

FAIRLIGHT PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 28th January 2020 at Fairlight Village Hall at 7.00 pm

Present: Councillors – Ms I Horsley (Chair), Mr S Leadbetter, Mr D Richards, Ms C Slack, Mr D Greenup, Mr S Stewart, Mr G Smith

Also, Parish Clerk Mrs P Collins, Cllr A Mier, Ms H Timpe, District Councillors, Cllr C Maynard, County Councillor.

20001 Apologies for absence

Cllr D Shortman and Cllr R Bird

20002 Code of Conduct and Disclosure of Interests

None

20003 Public questions in respect of items on the agenda

Questions were asked about: -

Item 15 Highways – Condition of Battery Hill

Each question was dealt as part of the appropriate agenda item

20004 County and District Councillors reports

Cllr Mier reported that two local organisations – Strandline and the Archive Resources Centre, Pett had applied for grants from RDC which will be considered on 9th March. He has also met with Michael Moor, the Chair of the Friends of Hastings Country Park to discuss the proposed solar array.

Cllr Maynard informed the meeting that highways issues including Battery Hill had been raised at Asst Director level in ESCC. He would also raise the condition of Waites Lane and the need for an anti-slip surface to be reinstated. The kerbs on Battery Hill are being dealt with. He would ask the Highways Steward to arrange another village walkabout in the Spring.

20005 PCSO presentation on results of Anti-social behaviour survey (15 mins max inc. questions)

PCSO Joe Winchester attended and presented the results of the Anti-social behaviour survey. The top three issues were speeding, vehicle crime and drugs. He intends to circulate another survey in 6-12 months. PCSO Winchester can be contacted at email address: Joseph.winchester@sussex.pnn.police.uk. PCSO Winchester or a colleague propose to attend future meetings.

20006 Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 24th November 2019

The minutes having been distributed prior to the meeting and made available to the Public at the meeting, were approved, and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

20007 Matters arising from the minutes not otherwise on the agenda

None

20008 Parish Councillor Casual Vacancy

(a) **To consider whether to re-advertise the current casual vacancy.**

Resolved to cease advertising the vacancy until later in 2020.

20009 Financial matters

(a) **To retrospectively approve additional hours for the Clerk for training and additional meetings.**

Resolved to approve and pay the additional hours.

(b) **To consider and approve schedule of payments and receipts for December 2019 and January 2020.**

Resolved to approve the schedule of payments and receipts for December 2019 and January 2020.

(c) **To consider monthly budget and sign the monthly bank reconciliation.**

The Clerk reported on the budget and the bank reconciliation was signed.

(d) **To approve deletion of R Foster from bank signatories and addition of Cllr G Smith.**

Resolved to delete R Foster and add Cllr G Smith to the bank signatories.

(e) **To seek approval to appoint an internal auditor for the year end accounts 2019/20.**

Resolved to appoint Keith Robertson as internal auditor.

20010 Budget and Precept 2020/21

(a) To discuss and approve budget and precept request for 2020/21 (Clerk)

Three responses had been received from the public consultation and circulated to Councillors.

Resolved to approve the draft budget and set the precept request for RDC at £63,000.

20011 Planning

(a) To receive the monthly report (Cllr Leadbetter)

Cllr Leadbetter presented his report highlighting any issues.

(b) To receive an update on the progress of Country Park Visitors Centre (Haydon Luke)

Haydon reported the progress of the visitor centre and Warren Road will be closed for Southern Water works.

Hastings Borough Council have submitted revised plans for the solar arrays.

20012 Land Management

(a) To receive the monthly report (Cllrs Richards and Slack)

Cllr Slack reported on work carried out on Wood Field, Channel Way and The Circle. New footpath sign at entrance to Stonelynk footpath.

Cllr Richards had attended a hedge laying/coppicing course. Work to remove the dead and dangerous tree in Knowle Wood has been carried out.

(b) To consider and approve the woodland plan for Knowle Wood (Cllr Richards)

Cllr Richards had produced a woodland plan for Knowle Wood. This has been circulated to Councillors and Simon Young. It was approved and will form the basis of Knowle Wood management for the next few years.

(c) To discuss potential grant application from Sussex Lund (High Weald AONB) (Cllrs Richards and Slack)

Cllr Slack and Cllr Richards are preparing a grant application to Sussex Lund. A project officer has visited and discussed proposals. The grant application is proposed to fund new steps, hand rails and boardwalks.

(d) To discuss replacement of village sign and proposed competition (Cllr Slack)

The village sign is in a poor state and needs replacing. A competition for a replacement design was suggested.

Resolved to raise the issue of the sign at the Parish Assembly in May.

