

Minutes Ref HPC 06/24
Hothfield Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
held on Thursday 13th June 2024 at 7.00pm at Hothfield Village Hall.

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1. NOTE OF PERSONS PRESENT

Cllrs Lloyd, Pollock, Fletcher, Sutcliffe, Cox
 Mrs M Norris (Clerk)

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from: Cllr Bell due to attendance at another meeting. Cllr Bowker, due to work commitments and Cllr Jephart.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

Declaration of Significant Interest

None declared.

i) To note the granting of any Requests for Dispensation and the decision

No requests received.

ii) Updating of Declarations of Interest for the Code of Conduct

There were no declarations of interest. Councillors were reminded that they should update their Declaration of Interest with the Monitoring Officer if necessary.

4. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes were amended to include the following.

- The Chairman declared he had no interest in Nine Oaks Vineyard
- It was suggested that the tree was causing damage and requires further investigation.
- Insert Cllr G Bowker at item 2
- The APCM started at 7.00pm.

The minutes were then signed with alterations as a true and accurate record by the chairman.

5. PUBLIC SESSION

No members of the public were present.

6. BOROUGH COUNCILLORS REPORT

No report was received by the Borough Councillor for inclusion

7. ITEMS FOR PLANNING

Appeal

Appellant: Mr Chris Dickens Proposal Erection of 10 no detached dwellings together with all necessary infrastructure Location Ashford Golf Complex, Bears Lane, Bethersden, Ashford, Kent, TN23 3BZ

Appeal Start Date: 17/05/2024

Resolution - HPC had nothing further to add to their original submission.

8. FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance at Bank As of 13th May:

£100.00	Current Account
£1054.57	Direct Reserve Account
<u>£69,940.89</u>	Business Reserve Account
£71,095.46	Total

Receipts

£83.13	NatWest Interest
£7,750.00	ABC Precept
<u>£1.38</u>	Interest
£7834.51	Total

Authorisation of payments against Budget

Payee	Item	Amount
Staff	Salaries	£861.18
HMRC	Tax	£91.80
Unity Trust	Deposit	£500.00
Public Star	Newsletter Printing	£190.29
Satswana	Data Protection Fee	£180.00
Hothfield Village Hall	Hall Hire(May -Dec)	£168.00
Publicstar	Newsletter Printing (May &June)	£190.29
		£2181.56

9. INSURANCE ARRANGMENTS

The clerk had issued copies of the quotations received from Came & Co and Zurich Insures. The PC agreed that Hothfield PC should accept the quotation from Zurich.

10. CCTV Update

The PC agreed to proceed with the quote received and to go ahead with the survey regarding CCTV siting in the village.

11. Speed Restriction Update

It was agreed that the PC would proceed with the quotation from KCC Highways. Cllr Sutcliffe confirmed that she had suggested to KCC that prior to works commencing the company doing the work meet with Councillors on site to clarify the scheme.

12. Muga

No inspection had taken place. Concerning the supply and installation of a new sign, Cllr Pollock had chased the company for a correct invoice.

13. Ashford Plan 2041

Cllr Lloyd reported that ABC are holding 8 community events and two virtual events, dates and location to be confirmed. At present there is no information on the release date of the plan. Cllr Pollard suggested that HPC hold a public meeting with residents before the ABC meeting. Cllr Lloyd will consult with Westwell Parish Council about holding a joint meeting once the information pack has been released.

Action Cllr Lloyd

14. Hothfield Newsletter

A delivery person was required for Beech Drive. This has been advertised in the newsletter

15. Coronation Orchard

Cllr Cox has put forward a number of potential sites and is awaiting feedback on the 4 proposed sites including two near the old school, 1 near the children's play area and 1 near the old Brownie hut. A discussion followed on other potential sites. Cllr Cox will update the PC further as this item progresses.

16. Tree Preservation Order

AW167. Cllr Brock confirmed that he had submitted an application regarding the tree although it transpired that the tree had already been cut prior to him submitting the application. It remains unknown who cut the branches. Cllr Pollard expressed his concern as, from a legal perspective, this would mean that Cllr Pollard could not take responsibility for any damage that may or may not have occurred when the tree was cut back to the surrounding fencing as it is unknown who authorised the cutting of the tree branches.

17. Correspondence Received

- The clerk brought to the attention of the PC that Park Drive will be closed for vehicle access from August 5th There will be no access to the village hall car park. Station Road is also closed on the 17th June for 2 days for resurfacing works.
- KALC and Citizens Advice. A proposal for a tablet device for Hothfield to assist residents has been made. Unfortunately, the scheme would not be suitable for Hothfield as the village hall is not manned and is not accessible throughout the day.

18 Village Hall Report

Cllr Lloyd attended the AGM 20th May. The committee positions were re-appointed and remain the same. Although at present their bookings are healthy, their overall accounts show their expenditure over income is £8k per annum. The PC were concerned as this was not a sustainable position long term.

19. KALC Report

Cllr Cox was unable to attend the last meeting, therefore no report was presented to the PC.

20. Forum for Information

- A complaint had been made to ABC about how Kent Wildlife Trust are managing Hothfield Heathland. Various concerns had been highlighted in the complaint. The PC were not aware of the allegations cited and the complaint will remain with ABC to act upon.
- Cllr Fletcher will correspond with KCC directly re the closure of Hothfield Children's Centre and will also raise the concern of vegetation on Station Road footpath.
- The Craft and Flower Show will take place on the 11th August. Details to follow in the Hothfield newsletter.

- Fence along the village green. A request to replace the fence has been put forward to Aspire. Cllr Pollard agreed to look into this further on behalf of the PC.
- The Street has a number of areas where the hedges are growing out onto the pavement restricting the width. It was suggested that the PC request that Kent Highways issue a letter concerning this.
- It was requested that the chairman elaborate on the bullet points in the Hothfield Newsletter summarising the PC meetings

21. Items for next agenda

No items raised.

There being no other matters the Chairman thanked attendees and called the meeting to close at 8:30pm

Chairmans Signature:

Date: