



Hurstpierpoint & Sayers Common Parish Council
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Village Centre
Trinity Road
Hurstpierpoint
West Sussex BN6 9UY

Hurst Meadows Working Group Meeting

6th March 2025

Minutes

Attendees: Cllr Malcolm Llewellyn (ML), Cllr Claire Majsai (CM), Dr George Judd (GJ) and Stephen Witchell (SW).

Apologies: Allan Brown (AB).

1. Grants

- i. The Working Group agree to review the Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier preview guidance and come up with ideas to put forward at the next HMWG meeting in April, so we are on the same page when we have a site meeting with Ellie.
- ii. SW is to confirm with Ellie, that the fees she has quoted are a flat charge and not hourly. Also see if a Teams meeting would be cheaper than a sit-down meeting, if not arrange a sit-down meeting.
- iii. SW is to get approval for the spending of £225 plus Mileage and VAT for Ellie to attend a Site Visit in the Second half of April. (not the 25th April 2025).
- iv. SW is to confirm fees for applying for grants through Batchelor Monkhouse.
- v. All fees to be paid from the Hurst Meadows EMR and not professional fee line.
- vi. It is agreed that actions which generally reflect the way that we currently manage the land (rather than requiring significant changes) would be best and as we have a woodland management plan in place this might be the best grant to apply for initially.

2. £100 Donation

- i. The Group has agreed to accept the £100 donation, to hold in the Millennium Garden EMR until a suitable project comes up which will be in line with Mrs March's Bequest.

3. PROW Update



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- i. Sarah has been able to contact Emily Delicata from WSCC PROW team. They are planning to go out to tender for the PROW 62Hu running through Tilley's Copse.
- ii. ML is to respond to Emily Delicata and arrange a site meeting, including SW.
- iii. It is agreed that the path needs to be convenient for users and promote active travel, with an all-weather specification. The more done to improve the path the more protection the Ancient Woodland will receive.
- iv. Selected coppicing and maybe some minor tree removal will be required either side of the path, which will encourage more Bluebells.

4. Works Update

a. Bellows Nose Steps

- i. Hamish has repaired the step at Bellows Nose, however some of the other steps are to be monitored and repaired in the next financial year.
- ii. Weather Permitting, the remaining Anti slip tape will be installed on the Hovel Field to Edgerley Meadow Bridge. The Old Vehicle gate will be removed.
- iii. Greenscene have lowered the gate into the Forest School Area in Fat Pony Field.
- iv. ML requested that all leaf mulch be removed from the Millennium Garden and St George's Green paths and where possible any puddles be filled. SW to Organise.

5. Cycleway Consultation update

a. Hedging Gaps.

- i. WSCC will ask the contractor to replant within this section next time they are in the area undertaking maintenance however they have asked to please note that should the planting be removed; it would need to be replanted at the parish's expense. This was not mentioned at the HMWG meeting. Removed by us Stephen or the public?

b. Fencing.

- i. The Fencing works in St George's Green was meant to start on Monday but was delayed until Tuesday, we have agreed the mesh to go on this fence. SW to inspect.

c. Gate Raising and Lowering.



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- i. WSCC are to adjust the new gate into St George's Green, unfortunately they have purchased a gate that is too thin for the size and it will continue to warp. We will continue to mention this gate as an issue until it is replaced with a better quality one.

6. Any other Business

- a. One Tree building works have resulted in damage to verges, pavements and hedges on St George's Lane, this has been reported to WSCC Highways including the access across WSCC land and damage to the footpath to Highfield Drive. WSCC will investigate further.
- b. SW is to ask Hamish to establish the original width of the tarmacked Footpath between St George's Lane and Highfield Drive.
- c. SW is to push forward with the removal of the ornamental shrubs behind the Orchard.
- d. SW to chase Plans from Wilbar Associates for the new Cycleway.