

Hamsey Parish Council

www.hamsey.net

Marie Owen, Clerk to Hamsey Parish Council
Beechwood Hall & Rural Park, Beechwood Lane, Cooksbridge, BN7 3QG
East Sussex
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Members of **HAMSEY PARISH COUNCIL** are summoned to attend the **meeting of Hamsey Parish Council** to be held on **Thursday 27th October 2022 at 7.15pm** at **Beechwood Hall & Rural Park.**

Up to fifteen minutes only, are available at the start of the meeting for members of the public to have their correspondence addressed relating to a specific item on the agenda. Should any member of the public wish to have the Council address any issue on the agenda then they may email the Parish Clerk directly on clerk@hamsey.net before 5pm on Monday 24th October 2022 or they may attend in person.

This meeting may be recorded for the purpose of minute taking.

1. Apologies for absence

2. Questions from the public

3. Declaration of interest from any Councillor regarding any item on the agenda

5. Minutes from the meeting held on Thursday 20th September 2022 to be agreed and signed as a true record

6. Update on any matters arising from last meeting – review and update actions - see action log at appendix 1 to this agenda

7. Financial matters

- a) **To approve payment of invoices as detailed (including v.a.t).** Please note salaries are not privy to the public.

Current Account

Cheque No. or transaction number	Payee	Amount £
116440279	PKF Littlejohn – External audit fee	240.00
16255841	Kevin Kingston - printer ink – August 2022 and postage	19.94
739943826	HMRC – Clerks Tax & NI for May 2022	-
76018737	MH Goals – replacement nets (2 pairs) and 3 replacement wheels	304.75
927970252	Tamsyn d’Arienzo - postage, goal net twine and lock	31.90

962794442	Kevin Kingston – Clerk’s salary for sept 22	-
695506224	Marie Owen – Clerk’s salary for period 12 – 30 September 2022	-
122230514	HMRC – clerks Tax & NI for sept 2022 for Marie/Kevin	-
309092198	ILCA Training for Marie Owen	144.00
26125687	Thank you gift for outgoing editor of Hamsey News	59.00
88695062	BBQ Event Expenses	215.62
	Bank Charges – June – Sept	18.00
888798432	Caroline Croft – Environment Project Flower bombs	12.49
133176823	Nurture & Nourish – Grant	250.00
	Kevin Kingston – Printer Ink	9.99
173767912	Greg Cockram – Malthouse Way Grass Cutting	80.00
905289019	Clerk’s Salary for October 2022	-
363358987	Marie Owen – Stationery Supplies	57.76
26817830	Tamsyn d’Arienzo – 20’s Plenty Speed Campaign Oxford Conference and train fare. Dog mess bags	110.92

b) To note the Council's current financial situation

Detailed below is the expenditure and income for the period 1 April – 19 October 2022

EXPENDITURE

Cost centre	£	Notes
Audit	540.00	Both Internal & External Audits Paid
Capital Expenses	194.70	Noticeboard
Grants	1405.00	Includes Nurture & Nourish & OHL Res
Grounds maintenance	853.00	At Beechwood park & Malthouse Way play areas
Office expenses/administration	5872.38	Includes clerk’s salary
Other expenses	2883.42	
Premises	3005.61	
Subscriptions	632.18	

TOTAL	15,386.29	
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INCOME

	£	Notes
Precept	18,215.00	
Lottery Grant	9373.00	For Play area
VAT reclaim	Nil	
CIL payment	Nil	
Other payments	617.82	
TOTAL	28,205.82	

Balance per bank statement as at 19 October 2022	£
Unity Trust - current account	39,867.98
Un-represented cheques	
Unity Trust - savings account	12,028.12

c) Draft 2023/2024 Budget

See separate document

Recommendation: The precept for 2023/2024 is approved by the Council.

d) Standing orders

In accordance with the instructions of the internal auditor I have updated the Council's Standing orders as detailed in the separate document.

