



## HEADCORN PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Office, Headcorn Village Hall, Church Lane, Headcorn, TN27 9NR  
Tel: 01622 892496 Email: clerk@headcornpc.org.uk

**Minutes of the Meeting of Headcorn Parish Council held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 7:00pm in Long Meadow, Village Hall, Headcorn.**

Those in attendance: Cllrs Thorogood, Glanfield, Mather, Newman and Thomas.

Clerk: Stefan Christodoulou.

Assistant Clerk: Susie Barkess.

14 members of the public were present. The new Assistant Clerk was also present.

1.
  - a) **Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Cllrs Bates, Pyman, Gearing, and Hammond.
  - b) **To seek notification on whether anyone intends to film, photograph, or record any items of this meeting:** There were none recorded.
  - c) **Declaration of changes to the register of interests:** There were none recorded.
  - d) **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest or other interests as defined by the Kent Code of Conduct and the Localism Act 2011 on any items on the agenda:** There were none recorded.
  - e) **Requests for Dispensations:** There were none recorded.
  - f) **Declarations of Lobbying:** There were none recorded.
2. **Public session** (minute book closed.)
3. **To resolve that the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2022 be taken as read, confirmed as a correct record, and signed by the Chairman.** The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
4. **Matters arising from previous meeting:** -
  - Roberts Land** – Orbit has agreed in principle to a Deed of Variance. We are also tying up the legal side with Dr. Roberts with the help of Brachers. All in hand.
  - Headcorn Highways Improvement Plan (HIP)** – Various schemes that are being discussed: -
    - **20MPH Zone and associated traffic calming measures – High Street, North Street, Kings Road & Forge Lane** After discussion with KCC officer and noting their comments: -
      - Siting SID's at the strategic entrance points to the village. Toby Butler at KCC Highways has completed their review and advised viable locations for locations of SIDS. This was discussed and it was agreed that the options they provided would be most useful with a single SID placement. After this HPC will need to undertake a formal consultation with residents.
      - Siting white village gateways at the entrance to the village on the A274 entering Headcorn from Maidstone. These have a psychological component which might



## HEADCORN PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Office, Headcorn Village Hall, Church Lane, Headcorn, TN27 9NR  
Tel: 01622 892496 Email: clerk@headcornpc.org.uk

make them as useful as other options. Add to HIP. It was also suggested that now the speed limit on the Maidstone Road has been reduced to 30MPH from Stonestile Road it might be a good idea to move the proposed placement of gate and "Headcorn" sign to the Stone Stile Crossroads.

- A parishioner suggested an idea of part-time 20 mph limit to be placed outside the school and this is being investigated by KCC Highways. KCC are still enquiring about this.
- **Oak Lane – Speed Issues**

The issue on Oak Lane is not necessarily one of speed but may have more to do with the narrowness of the road and lack of consideration by some drivers.

As council has agreed in principle with what is needed the Clerk's Office will move forward with KCC to install SID and the 20MPH limit outside the school if practicable as well as the white gateways. Email sent to Jennie Watson to arrange a meeting this will happen later in the month with whoever is in post at that time. Sort out the HIP and add all above issues and set them in motion where possible. Due to a department change we were asked to give the new team a chance to "bed in" before following this up. This period is almost over and the Clerk's Office will be asking for an opportunity to meet with them ASAP. The finalization of the HIP to be handed back to KCC for implementing. Clerks are rewriting the HIP documentation to make it clearer and to reprioritise actions required.

**External Speedwatch provided by Kent Police** – Four new dates have been provided for police speed enforcement. No further action required at this time.

**To discuss the Headcorn Neighbourhood Plan (HNP) and agree the next steps** - It was agreed by the Council that the HNP had the Councils full support and that Dr. Driver and the steering committee should progress to the next stage. The details have been passed to MBC for their input. We are awaiting a reply from the KCC Highways Office. Clerk has requested an update.

**To discuss options for funding the former Methodist Church purchase with a PWLB Loan** – We await news of this going forward as all monies etc have been allocated to this project from PWLB and HPC.

**Traders Car Park beside Longmeadow.** - The company who owns the Carpark at the back of the Foremans Site would like to gift us a small portion of the land we currently rent from them in exchange for giving up the rental agreement on the whole site, thus allowing them to utilise the land they own which they intend to use for housing. Awaiting Planning results.

**To discuss Christmas Lighting options along with integrated High street Lighting** - It was agreed that we should not be investing heavily in expensive Christmas lighting schemes at this time due to the uncertainty of finances this year. On agenda.

