



THE PARISH COUNCIL OF HELLINGLY

The Village Hall, North Street, Hellingly, East Sussex, BN27 4DS

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DRAFT Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall at 7.30 p m. on
Wednesday 11th February 2009

PCH1306/2009/010.09 to PCH1306/2009/020.09

Present: Councillors: David White, (Chairman), Mrs A P N Blake, Alan Booth, Rev R Chatwin, Mrs Y Chatwin, Bryan Hesselgrave, Mrs G F D Hesselgrave, Halma Hughes, Brian Payne, Mrs Marjorie Veal, Mrs E M M West and Ms. Frances Woolston.

Apologies for absence: Cllrs Steve Davis, Barby Dashwood-Hall and District Councillor John Blake.

In attendance:, Philip Moon, Clerk, Tracy Harper, Assistant to the Clerk and County Councillor John Garvican.

[One member of the public was present].

[The meeting was adjourned to allow Mr John Proctor, a member of the public, to ask whether it would be permissible for members of the Allotments Society to attend the meetings of the Allotments and Cemetery Committee. The Clerk confirmed that this was permissible since the Committee normally met in public].

010.09 The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on **14th January** were **approved** and signed.

011.09 Matters arising

002.09: Lower Horsebridge Recreation Ground: The Chairman of the Council, The Chairman of the Grounds Maintenance Committee and the Clerk had agreed to the estimate for the fence submitted by Agrifactors. The Clerk had applied for funding for 80% of the total amount of the project. **Hellingly hospital site:** It had been reported in the press that the site had again been sold.

006.09: Hailsham/Hellingly Master Plan: The Plan had been agreed by Hailsham TC and would shortly be printed. The Clerk would pay the balance of the amount agreed as Hellingly's contribution.

007.09 Music festival at Broad Farm: The festival had been cancelled but the Clerk was pressing for better communication in connection with future licence applications.

008.09 The Quality Council award ceremony had taken place on Thursday 22nd January at the King's Head. The **Cemetery software** had been installed and was now active. Two members had attended the follow-up meeting on the **Eastbourne-Hailsham triangle** blueprint on 27th January.

009.09 No further suggestions had been received for topics/speakers for the **Annual Parish Meeting**. The Council **agreed** to highlight the Hailsham Hellingly masterplan.

- 012.09 County Councillor's Report.** Cllr Garvican informed the Council that the **ESCC council tax rate** had been set, with an increase of 3.5%, the lowest increase in recent years, but that the economic recession would severely affect the Council's income. In the current **icy weather conditions** the Council had adequate reserves of grit for roads and had retained a snow plough which had been put to good use. The **road surface at Boship roundabout** was to be repaired. Members raised other poor road surfaces nearby which County Cllr Garvican undertook to pursue.
- [Cllr Blake declared a personal interest in the planning application for the reconstruction of Hellingly churchyard wall (Minute 013.09 refers)].
- 013.09 District Councillor's Report.** District Cllr Blake had offered his apologies for absence. The Chairman reported that a planning application to replace a further section of the **Hellingly Churchyard wall** had been approved with conditions requiring: effective treatment of the finished wall (and the previously re-built section) to make the new sections less obtrusive; to provide a timetable for the work in advance of the works starting; and replacement of 2 trees. Concern was expressed for the occupant of Pelham Cottage who would not have vehicular access during the work, which was expected to last for 12 – 18 weeks. Wealden District Council was to set its **council tax rate** in the near future with a probable increase of 3.5%. The recession would affect the Council's income and the introduction of car parking charges might well be considered.
- 014.09 Financial matters.** The Council **approved** the payments for January
- 015.09** The Council **noted** the draft Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of 19th January. The Clerk informed the Council that Cllr Barby Dashwood-Hall had decided to resign from the Planning Committee in order to avoid a possible conflict of interest.
- 016.09 Street lighting maintenance:** appointment of different contractor
The Council **agreed** to accept the quotation from East Sussex County Council.
- 017.09 Allotments: concreting entrance area.**
The Council **agreed** to accept the estimate from Chris Downton, with the addition of removal of waste soil and a metal rail to secure the bins.
- 018.09 Wealden District Association of Local Councils.**
Cllr Booth reported on a proposal to form a lobbying group within the Association and sought the views of the Council. The Council **agreed** that, unless an effective dialogue with Wealden District Council could be guaranteed, there did not seem to be great merit in setting up yet another Committee.
- 019.09 Clerk's report.** The Clerk had received the entry forms for **East Sussex Village of the Year** which the Council had not previously wished to enter. Confirmation of the **Parish Planning Conference** on 30th March had been received including an invitation to submit suggestions for the agenda. The Council **agreed** to request that the procedure for dealing with licensing applications should be discussed at the meeting in view of two recent licence applications which caused disquiet in the parish. Attendance at the meeting would be decided by the Planning Committee but the Council **agreed** that the Assistant to the Clerk should be included as part of her training. The Council **agreed** to accept membership of an internet-based organisation called the **Rural Services Network** which would include regular e-mail updates. The 2008 Progress report on the **Local Transport Plan** was available on

the ESCC website. There had been **changes to the No 52 bus route** which would result in the route once again serving Polegate High Street (and railway station). The Clerk would be on holiday from 13th February to 1st March inclusive. The Council **agreed** that the **new bus shelter** should have a Perspex window at a cost of approximately £30.

020.09 **Chairman's report.** The Chairman reported that, together with Cllr Woolston he had attended the meeting at Polegate to discuss the consultations on the **Eastbourne/Hailsham triangle blueprint**. While the meeting was relatively cordial the answers given by the Wealden official present did not seem entirely convincing.

[The Meeting was closed at 8.55pm].

Philip Moon
Clerk

12th February 2009