

LOWER HARDRES AND NACKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 1st September 2021
in the Baker White Memorial Hall

In attendance were Cllrs Miss Grundy, Taylor, Moore, Beaumont and the Parish Clerk

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr McCully

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Taylor declared a pecuniary interest in item 5i Planning, during which he left the room

3. To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 28th July 2021 and Matters Arising

The Minutes of the meeting held on 28th July 2021 were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

Item 7 Hedgehogs on the Highway: The Chairman has made enquiries as to whether it is permitted to erect warning signs that hedgehogs cross the B2068 in the Parish. She reported that in 2019 Chris Grayling, Secretary of State for Transport, made an order permitting Highway Authorities to erect signs of this nature. Of the 343 eligible Authorities only four applications were made and all four were refused permission.

Item 5i Local Plan: Following publication of a report prepared by a member explaining the advantages of a neighbourhood plan and asking the public who would be interested in participating in its production, we received five responses to the article but no response to our request for assistance in the preparation of the plan should we go ahead with one.

4. Finance Matters

(i) Members approved the following payments:

HMRC	£ 62.60	PAYE
Parish Clerk	£ 40.17	Expenses & Stationery

(ii) Members approved the Payment Sheet and Draft Level of Reserves as at 9th August 2021

(iii) CCC Capital Grants

It was agreed to apply for a Parish Council Capital Grant for the provision of two notice boards to house footpath maps. The Clerk to obtain two quotations. It was further agreed that we match fund from the money given to the Parish Council by Butts Court.

Having declared an interest, during item 5i Cllr Taylor left the room

5. Planning Matters

(i) CA/21/01910 Holly House, Faussett Hill, Street End, Lower Hardres
Single-storey summer house in rear garden.
No objection

(ii) To consider request from applicants agent re Local Needs Housing
We had expected the attendance of the agent of a landowner in the Parish to speak on future housing plans. However there was no public representation.
The Clerk took this opportunity to explain our previous thorough efforts to obtain Local Needs Housing for the Parish.

6. Planning Decision Granted by Kent County Council

(i) CA/21/1093 (KCC/CA/0089/2021) Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys.
Proposed 1 form of entry expansion involving: a) the erection of a new freestanding two-storey teaching block; b) extension to existing dining building; c) alterations to bus zone area and parent drop off area; d) provision of additional 27 car parking spaces; e) removal of five temporary classroom buildings; and, f) associated landscaping works

7. Highway Issues and PROW

- *To consider letter re Speed Check Results along B2068*
 A response to the recent traffic survey carried out along Fausset Hill explained that the survey results showed an average speed for this stretch of the B2068 is 39.4mph stating that this is reflective of the current speed limit, and as there have been no recorded incidents along this stretch in the last three years there is not enough justification to lower vehicle speeds.
 He does suggest some other measures to aid with enforcement such as Vehicle Activated Signs by way of illuminated repeaters may be suitable, he also said he understood the concerns over the narrow pavements and therefore another solution could be footway widening where the road permits. However he points out that there is little or no funding to support these improvements.
 It was agreed that Cllr Taylor respond to the letter and to request the speed data.
- Following KCC Cllr Sole’s last report in which he informs that he has a £10,000.00 highway fund for appropriate projects, it was agreed to request that he fund the reinstatement of the slow signs and roundels on the road as they are barely visible now.
- To consider email reply from a resident of Iffin Lane re junction with Merton Lane
 The Clerk having replied to the resident in Iffin Lane regarding a number of issues he raised. A further email has been received in which he suggests that the 30mph sign close to the junction of Merton, Iffin and Hollow Lanes be moved back in order to give more warning to motorists and making the exit of the PROW on that junction a little safer..
 He points out that Government guidelines state that these signs can be moved back by 20m into a side road. It was agreed we request this in our HIP and also ask for support for this proposal from the PROW team.
- A member reported that a new dog waste bin has been placed opposite the entrance to Bridge Road, unfortunately it is being used by some people for bottles and baby nappies.
- There have been complaints that human excrement has been noticed on a PROW.
 The Parish Council request that any walkers who come across this sort of thing report it to the Parish Council.

8. Correspondence and other Matters of Importance

- A member asked if the defibrillator could be checked by the Village Hall’s electrician and report back to Cllr Taylor. The Chair of the VHMC will request this.
- A member of the public reported that following months of road works to improve drainage has not worked as her garden is still being flooded. She has been asked to put it in writing to the Parish Council.

9. Confirmed the Date of the next meeting as 6th October 2021 at 5pm

The meeting closed at 6.40pm

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