Recommendation: That the standing orders as amended are approved by the Council.

e) Parish Council Election Costs 2023

Recommendation: To note the maximum charge as £2078 and agree provision in 2023/24 budget.

F) Urban Grass cutting 2023/2024

See appendix 2

Recommendation: To approve the urban grass cutting.

8. Planning matters - to receive any report from the planning committee: *Cllr Redwood and Chair*

(a) Applications still awaiting decision/in progress (as 19 October 2022)

SDNP/22/02433/TCA | dismantle of mature cypress tree to ground level | Thatchers Cottage, Allington Lane, East Chiltington. **HPC offer 'no objection' to this application**

LW/22/0490 | Shelleys Folly, Deadmantree Hill, Barcombe East Sussex BN8 4SU | Proposal: General redecorating, replacement of modern fixtures and fittings in kitchen and

bathrooms, as well as some minor, sensitive alterations that make the house suitable for modern living. **HPC offer no objection to this application.**

LW/22/0498 | Land at Gradwell End South Chailey | Advertisement Consent Application - Marketing sign at entrance advertising retirement properties at Gradwell Park for sale or rent with opening hours for marketing suite and show home, contact telephone number and website. This application seeks permission to display the sign for a temporary period of 24 months or until all the units have been sold/let, whichever is sooner for RV Developments Gradwell Ltd.

LW/22/0418 - Land West of A275, South Chailey

In addition to the above Hamsey Parish Council have objected to this application which is situated in the Chailey Parish but close to the Hamsey Boundary.

The objection is as follows:

Hamsey Parish Council objects to this planning application. We object because, like Chailey and other rural parishes in this District, we suffer from the same relentless threat to our communities and the countryside from the inexorable pressure of housing development, contrary to properly made statutory plans. Like Chailey, Hamsey invested time, effort and commitment from the whole community on its neighbourhood plan, having been encouraged to do so on the promise that local commitment would provide local control. Like Chailey, our plans are positive, and embrace the growth required of us by Lewes District Council. To discard this investment after a shelf life of only two years is insulting to all who participated. Nor do we lay the blame on LDC, who have also been given the impossible task of preparing complex plans for sensitive and complex areas in unrealistic time scales, and now face monstrous housing targets whose impact has not been assessed and is therefore unknown. We genuinely support the need for housing, but the pressure of development at this scale is more closely aligned to the interests of the volume housebuilders than local communities. It is not unusual for sites with permission not to be implemented because more value can be achieved by leaving land undeveloped and waiting for prices to rise – thus making the resultant housing less affordable for local people.

If the development does progress, either by approval by LDC or on appeal, we would encourage a contribution from the site towards the cycle link proposed as part of the Hamsey Neighbourhood Plan from Chailey to Lewes. We consider such infrastructure necessary to support alternative means of access to and from the site

(b) Applications determined/approved since last meeting

LW/22/0370 | Overs Farm, Deadmantree Hill, Barcombe, East Sussex | Change of use of farm buildings to commercial for the construction and display of kitchens comprising alterations to exterior materials, fenestration, insertion of rooflights and solar panels, creation of car parking and landscaping for Inglis Hall. **HPC have submitted some comments on this application asking that proper landscaping is carried out and that vehicles using the site access it via Cooksbridge.**

NOTE: This application is on the boundary between Hamsey & Barcombe

Decision - Refused

TW/22/0047/TPO 2 Malt House Hall. Work on two mature sycamores.

Decision – Approved

SDNP/22/03875/HOUS Old Line Cottage Ivor's Lane Hamsey

Single story side extension and pool

Decision – Approved

(c) New applications

No new applications.

10. Beechwood Hall Working Group – Cllrs Henry and McBrown
To receive any reports from Beechwood Hall working group

11. Beverbridge update – Cllr McKendrick
Update of issues at Beverbridge/Hamsey Lakes

12. Highway and Traffic issues - Cllr McBrown
To discuss any Highway and Traffic issues

13. To consider Rail and Bus issues – Cllr Henry
To discuss any rail and bus issues

14. Police/ Neighbourhood Watch - Cllr McBrown and Chair
To discuss any Police & Neighbourhood watch issues

15. Environment – Cllr Croft
To discuss any Environmental issues affecting the Parish

16. General improvements to Parish
To discuss general improvements to the Parish

17. Reports from meetings
To receive any additional reports from meetings attended by Councillors or Clerk

18. Footpaths and rights way

To discuss footpaths and rights of way within the Parish

19. Correspondence

To note correspondence received since the last meeting and any action required.

Please see September and October correspondence logs previously circulated

20. Future agenda items

To discuss and note future agenda items/reports

21. Dates for meetings in 2023

To agree future meeting dates

- Thursday 12th January 2023
- Thursday 16th March 2023
- Thursday 11th May 2023
- Thursday 13th July 2023
- Thursday 14th September 2023
- Thursday 9th November 2023

Signed..... **Dated**.....
Marie Owen – Hamsey Parish Clerk/RFO

Notes

- 1. Agenda Item 19 relevant to any correspondence received – see monthly spreadsheet circulated previously. This spreadsheet includes various correspondence received weekly including newsletters from: NALC, Chief Executive Bulletin, Rural Bulletin, CPRE, Public Sector Executive and planning application details from LDC and SDNPA and meeting invitations and agendas.*
- 2. Should any resident like to see a copy of the monthly correspondence log please contact the Parish Clerk on clerk@hamsey.net*

Appendix 1 – Action Log

September 2022 meeting		Responsibility	Completed
1	To include election costs in draft 2023/24 budget	PC/CH	Yes
2	To post the reviewed Financial regulations on website	PC	Yes
3	To post reviewed Risk Assessment on website	PC	Yes
4	To set up small working group to prepare updates Neighbourhood Plan	Td'A/JR	
5	Sent email LDC re Section 106 agreement for OHL	PC	Yes
6	Make payment for grant application to Nurture & Nourish	PC	Yes
7	Changing Places unit explore other possible funding pots	Td'A	
8	Lost woods Project – proposals to move forward the project	Td'A/LMcK	
9	Post box for OHL – contact Royal Mail	PC	Yes
10	Spotlight on tree at Bevernbridge Cottages	LMcK	
11	Bus shelters at Bevenbridge – Add to insurance schedule and asset register once in place	PC	
12	Pavements Downsviews cottages – report to ESCC Highways	KMcB	
13	Grass cutting schedule 2023 – add to Nov agenda	PC	Yes
14	Thanks to be sent to Chris Bibb	Td'A	
15	Report dip in footpath and leak on A257 to South East Water	KMcB	
16	Report storm drain blockages to ESCC	Cllr Milligan	
17	Review and update to standing orders	PC	Yes
18	Agree council meeting dates for 2023	PC/ Td'A	Yes

Appendix 2 – Urban Grass Cutting Options 2023

Dear Hamsey Parish Council,

I am writing in relation to the urban grass cutting service for 2023. East Sussex County Council (ESCC) is continuing to offer the same options as last year and would be grateful if you could let us know which option your Council would like to choose for next year.

Grass Cutting Maps

You can now access the [grass cutting maps online here](#), please scroll in on the map until the grass loads. This map is being continually updated and validated by our asset team and they welcome any feedback through the contact us button within the link.

Please be advised, the m2 for Urban has been validated for this year and the allocated amounts confirmed as below. Any changes to the map will affect the allocated amounts for the following year. All Parish/Town Councils receive the same amount per each m2.

Options

Option 1 - Standard: Two cuts over the course of a year to be carried out by ESCC at no cost to the Parish Council. Urban grass will be managed for safety purposes only.

Option 2 - Extra cuts: Parish Councils may fund an additional four cuts to be carried out by ESCC, totalling six cuts (two standard and four extra) over the course of the year. This would cost the Parish Council a total of £344 for the year.

Option 3 - Self delivery: Parish Councils take on responsibility to deliver all urban grass cutting in their area. This must include a minimum of two cuts over the course of the year. ESCC will not carry out any urban grass cutting in the area. ESCC would pay the Parish Council the sum of £172 to do this.

