iii) CA/20/00406 John Baker White Memorial Hall, Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres
Proposed single-storey rear extension. No objection
 - (iv) CA/20/00519 Wickham Hall, 4, Nackington Park, Nackington Road, Lower Hardres
T.P.O no 8 1991, T1-Beech tree, reduce overhang from the garden, T2-Ash tree, reduce stem over summer house by 30-40%, T3-Lime tree, to crown lift the two lowest branches to clear the garage. No objection

5. **Planning Decisions by CCC**

- (i) CA/19/10348 Farnham House, Merton Lane, Lower Hardres
Proposed two-storey dwelling with detached garage, following demolition of existing bungalow. Granted by CCC
- (ii) CA/19/10310 4, Whitehill Close, Lower Hardres
Proposed extension to existing vehicular access. Granted by CCC

6. **Highway Issues and PROW**

- Update on complaints re lorry movements along the B2068
The clerk received a copy of a letter from Highways England to Ms Duffield MP in which they apologized for any disturbance by HGV's to the residents living along the B2068 in Lower Hardres as a result of closures of the M20. The letter states that the B2068 is not part of their diversion route and is signed as being unsuitable for HGVs. They believe that the road is being used as a short cut to avoid the longer official diversion route. They further state that they are limited in their options as they have already installed signage directing traffic to the official diversion.
This letter and the whole issue of indifference by KCC Highways to our problem was then discussed at length. CCC Cllr Thomas has asked that we furnish him with the letter and other communications and he will take the matter up with Barbara Cooper at KCC.
- PROW
Following complaints Cllr Beaumont highlighted the problem of difficult and unfriendly stiles on PROW CB355 and 356, some are too high and impossible for some walkers to use, most are not dog friendly and one has illegal barbed wire strands along the lower section. Cllr Beaumont is authorized to report the matter to KCC PROW department.

7. **Broadband**

Although the clerk wrote to the KCC Broadband Project Manager, he has not responded. The clerk to write again asking if an officer can attend and explain the next stage of the RGC scheme.

Grant Request *Due to the confidential nature of the this item, members of the public were excluded*

8. Following scrutiny of the accounts it was proposed and seconded to award an interest free long term loan of £500.00 to Street End Cricket Club. The loan to be reviewed annually.

9. **To Confirm Date of the next Meeting as 14th April 2020 at 5pm to be followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 6pm.**

The meeting closed at 6.50pm

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