

HIGH HALDEN PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of an Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 30 October 2024 at 7pm in the Memorial Hall

Cllr. Wheeler opened the meeting as the most senior member of the Parish Council and called for nominations for a Chairman.

136/24 Election of Chairman and to receive a signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr. Drury was proposed by Cllr. Amsler and seconded by Cllr. Wheeler. Cllr. Drury accepted the nomination and there were no other nominations.

Resolved: Cllr. Drury was elected as Chairman following a unanimous vote. Cllr. Drury read out and signed a declaration of acceptance of office.

137/24 Present and Apologies

Present: Cllr. Drury (Chairman), Cllrs: Amsler and Wheeler.

In Attendance: Mrs L Goldsmith (Clerk) and one member of the public.

138/24 Administration: Fire Exits, Fire Meeting Point, Mobile Phones. The Clerk confirmed that there has been no requests to record the meeting.

139/24 Election of Vice Chairman and to receive a signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Cllr. Wheeler was proposed by Cllr. Drury and seconded by Cllr. Amsler. Cllr. Wheeler accepted the nomination and there were no other nominations.

Resolved: Cllr. Wheeler was elected as Vice Chairman following a unanimous vote. Cllr. Wheeler read out and signed a declaration of acceptance of office.

140/24 Declarations of Interest: There was none.

141/24 Resignations/Notice of Vacancies

The Clerk reported that a resignation letter was received from Simon Robinson and John Sargent on the 18 October 2024 and from Joanne Dawes and Irmgard Pickering on the 21 October 2024. The resignation letters were forward to ABC and an official Notice for each resignation has been issued. The Clerk has placed these Notices on the noticeboards and website. The Clerk advised Members that if an election is not called by ten electors by the 8 November 2024 the Parish can co-opt to fill the first two vacancies and can co-opt to fill the other two vacancies after the 12 November 2024. The Clerk has received keys to the recreation ground and pavilion from John Sargent. It was agreed that John Sargent could retain a set of keys for the noticeboards.

142/24 Open Session:

Peter New, Police Volunteer with Kent Police was given permission to speak

Peter New reported that there has been a nationwide increase in internet shopping parcels being stolen from doorsteps and courier fraud. Peter New discussed his concerns about the number of reports involving e-scooter/electric bike fires. Peter New explained that an essential part of an intelligence lead police model is that every single incident is reported by residents and crime numbers obtained. Do not hesitate to use 999 if there are crimes in progress or about to happen. Peter New had attended the Police Surgery organised by the Parish Council which had been held in the village hall that afternoon. Peter New explained that he had listened from the perspective of how he can help with the specific problems and was disturbed to hear that some residents are concerned about leaving their homes.

7.22pm one member of the public left the meeting.

143/24 Finances:

/24-1 To approve a new bank mandate

Resolved: The Clerk to submit a new bank mandate to Unity Trust to remove Simon Robinson and Joanne Dawes as signatories on the account and to add Cllr. Wheeler. Cllr. Drury and Wheeler signed the mandate and the Clerk will send a copy of this resolution to Unity Trust to enable them to carry out the instruction.

Initials:

/24-2 To approve a new Standing Order for the Clerk's Salary and HMRC payment

Resolved: To set up a new Standing Order for the Clerk's salary and HMRC payment when Cllr. Wheeler has been set up as an authorised signatory. To consider at the next meeting what other regular payments could be set up as a Direct Debit or Standing Order.

143/24 Confidential Items: See below.

144/24 Date of the next meeting.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Monday 11 November 2024 at 7pm in the Memorial Hall.

Part 2 Exclusion of Public and Press – In accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings Act 1960), the public and press be excluded from the meeting by the reason of its confidential nature.

Noted: no members of the public or press present.

The meeting closed to the public at 7.32pm

Confidential Item

Members discussed a Confidential Item.

With no further business to transact the meeting closed at 7.59pm

Signed:

Date:

Initials: