HALLING PARISH COUNCIL

The Community Centre, High Street, Lower Halling, Rochester, Kent. ME2 1BS

Acting Clerk/Proper Officer/RFO Mr N Fursdon Telephone No (01634) 241551 **Email: hallingclerk@btconnect.com**





Minutes of the Parish Council Committee Meeting held virtually via Zoom on Friday April 23rd 2021 at 7.30pm.

The meeting was held under the provisions of the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020. And Section 78 of the Coronavirus Act 2020.

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

033/21 Those present.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Meeting, the Chairman then did a roll call.

Present was – Cllrs G Wenham Chairman Mrs S Chamberlain G Chalker – Zoom Admin C Buckwell R Thorne

Also in attendance N Fursdon – Acting Clerk / Proper Officer / RFO.

7 members of the public attended.

All Cllrs, Acting Clerk and the members of the public attended virtually via Zoom.

034/21 Apologies for absence – All Parish Councillors were present.

035/21 Declaration of any Pecuniary and / or Prejudicial Interests -

There were none disclosed by Cllrs.

036/21 Urgent items to be considered by reason of special circumstances

Cllr G Chalker – Following the resignation of now ex-Cllr T Dolby, who was also the Vice-Chairman, consideration that he is no longer a member of the Parish Council should be made.

The Chairman proposed that a vote of thanks be made to ex Cllr T Dolby for all his hard work that he has done for the Parish Council, both as a Cllr and before.

Cllr C Buckwell seconded the proposal.

A roll was called.	Cllr G Wenham Chairman – For	Cllr G Chalker – For
	Cllr Mrs S Chamberlain – For	Cllr C Buckwell – For
	Cllr R Thorne – For	

Cllr C Buckwell proposed that Cllr G Chalker be Interim Vice-Chairman. Cllr Mrs S Chamberlain seconded the proposal.

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A roll was called.	Cllr G Wenham Chairman – For	Cllr G Chalker – For
	Cllr Mrs S Chamberlain – For	Cllr C Buckwell – For
	Cllr R Thorne – For	

Cllr G Chalker accepted the appointment.

037/21 Adjourn for Public Questions (*Up to 30 minutes for the public*)

Villager	Asked about the use of the land adjacent to Formby Terrace. How is it to be used.
Chairman	Said he was not sure, best to contact the owner.
Cllr Thorne	Said the land was owned by Redrow, who sold it to St Andrews Leisure, who in turn have let it to Rochester Scaffolding.
Villager	Said that he felt it is an eyesore to the Village.
Cllr Thorne	Could be a good idea to contact Medway Council.

038/21 To Approve Minutes Finance Meeting January 26th 2021. Minutes Extra Ordinary Parish Council Meeting January 26th 2021. Minutes Closed Parish Council Meeting held on March 10th 2021.

Cllr G Chalker proposed that the Minutes be agreed on block.

Cllr C Buckwell seconded the proposal.

A roll was called.	Cllr G Wenham Chairman – For	Cllr G Chalker – For
	Cllr Mrs S Chamberlain – For	Cllr C Buckwell – For
	Cllr R Thorne – For	

039/21 To approve Payment and Receipts April 1st 2020 to March 31st 2021.

Cllr G Chalker proposed that the Payments and Receipts be Approved. Cllr Mrs S Chamberlain seconded.

A roll was called.	Cllr G Wenham Chairman – For	Cllr G Chalker – For
	Cllr Mrs S Chamberlain – For	Cllr C Buckwell – For
	Cllr R Thorne – For	

040/21 To approve Amended Financial Regulations.

Cllr G Chalker proposed that the Amended Financial Regulations be Approved. Cllr Mrs S Chamberlain seconded.

A roll was called.	Cllr G Wenham Chairman – For	Cllr G Chalker – For
	Cllr Mrs S Chamberlain – For	Cllr C Buckwell – For
	Cllr R Thorne – For	

041/21 To approve payments to be made in April 2021.

Cllr R Thorne proposed that the Payments and Receipts be Approved. Cllr G Chalker seconded the proposal.

A roll was called.	Cllr G Wenham Chairman – For	Cllr G Chalker – For
	Cllr Mrs S Chamberlain – For	Cllr C Buckwell – For
	Cllr R Thorne – For	

042/21 To approve an appointment of a Solicitor to act as an advisory when required.

Cllr C Buckwell said that is not uncommon for a Parish Council to be registered with a Solicitor.

Cllr C Buckwell proposed that DGB Solicitors of Chatham be the Solicitors.

Cllr G Chalker seconded the proposal.

A roll was called.	Cllr G Wenham Chairman – For	Cllr G Chalker – For
	Cllr Mrs S Chamberlain – For	Cllr C Buckwell – For
	Cllr R Thorne – For	

043/21 To Co-Opt Mrs L Ali as Parish Councillor for Upper Halling Ward. To Co-Opt Mr L Hitchcock as Parish Councillor for Lower Halling Ward.

Cllr C Buckwell explained that the Co-options were due to take place in April 2020, but Covid – 19 and the lockdown, meant that they could not take place until now.

Cllr C Buckwell proposed that Mrs L Ali be co-opted as a Parish Cllr for Upper Halling Ward. Cllr G Chalker seconded the proposal.

A roll was called.	Cllr G Wenham Chairman – For Cllr Mrs S Chamberlain – For	Cllr G Chalker – For Cllr C Buckwell – For
	Cllr R Thorne – For	

Cllr C Buckwell proposed that Mr L Hitchcock be co-opted as a Parish Cllr for Lower Halling Ward. Cllr G Chalker seconded the proposal.

A roll was called.	Cllr G Wenham Chairman – For	Cllr G Chalker – For
	Cllr Mrs S Chamberlain – For	Cllr C Buckwell – For
	Cllr R Thorne – Abstain	

The Clerk will contact the candidates asking them to come to the PC office to sign the acceptance Book.

The Clerk will also contact J Ringham at Medway Council.

044/21 To authorise the process to fill remaining vacancies.

Cllr C Buckwell said that this process cannot be started until it is known whether a Poll has been called. Cllr C Buckwell proposed that if no poll is called, that the process should then start.

Cllr G Chalker seconded the proposal.

A roll was called.	Cllr G Wenham Chairman – For
	Cllr Mrs S Chamberlain – For
	Cllr R Thorne – For

Cllr G Chalker – For Cllr C Buckwell – For

045/21 To discuss frequency of Parish Council Meeting.

It had been discussed in the past that that the Parish Council meet every other month.

There could be problems with having to organise any Covid-19 restrictions that may have to be in place.

Cllr R Thorne – There could be problems if social distancing is still in place.

Cllr C Buckwell – The Zoom meeting were only for a set time, until May 6th 2021.

Cllr G Chalker – Hand cleaning will have to be in place.

The meeting months would be July, Sept, Nov, Jan (2022) and March (2022).

046/21 CB - Cllr C Buckwell -

Traffic Light, white line re-paint – This matter has been reported to Medway Council.

Additional Life-float rings – Parish Cllrs did agree to fund some additional Lifebuoys, are Cllrs still in favour of this.

Cllr C Buckwell proposed that the Parish Council fund additional Lifebuoys.

Cllr G Chalker seconded the proposal.

A roll was called.	Cllr G Wenham Chairman – For	Cllr G Chalker – For
	Cllr Mrs S Chamberlain – For	Cllr C Buckwell – For
	Cllr R Thorne – For	

Marsh footpath collapse.

The footpath across the Marsh is in passable due to the collapse of a culvert on land owned by the Wild Fowlers / Cemex, a site meeting was called. The Freeholders need to provide a Right of Way. There have been problems in the past.

047/21 Upper Rec Car Park fencing.

The Chairman said that the Villager who opens and closes the car park at the Upper Halling recreation ground reported that youths had been taking a quad bike down onto the recreation ground. He did confront the youths on the matter but only got verbal in reply. The Proper Officer has allowed funds to repair the fence.

048/21 Any Other Business – There was none.

049/21 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC

To resolve that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and the Public are to be excluded from the Meeting. A vote will be taken.

Cllr C Buckwell proposed.

Cllr G Chalker seconded the proposal.

A roll was called.	Cllr G Wenham Chairman – For	Cllr G Chalker – For
	Cllr Mrs S Chamberlain – For	Cllr C Buckwell – For
	Cllr R Thorne – For	

050/21 Members Declaration – Members in remote attendance are to ensure and verbally declare that there are no other persons present who are not entitled to be (either hearing or seeing) in consideration of such items, and / or recording the proceedings.

The Chairman asked members to confirm and a roll call was taken

G Wenham Chairman – Confirmed G Chalker – Confirmed Mrs S Chamberlain – Confirmed C Buckwell – Confirmed R Thorne – Confirmed

- **051/21 Employment Issues** Were discussed.
- 052/21 End of Meeting 9.10 pm (21.10)