



THE PARISH COUNCIL OF HELLINGLY

The Community Hub, The Drive, Hellingly, East Sussex, BN27 4EP

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Minutes of the **Parish Council Meeting** held on Wednesday 11th October 2023
At 7.30 pm at Hellingly Community Hub

PCH 048.10.23 to PCH 060.10.23

Present: Councillors: D White (in the Chair), G Hesselgrave, W Hesselgrave, S Davis, C Jackets, V Lee, P Young, J Castle, S Gander, D Lewin, F Lulham, P Milne and County Cllr N Bennett.

Apologies for absence: Cllr D Miles

Official Clerk/Officer: Jenny Hoodless (Clerk), Sarah Miller (Admin Assistant)

Members of the Public: Helen Lee

Declarations of Interest: None

PCH 048.10.23 The Clerk reported that two resignations had been received, one from Jenny Seale and one from Vanessa Tourle. The vacancy notices had been displayed and the closing date is 19th December.

PCH 049.10.23 The **Minutes of the Parish Council** Meeting held on Wednesday 13th September 2023 were approved (by Council) and signed. The minutes for council meeting on 12th July, had been amended to reflect that Cllr D Lewin was not in attendance and had now been resigned.

PCH 050.10.23 **Matters arising:**
PCH 088.02.23 PA Sound System – now installed, still waiting for WDC contribution, have chased and they have assured me they will be paying.
PCH 029.07.23 Highways Road closures process report was circulated prior to the meeting and no questions asked from councillors.
PCH 032.07.23 Residents guide update – the Clerk advised that Sarah Miller had taken on this project and will report back to council once two complete package options had been obtained.
PCH 039.09.23 Hub signs for pedestrians in the car park – the cllrs met and agreed the locations, signs had now been installed.
PCH 043.09.23 Bulrush Lane footpath – Deputy Clerk awaiting response from ESCC and Highways with regard to moving it.
PCH 044.09.23 Cemetery ground levelling – Groundsman confirms there would be no benefit and to leave the land as it is currently, reviewing it over the winter period.
PCH 045.09.23 Cllr G Hesselgrave had requested that the reason numbers for cllrs absence should not go on the agenda or minutes, the Clerk had investigated and can

These are a true and accurate record of the meeting

Signed: **Date:**

Councillor David White – Chair

confirm that they will be removed from now on, but the Clerks would keep a log for the 6 month rule.

PCH 047.09.23 LHB Project Consultant rates – the Clerk reported on email that the hourly rate is £55 and it would be approximately £440 in total for the surveys, analysis & reports, she won't charge us for the preliminary work she has already done.

PCH 051.10.23 County Cllr Questions

A written report had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting regarding the financial arrangements and advising the strong state they currently are in. Country Cllr N Bennett advised that a Members Briefing had been held and soon to have a Public Briefing regarding their target for carbon emissions to be zero by 2050. Cllr D White welcomed the news that Northease Manor School had received funding to remain open. He asked whether now that the HS2 project had been cancelled, and Government had said there would be money available to local councils for road improvements there was any news concerning the MRN (Major Road Networks) bid for improvements to the 5 main roundabouts from Hailsham to Eastbourne. Claire Warwick from ESCC had advised that the Boship roundabout had been identified as a black spot and Featherbed Lane roundabout as a 'crash site' and that improvements works would commence in December 2023. County Cllr N Bennett to investigate.

Cllr G Hesselgrave asked when the next rural cut would be carried out as the verges through the village were extremely overgrown and difficult to mount when avoiding vehicles. The Clerk to check the next cut date.

PCH 052.10.23 District Councillors Report:

Cllr D White reported that he had received email requests from residents to push for the road improvements through the village and to apply for Mill Lane to become a green lane, which only allows residents access. He advised that this had been applied for before, many years prior and was refused but would apply again due to the numerous changes over the years and increase in traffic.

Cllr D White reported that WDC had submitted the planning application for the new sports hub, that the Cabinet had agreed that WDC should apply for a grant of £3.5 million from the Football Federation, and that additional funds would still be required from CIL contributions. However, he would prefer the CIL monies to be spent on a medical centre.

Cllr D White reported that at the recent PCS meeting, Park Farm East outline planning had been approved for 360 houses and road improvements to Featherbed Lane roundabout would be undertaken out prior to occupation under a S278 agreement

Cllr D White reported that WDC Full Cabinet held a meeting on 11th October had adopted a revised strategy that all future actions of the Council should seek to improve the welfare of residents and not cause harm to the natural environment.

PCH 053.10.23 Council approved/noted the following financial items:

- Approved the bank reconciliation for 1st – 30th September 2023
Council asked the Clerk to check the rules in the Finance Regs if the max £500k is for one institution/bank or in one account but the same bank. If the first, then to research the options of another fixed bond or current account to ensure max of £500k in Barclays Bank.
- Approved the lists of payments for September (**£31,157.47**) and receipts (**£95,342.44**). The Clerk to amend the payments for fuel to Hawkswood Store to the petrol station.

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Breakdown:

Income	Precept	£86,670.50
	Bank Interest	£1,247.05
Expenditure	Village Hall & Pavilion Electrical works	£2,452
	External Auditor	£1,008
	Sept total Tax & NI	£2,763
	Sept total salaries	£13,724.51

Cllr J Castle proposed and Cllr D Lewin seconded, all councillors in favour.

- Noted the Interim Audit Report
- Noted the balance sheet as at 30th September 2023
- Approved the following payments in accordance with our Financial Regulations:
 - PA Sound System £25,148.57 inc VAT
(WDC are yet to pay their contribution of £14,374.34)
 - Hub sign £968.63 inclusive price
 - List of payments over £1,000

Cllr P Young proposed and Cllr D Lewin seconded, all councillors in favour.

- Noted the 2nd quarter VAT claim
- Noted the 2nd quarter Budget report

PCH 054.10.23 Council noted the unadopted/adopted minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meetings which took place on Wednesday 13th (adopted) and 27th September (unadopted) 2023.

PCH 055.10.23 The noting of the unadopted minutes of the Grounds Committee meeting which took place on 4th October 2023 would be deferred to the next council meeting as they had not been circulated.

PCH 056.10.23 Council noted the notes for the Project Delivery Working Group (CIL monies) meeting which took place on Thursday 28th September.

PCH 057.10.23 Council noted the notes for the CSAG (Community Safety Action Group) meeting which took place on 25th May 2023. The notes for the last meeting which took place on Thursday 28th September would be on the next council agenda.

PCH 058.10.23 Council noted the notes for the MASHH (Movement and Access Strategy for Hailsham and Hellingly Steering Group Meeting) meeting which took place on 28th March 2023 and the next meeting is on 18th October 2023.

PCH 059.10.23 **Clerks Report:**
The Clerk reported that:

- The new PA Sound System had been installed and marketing to promote the conference package system is now underway.
- Sarah Miller had started working for the Hub team.
- At the Macmillan Coffee morning, £1,700 had been raised, great effort everyone!
- The Halloween children's activity day would take place on Wednesday 25th October at the Hub.
- The Highlights quarterly magazine next deadline is 10th November with a distribution date of 1st December.

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PCH 060.10.23

Chairman’s Report – Cllr D White advised that he had no further points to raise other than what he had already mentioned earlier in the meeting and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Meeting Closed at 8.45pm

Jenny Hoodless
Parish Clerk

12th October 2023

Next Meetings:

Halls Committee	Wednesday 18 th October	7pm
Planning & Environment Committee	Wednesday 25 th October	6.30pm
Staffing Committee	Wednesday 25 th October	7.30pm
Planning & Environment Committee	Wednesday 8 th November	6.30pm
Council	Wednesday 8 th November	7.30pm
Finance Committee	Wednesday 15 th November	7pm
Planning & Environment Committee	Wednesday 22 nd November	7pm

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Councillor David White – Chair