(e) To discuss Parish Council noticeboard on Channel Way – repair or replace? (Cllrs Richards and Slack)

Cllr Slack and Cllr Richards suggested an information board rather than a place for minutes and agendas to be displayed. Details of the Parish Council and local area could be displayed.

Resolved Cllr Slack to provide details of noticeboards and installation costs to a future meeting.

(f) To discuss contracted grass cutting contract/tender for 2020/21. (Clerk)

The contractor for 2019/20 was only given a one-year contract. He has done an excellent job.

Resolved to approach the current contractor for quotes for 2020/21 and the following two years. Clerk to circulate quotes and an email vote would be cast and noted at the next meeting due to the decision and contract letting being needed by mid-February.

20013 Lower Waites Lane incident report and other water issues

(a) To receive a monthly report of LWL incidents and other water issues (Cllr Horsley)

The Avenue residents have now taken over pursuing Southern water to see if they can get a solution to the problem of the leak on the Avenue. Lower Waites Lane Resident Association management are helping them with this. Southern Water has replaced and re-located the stopcock on Lower Waites Lane at the bottom of Broadway that relates to the new bungalow They have also filled in the potholes and hope that this will improve the problem of water on the road.

20014 Community Hub (Faircomm.) Steering Group

(a) To receive an update from the last meeting – 11th December 2019 (Cllr Horsley)

There has been little progress in the last couple of months although a report from RDC Planning Department has been received. They agreed in outline with what we are planning. The next steps are to produce a business plan and try to firm up plans for the new building.

20015 Highways

(a) To receive an update on current issues (Cllr Horsley)

Trees on Battery Hill are being monitored for safety reasons and landowners will be contacted.

20016 Five-year plan for Parish Council inc communications, action plan for future etc

(a) To receive an update on five-year plan (Cllr Stewart)

Documents have been completed for approval and distribution. The new website is progressing.

(b) To approve documents for circulation to residents (Cllr Stewart)

Document circulated - Survey results (inc To do... table), A3 leaflet, Five-year plan summary and Helping Hands questionnaire. A3 leaflet to be printed by Hastings Voluntary Action. Distribution by village volunteers on weekend 15th/16th February 2020.

Resolved to approve all the documents and quote for printing A3 leaflet of £630

(c) To approve the set-up of a PayPal account for Clerk usage

Resolved to open a PayPal account for Clerk usage.

20017 Feedback from meeting/events attended

(a) RALC Meeting – 08/01/20 (Cllr Horsley)

Cllr Horsley reported that the main issue is village speeding and the RALC committee will continue to raise with RDC and ESCC.

(b) Finance training - 26/11/19 (Cllr Stewart)

Cllr Stewart reported that the training was informative.

20018 Commemoration of World War events and the fallen – Memorials (Haydon Luke)

(a) To receive an update from the working group and approve recommendations.

The working group was formally adopted as a Parish Council steering group. Two memorials have been suggested. A plaque for the village hall commemorating VE day on 8th May 2020 and a larger stone memorial at St Andrews Church to commemorate all the WW1 and WW2 fallen. The stone to be unveiled in preparation for the Remembrance Sunday in November. Approval has been received from the Village Hall Committee to place the plaque in one of the halls. Discussions are on-going with the church to establish what permissions are required etc. **Resolved** to accept the quote of £185 plus vat for the brass plaque

(b) To discuss proposed VE Day event - plaque unveiling, celebrity, event programme etc

The event will take place on the afternoon of Friday 8th May. A resident with their birthday near or on this day was proposed as the person to unveil the plaque. Afternoon refreshment will be provided.

20019 Parish Assembly

(a) To confirm the date and discuss format of event

Date for the Parish Assembly was agreed as Wednesday 20th May at 6.00 pm. The theme of healthier and greener Fairlight put forward.

20020 Safer Fairlight event – Saturday 22nd February 2020

(a) To provide an update (Clerk)

Confirmed attendees are the Police, Fire Brigade, Fairlight Speedwatch, First responders and Neighbourhood Watch. The Parish Council to have a stall with the woodland plan, 5-year plan etc. Refreshments will be served.

20021 Correspondence

All correspondence has been circulated to the Councillors prior to the meeting and was available to the Public at the meeting

20022 Information

The Village Hall Committee propose to start a “Village Hall Kitchen Fund” for donations from clubs and residents

20023 Future agenda items

No additional

20024 Close of meeting - Meeting closed at 8.20 pm

20025 Date of next meeting – Tuesday 25th February 2020 - 7.00 pm at Fairlight Village Hall

Open forum

Discussions were held in respect of parking issues, highways and overhanging trees/hedges and a thank you to PSCO Jo Winchester for attending the meeting.

Signed _____

(Chair)

Dated _____