It should be noted that any contractor employed must be suitably competent and qualified to work safely on the highway. We also request an agreement to be signed between ESCC and the Parish Council if you opt to self-deliver. Further details are available in the attached document.

I would be grateful if you could indicate which option your Council would like to choose by **16th December**. Please be aware that if we have not heard back by this date, we will default to Option 1 - two standard cuts.

If you require any further information you can contact me at contracts.managementgroup@eastsussex.gov.uk.

Best Regards,
Fenella Lillywhite
Service Support Officer
fenella.lillywhite@eastsussex.gov.uk
Website: www.eastsussexhighways.com

Councillor Reports

Beechwood Hall

We recently held a Sole Trustee AGM meeting of Beechwood Hall whereby the Parish Children's Christmas event was agreed by all and signed off to be held on the 17th December 2022. More to details to follow.

Highways and traffic Issues

I have reported the blocked drains in various points around the Parish to East Sussex Highways and the maintenance team have been out to inspect the areas and these shall be cleared by the 20th October 2022. The flooding along the A275 opposite Covers was flagged by Cllr Pearson so I contacted East Sussex Highways to see if they could investigate. The Highways Steward has been out and can find no leakages but the site will be monitored and reported again if the problem persists. I am pleased to report that the sunken pavement opposite Covers in Cooksbridge has been repaired again on the 27th September 2022.

Upcoming Road closures /works within the Parish

Just a reminder to all that November 5th Bonfire season is nearly upon us. The A275 Offham Road junction with the B2116 Plumpton Road will be closed off with no vehicular access from 4pm on the day and shall be reopened at 2am on the 6th Nov. Please note there are parking restrictions in place in and around Lewes from noon on the day. More information can be found on Lewes District Council's website www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk.

Traffic control, two-way signals in place along The Drove to allow Network rail to carry out planned works, 17th Dec-19th Dec 2022.

Police/Neighbourhood watch issues

I have received reports from local residents of a few anti-social issues which have been passed onto Rose Stainer, PCSO for the Parish, Lewes District Council and the Police. I am attending a virtual meeting on 18th October 2022 - Summer Road Safety end of season event with Sussex Police and will report back.

Reports from Meetings attended

I attended along with Natalie Kinch and Ian Ginn from Cooksbridge Station Partnership, an all-day conference in Brighton hosted by GTR for Community Partners on 4th October 2022. The conference was really interesting particularly the accessibility and inclusion emphasis that GTR are focusing on. Both Natalie and myself have been invited to join in on any future informal Rail Committee meetings but also GTR conferences regarding accessibility as this is one of my roles and responsibilities within Hamsey Parish Council.

Cllr Kate McBrown

Caroline Croft – report to Hamsey Parish Council

- It was a pleasure to run a bird identification walk for parishioners led by James Duncan of Sussex Wildlife Trust 13 September. Around 14 people joined the walk and we were absolutely delighted to find that amongst the many wonderful species we spotted, including a sparrowhawk, meadow pipits, wagtails, white throats and a greater spotted woodpecker, we do indeed have house martins in the parish. House martins are now on the extinction red list, so it was wonderful that they are finding a home in Hamsey. This led us to think about what we can do to protect and enhance their habitat, in terms of encouraging the invertebrates they feed on and ensuring that any developments respect nesting sites. We are planning a follow up bird song walk in April when the migratory birds return and hope to be able to involve young people from the parish, including Hamsey Primary Eco Council.
- What a delight it was to visit the Eco Council of Hamsey primary school and discuss their environmental concerns with them. Aged from 4yrs to 11 yrs, they are a very impressive group of children committed to protecting and restoring nature in Hamsey. We got properly messy making wildflower bombs to encourage pollinators at Beechwood Hall and in the school grounds. Many thanks to Hamsey Council for paying for the clay and compost and to Sarah Hughes for collecting the wildflower seed. We discussed the bats that Sustainable Hamsey have found in Hamsey and the children are going to research the species we have present as a pre-Halloween project. A spooky treat to read their findings! I am looking forward to returning to the school to look at other areas of action, including the possibility of restoring the school pond and thinking about what more we can do to build on the great work being done in the parish to help Hamsey hedgehogs.
- I attended the Love Our Ouse Festival in Lewes at the end of September and was very impressed by the possibilities for action in our own parish. I have asked for the presentations and would like to follow up with Sustainable Hamsey and Hamsey Council in due course.
- I enjoyed the Hamsey Hamburger event – great to have such a well-attended parish gathering and delighted that the sun shone for all.