**Meadows Enquiry** – The enquiry will end in October with a final judgement. This will be discussed afterwards. The enquiry has cost us in the region of £24,087 and the eventual enquiry will cost circa a further £10,000. Waiting for October.

**Email from Mr. Yorke who is the lead rural youth worker for the Maidstone area would like to know if we would be interested in being part of a new youth initiative in our area -**



## HEADCORN PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Office, Headcorn Village Hall, Church Lane, Headcorn, TN27 9NR  
Tel: 01622 892496 Email: clerk@headcornpc.org.uk

An email was received from Mr. Yorke regarding an increase in Youth activities and services in the rural areas. Meeting to be arranged.

**To consider revitalising the Speedwatch and recruiting new members to keep it operating.**

**Tony Evans, who is the only member now, will attend** – After talking with Mr Evers who told us that he is the last remaining member of the Speedwatch and agreed with the Council that the Speedwatch is a vital part of road safety within the Village it was agreed that we would launch an advertising campaign to try to attract new members to join. No new members yet. Two members of the audience have requested more information with a view to joining.

**To consider a plan to meet with the other nearby Parishes to foster better bonds and communication with them for our mutual benefit** – It was agreed that we should contact the three nearest villages to us and organise a small informal meeting. This has grown to the nearest Eleven Villages and is organised for September 30<sup>th</sup>. Cllr Glanfield has expressed an interest in attending along with the Chair and Vice Chair.

**To discuss the Headcorn Christmas Fair** – It was explained that as the Christmas Fair has somewhat dropped off the radar for a lot of the Village Some Volunteers with the help of some of the Councillors and the Clerk's Office would try to organise a smaller scale event for the Village to enjoy. If it is successful then maybe it should be continued going forwards.

**To discuss the remembrance day parade and the need for marshalls. Also the need for a better sound system.** – It was suggested that we might ask the Airfield if they have a suitable sound system that might be mobile enough to "transplant" to the High Street for remembrance Sunday. It was also mentioned that Cllrs Glanfield and Cllr Bates might have access to speakers and a PA system that might allow a broadcast to the Remembrance Day participants. On agenda.

### 5. Finance

(a) **To review and agree the following: -**

i. **Schedule of online Payments for September 2022**

Schedule of online payments (Schedule A) was reviewed, approved, and signed by the Chair.

ii. **Income for Month ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022**

There was an income for the month of £251,726.18

iii. **Bank Reconciliation for Month ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022**

The bank reconciliation was reviewed, approved, and signed by the Chair.

iv. **To review Budget Analysis and agree any actions required.**

The budget was reviewed, approved, and signed by the Chair.

### 6. To receive the minutes of the following committees for information and to raise any queries arising from them: -

**Planning Committee – 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2022.**

There were no amendments or comments.



## HEADCORN PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Office, Headcorn Village Hall, Church Lane, Headcorn, TN27 9NR  
Tel: 01622 892496 Email: clerk@headcornpc.org.uk

### 7. Correspondence: -

**Diffusion Tubes.** – We received the results of the years pollution monitoring devices. The pollution levels are static at this time with no significant deviation from previous years figures.

**Minutes for the Parish Environmental meeting.** – We received the minutes from the environmental meeting that had been attended by the Clerk and Chair. These have been distributed to the Council for them to read later.

8. **To discuss the need for a new Tree Warden.** – Sally Musker expressed interest in this role. This will be confirmed with her.

9. **To discuss the Christmas lights quote.** – The Quote from Langcorn Electrical was discussed and it was agreed that we would proceed with the Christmas lights from them.

10. **To discuss the purchase of a PA system.** – It was agreed that Cllr's Glanfield and Newman will help with the sourcing of a PA System in conjunction with the Clerk's Office. The outlay should be kept to under £1000 if possible.

11. **To discuss the purchase of a memorial bench for the late Queen.** – It was agreed that we should ask again when more of the Council was present.

### 12. receive inspection reports for Days Green and Hoggs Bridge Green

The Days Green inspection was received, no action is required.

The Hoggs Bridge Green inspection report was received, no action is required.

### 13. To receive reports from any External Meetings attended by Councillors and agree any action required: -

None

### 14. Any other business.

Several of the Parishioners at the meeting have put their name down to become Councillors this will be taken forward to enable us to co-opt them at the next meeting.

There being no other matters for discussion the meeting closed at 9:05pm.

Signed  .....

Date 12/10/22 .....