

THE PARISH COUNCIL OF HARTLEY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HARTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

HELD REMOTELY USING “ZOOM”

ON MONDAY 8th JUNE 2020 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present : Cllr Larry Abraham
Cllr Chris Alford (*Arrived at 7.33p.m.*)
Cllr Sheila Bennett
Cllr Penny Cole
Cllr Perry Cole
Cllr Lesley Driscoll
Cllr David Graeme
Cllr Mally Malham
Cllr Matt Mohr
Cllr Anne Oxtoby – (*Chairman*)
Cllr Ian Ross
Cllr Vince Sewell

In attendance: Mrs Helen Boden- (*Clerk*)
Cllr David Brazier – Kent County Councillor
1 member of the public

1. Chairman’s declaration of acceptance of office

The Council received the Chairman’s declaration of acceptance of office.

2. Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

3. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Dispensations

There were no requests from Members for a dispensation.

5. Resignation

(a) The Council was informed of the resignation of Cllr Mrs Annette Ewing as a member of Hartley Parish Council.

RESOLVED: That,

the resignation of Cllr Mrs Annette Ewing as a member of Hartley Parish Council, be received and noted.

(b) The Council was advised that a Notice of Vacancy had been displayed on the Parish Council’s noticeboard and on the website on 2nd June 2020.

Members noted that if by 22nd June 2020, (14 days excluding Dies Non, after the date of this notice), a request for an election to fill said vacancy is made in writing to the Proper Officer by TEN electors for the Hartley Parish, an election will be held to fill the said vacancy, otherwise the vacancy will be filled by co-option.

Members noted that, if an election is called, it will take place not later than 24th August 2020.

If no election is called, the Council must as soon as practicable after the expiry of the 14 day period, fill the vacancy by co-option.

RESOLVED: That,

If by 22nd June 2020, (14 days excluding Dies Non, after the date of the notice) a request for an election to fill the vacancy has not been made in writing to the Proper Officer by TEN electors for the Hartley Parish, pursuant to Rule 8 (3) of the Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) Rules 1986 and in line with the good practice guidance L15-08, issued by the National Association of Local Councils, the Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman of the Council, be asked to advertise the casual vacancy on the Council's noticeboard and on the Council's website, inviting eligible individuals interested in being co-opted as a parish councillor, to complete an application form and that any application forms duly received, be reported to the Council at its meeting to be held on 13th July 2020 and for the co-option process to be carried out by the Council at a meeting to be held on 14th September 2020.

6. Minutes

RESOLVED: That,

the minutes of the meeting of Hartley Parish Council held on 11th May 2020, be approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

The meeting was adjourned at 7.36 p.m. to receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillors and to take questions from members of the public.

The meeting resumed at 7.46 p.m.

Pursuant to Standing Order 3 (e) the Chairman of the Council invited members of the public present to express an interest if they wished to make representations, answer questions or give evidence in respect of any item of business included in the agenda.

There were no expressions of interest.

7. Amenities & Open Spaces Committee

RESOLVED: That.

the minutes of the meeting of the Amenities & Open Spaces Committee held on 26th May 2020 and the recommendations contained therein, be received and, where necessary, approved and adopted.

8. Planning Committee

RESOLVED: That,

the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Committee held on 20th May 2020 and 3rd June 2020 and the recommendations contained therein, be received and, where necessary approved and adopted.

9. Covid – 19 Pandemic

Members had been requested to consider any action that may be required due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

RESOLVED: That,

no additional action is required at the current time.

10. Grant Request

Members considered a letter (including attachments), dated 15th May 2020, received from the New Ash Green Horticultural Association, requesting a grant of £750.00, towards improved fencing at the allotment site at the rear of the Black Lion.

Members noted that the allotment site was located in Hartley, run by volunteers on land leased by the New Ash Green Village Association.

The letter advised that the allotment site had been subjected to a number of break ins, due to the boundary bushes being breached.

The incidences have and continue to be reported to the Police, but the plot holders are concerned about the implications of individuals, property and the surroundings, being harmed, damaged or set light to.

In view of the above, the New Ash Green Horticultural Association has been endeavouring to raise money to pay for replacement fencing.

Members were reminded that there were a number of areas in Hartley, including the Parish Council's own allotment site, where replacement/additional fencing was currently being considered and that this was likely to be costly.

After some discussion and in view of the fencing requirements within the parish, it was agreed that the grant application should be declined.

RESOLVED: That,

the request for a grant of £750.00, received from the New Ash Green Horticultural Association towards improved fencing at the allotment site at the rear of the Black Lion, be declined.

11. Payments

RESOLVED: That,

(1) the payment of accounts for June 2020, attached as Appendix 1 to these minutes, be approved.

(2) the Council detail report as at 1st June 2020 , setting out actual income and expenditure against budgeted estimates be received and noted; and

(3) the bank reconciliations for the Council's three bank accounts for April, be verified by Cllr Oxtoby, after the close of the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.12 p.m.

Signed:.....
Chairman of Hartley Parish Council

Date:.....

Schedule of Payments June 2020 - Paid by cheque/DDR from Barclays Bank					
Chq No	Payment to	Particulars	Net	VAT	Total
DDR		PAID 04/05/20 - Electricity at Pavilion	248.26	12.41	260.67
DDR		PAID 02/06/20 - Donation re SDC Communities Together	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
DDR		DUE 15/06/20 - Loan repayment	425.78	-	425.78
107004		New Nationwide Savings Account	85,000.00	-	85,000.00
			86,674.04	12.41	86,686.45

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7.36 p.m.

Cllr Brazier reported that school places have now been allocated, with 93% of children being given their first choice and 98% of children being given one of their first three choices, which was a good result.

Cllr Brazier reported that the Government was aware that more people had been walking and cycling during the Pandemic.

Nationwide, the Government would be providing the sum of £250 million to encourage active travel, with £8 million of that, allocated to Kent.

KCC have submitted several schemes for consideration.

Cllr Brazier reported that he had been in discussion with Public Rights of Way regarding improving networks and making footpaths available to cyclists where possible.

Cllr Brazier reported that due to the poor condition of the road surface at the top of Michael's Lane it was due to be resurfaced.

Cllr Abraham reported that the District Council had been granted permission to seek a Judicial Review with regard to the Local Plan.

Cllr Perry Cole reported that the volunteering scheme launched by Sevenoaks District Council, to help residents during the Coronavirus outbreak, continued, with 76 households or individuals in Hartley, now being enrolled in the scheme.

Cllr Cole reported that there had been an upsurge in instances of antisocial behaviour around the district and asked that if Councillors become aware of any issues they be reported to the District Councillors, so that the information can be fed through to the District Council.

A resident asked whether the Trust would be taking the opportunity to re-decorate the Village Hall whilst it was closed due to the Covid-19 pandemic and reported that they had recently cleared the weeds from outside.

The Chairman confirmed that the redecoration of the Hall was a matter for the Trust and thanked them for their efforts with clearing around the outside of the building.

The meeting resumed at 7.46p.m.