Caroline Croft 19.10.22

Report of activities
Counsellor Carolyn Henry
20th October 2022

Rail committee

Working with the Cooksbridge Rail Partnership and Rail Committee as well as members of the HPC, we worked to reduce the impact on the community of the latest level crossing closure. Despite huge efforts and explicit communications, the actions by the project manager if the works fell short of our expectations. Namely lack of road signage, poor communications with directly affected residents, errors in written communication and blockage of paths and the pedestrian rail crossing impacted on the community. This has been fed back to the relevant senior staff at network rail and a meeting has been requested to review the failures. Further details will follow in the Rail Committee report by Robert Baughan.

Community Activities

1. Theatre performance

A theatre performance has been arranged which will be free to those attending. It's a community theatre group from the lottery funded group Applause. It will take place on 13th November at Beechwood Hall. One third of tickets are reserved already, posters to go up this week to advertise to those not on Facebook.

2. Half term subsidising playgroup

A playgroup has been arranged at beechwood hall during half term. The hall has been given for free to allow low cost of only £3 per family.

3. Free baby and toddler sessions

Three free sessions have been arranged for November at Beechwood hall using a grant given by HPC. These will take place on Tuesdays. A survey will be undertaken to scope out feasibility and need for future playgroup activities.

Beechwood Hall

The website for the hall is now under improvement by a consultant. A full redesign will support efficiencies for our hall manager in terms of booking and invoicing but also be user friendly for both clients, community members and the admin team for updating.

Scoping of Social media content and creation of relevant accounts will be undertaken and included in the website where relevant.

A review of expenditure and processes will commence as an outcome of the annual review meeting. Any updates to policies and procedures will be posted on the new website in the coming months.

Carolyn Henry

REPORT FROM BEVERNBRIDGE AND OLD HAMSEY LAKES for HPC meeting on 27th October 2022

In the weeks which have passed since my last report, OHLBA has been reflecting on its first six months and is currently focussing on the consolidation and completion of its set up.

It is reviewing its activity, growing membership, increasing involvement within the community and the growing agenda associated with the completion of the development at OHL.

This is helping to inform and support the development of its future strategies.

It is currently meeting on a monthly basis. I attend on behalf of HPC.

OHLBA recognise that they have a key role in communicating with all residents at BB&OHL.

The Chair and Vice-Chair are currently agreeing the content for their assigned page on the Hamsey.net.

The Area Representatives are drawing together the next edition of the Newsletter, ensuring new residents are welcomed and developing OHLBA's Facebook page.

The Treasurer and Secretary are working together in drafting a Financial Strategy for the Association. OHLBA was made financially viable on receipt of the grant from HPC in the Spring. The Financial Strategy aims to establish firm financial foundations for 2023/24 and beyond.

The Committee is also offering their help in gathering information, views and preferences with regard to:

- The A275 speed limit and signage
- Internal signage
- The Bus Stop Shelters

to supplement the views already gathered and confirming their agreement with the way forward.

Initial discussions have taken place within OHLBA regarding understanding the implications of the transfer of ownership of communal areas to OHL freeholders, which is understood to take place on Antler Homes' completion of the site, in all its aspects.

We continue to research information regarding the management of the Ancient Woodland and the outcome of the planning meeting in April (LW/21/0622) and the associated S106.

Cllr Lindy McKendrick