

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
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Minutes of an Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on Monday July 5th 2021 at Jubilee Hall Upper Halling

COVID PRECAUTIONS The Acting Monitoring Officer, the National Association of Local Councils, the Kent Association of Local Councils and government advice and guidance emphasise the importance of following current behaviour protocols applicable to social distancing, especially as Step 4 of the relaxation of Covid restrictions has not yet been reached.

Following a risk assessment, seating for a maximum of 11 members of the public/press is permitted. No standing will be permitted.

Any member of the public/press attending must wear a mask or suitable face covering throughout their presence.

081/21 Chairman's welcome and recording of those present.

The Chairman welcomed everyone for attending.

The Chairman also announced that items 94/21 and 95/21 were to be removed from the Agenda.

Present were – Cllrs	G Wenham Chairman	Mrs S Chamberlain
	L Hitchcock	C Buckwell
		G Chalker
		Mrs L Ali
		R Thorne

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

10 members of the public attended.

082/21 Apologies for absence – All Cllrs were present.

083/21 Declaration of any Pecuniary and / or Prejudicial Interests – There was none disclosed by Cllrs.

084/21 Adjourn for Public Questions (Up to 30 minutes for the public)

- Resident said they were concerned that there had not been an Annual Report. The resident also said it was hard to find any details, what is the Parish Council doing to communicate.

The Chairman said there was an Annual Parish Meeting, which was on the website and also in various notice boards around the Village.

It was in the Jubilee Hall, on Tuesday June 1st, but had to be closed due to a disturbance by some residents.

Cllr Buckwell explained the difference between the Annual Parish Meeting and the Parish Council AGM.

- Resident said that they had written to the Chairman and the Acting Clerk asking to have a copy of the payments and receipts for April 2020 to the end of March 2021, which was approved at the April meeting, also the payments for April 2021.

Cllr Chalker said there was no reason why these documents could not be done.

- Another resident said the same as above.

The same reply was given.

- Resident asked why the previous Clerk was no longer employed by the Parish Council.

Cllr Buckwell said it was subject to a tribunal and the outcome is a GDPR matter.

- Resident said that they had sent numerous e-mails which have been ignored.

Cllr Buckwell said that if poor practice has been done, it will have to be rectified.

- Resident mentioned about some other e-mails, a complaint lodged some 18 months ago under GDPR rules.

Cllr Thorne said that there will need to be good practice, and this will be done.

Cllr Chalker said that there needs to be a complaints procedure in place.

085/21 Approve Minutes of meeting held on June 9th 2021

Cllr Chalker proposed that the Minutes of June 9th 2021 were a true record.

Cllr Mrs Chamberlain seconded the motion.

All Cllrs present were in agreement.

086/21 Matters arising from Minutes – There were none raised.

087/21 Formation of a Standing Order Task Group

Cllr Buckwell said that a review of the Standing Orders is needed, and other policies.

Cllr Buckwell then proposed that a Standing Orders and Policies Task Group be formed.

Cllr Hitchcock seconded the motion.

All Cllr present were in agreement.

088/21 Public Rights of Way

The Chairman said there had been some complaints about various footpaths being overgrown in the Village, these have been reported to the various agencies, public footpaths over private ground has to be maintained and kept clear by the owner.

If the Parish Council can help it will.

Cllr Buckwell mentioned public footpath R320, which goes across the marsh, and has been blocked off for some time, due to a culvert collapse.

He had attended a site meeting with the various land owners, to debate the issues.

The matter of reinstating the culvert is now under negotiation.

089/21 Medway Council Actions

Polystyrene Block – Cllr Buckwell said he was pleased to say that the giant polystyrene block had now been removed away from the marsh. It was quite a task.

White Lines – Cllr Buckwell said that the faded out white lines at the traffic lights, at the railway bridge have now been re-painted, making it a lot safer.

090/21 Verbal report from the Finance Task Group Chairman

Cllr Chalker introduced Mr Fribbins who is helping with the accounts and the Agar.

Mr Fribbins – The Agar was slightly wrong, so it will be best to get that sorted out first. He agreed that there was a need for people to see the documents, but it is important that he sees them first as there are some GDPR issues. At first glance there are no major issues.

Cllr Chalker said that the Finance Regulations needed tweaking.

091/21 Update on Co-Options for the Lower Ward Councillor vacancies.

Cllr Mrs Chamberlain said that invites had been sent out to the people who had applied, and there was to be interviews on Saturday July 10th.

One person said they had not received their invite, they were confirmed the time verbally.

092/21 Halling View

Cllr Thorne asked the Acting Clerk why the latest edition of the Halling View was not on the Parish Council Website.

The resident who had done the Halling View, said that it was now.

Cllr Thorne thanked the resident for his hard work.

093/21 Media

Cllr Chalker said that there is now a need to re-form the Media Group.

094/21 Removed from Agenda**095/21 Removed from Agenda****096/21 End of Meeting**

The Chairman thanked Cllrs and the public for attending and meeting closed at 7.59pm