



HERNHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held online on Tuesday 2nd June 2020 from 8:00pm to 8:32pm.

Present:

Cllr. J Geliot (Chairman of meeting) Cllr C. Page Cllr P. Heller
Cllr A. Rumble Cllr S. Castle Cllr S. Edgington

Also Present: Mrs R. Parr (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

145 APOLOGIES

Cllr P. Couzens

146 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

147 MINUTES

- A. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 26th February 2020 (124-136) having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.
- B. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 20th March 2020 (137-139) having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.
- C. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 5th May 2020 (142-144) having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

148 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- A. Mr Brenchley, a representative of the Hernhill Village Conservation Society (HHVCS) had a question following receipt of emails released to him under a request of the Freedom of Information Act relating to the email vote undertaken of planning application 20/500858/FULL *Land On The North East Staple Street Hernhill Kent*, on the 12th April which was later superseded by the online meeting of the 5th May due to changes in government legislation. The question concerned Councillor Edgington's change of vote from abstain to that of support and why this had occurred. The Chair stated that such a question was inappropriate as the email vote was null and void and had been superseded. The Chair explains that advice had been received concerning Predetermination and that the online vote of the 5th May was to be as if the previous vote had not taken place and that it was started with a blank canvas. Mr Brenchley commented that it was appropriate to answer as he was trying to understand the situation and by not answering was stifling the process. Cllr Heller said she reinforced Mr Brenchley's query as there were rumours that Cllr Edgington had been nobbled, resulting in a change of vote and could he comment. Cllr Edgington agreed to respond confirming that he had not been approached by any councillor in order to persuade him to change his vote and that the change in his vote

from the email vote to that of the online meeting was due to the lack of debate that had occurred during the email vote and was not confident as to the way forward. At the time of the online meeting, there was greater debate and following comments by others, there was a clearer way forward and that he was able to explain himself fully and reached a position where he felt that there was a relationship with English Rural in that the PC could continue to work with them regarding design changes. The Clerk confirmed that councillors' individual reasons given at the email vote had not been circulated until after the on-line vote on May 5th to avoid influencing the on-line vote.

149 PLANNING APPLICATIONS - 20/500858/FULL LAND ON THE NORTH EAST STAPLE STREET HERNHILL KENT

- A. The Chair requested comments from Cllr Edgington as he represents the PC on planning matters. Cllr Edgington commented that the plans were straightforward in requiring a new porch which he considered was in keeping with the property and felt that there would be no adverse effect by the proposals. No other comments by the Cllrs were forthcoming and that unanimously the Cllrs agreed to respond with 'no adverse comments'.

150 MATTERS RESOLVED UNDER THE SCHEME OF TEMPORARY DELEGATION (UNDER LGA72 S101).

- A. DThe Clerk has produced a record concerning the payments agreed under S101 delegation for March and April (140-141). Having been circulated to all Members, were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

151 FINANCE

- A. The bank reconciliation report dated 19th May 2020 was approved and signed by the Chairman.
- B. The following payments were approved by those present:

Chq-1489 Countrywide Grounds Maintenance (Mowing (May))	£137.16
Chq-Advice Only Rebecca Parr (salary and expenses)	£240.13
Chq-1490 P Hughes (Church Mowing - April)	£130.00
Chq-1491 Came & Co (Insurance)	£349.30
Chq-1492 ICO (Annual Data Protection fee)	£40.00

- C. The Clerk commented that the Internal Audit had been undertaken by Mr Robbins on the 30th May 2020 and no adverse comments had been made
- D. The annual accounts for the year ended 31st March 2020 were approved, adopted and signed
- E. The Annual Return (Governance section) was reviewed, adopted and signed.
- F. The Annual Return (Accounts section) was reviewed, adopted and signed.
- G. The Annual Governance and Accountability Return Certificate of Exception was signed.
- H. It was discussed and agreed that it would be appropriate to consider booking Mr Robbins as the auditor for the following financial year.

152 COUNCILLOR COMMENTS

- A. Cllr Heller raised the issue of the lack of water at the allotments. Cllr Castle

confirmed that the allotment holders have various methods of collecting rainwater. The issue had previously been raised with the landowner who was not able to fulfil our request for piped water and this was reflected in the rental cost. The cost of a borehole would also be too prohibitive, likely running into several thousands of pounds. The Chair commented that all the plots were full and that the allotments were immaculate.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed.

CHAIRMAN