



RODMELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 7th March 2017 at 8.00pm in Rodmell Village Hall

Present: Councillors: John Gillies – *Chair* (JG), John Harvey – *Vice-Chair* (JH), David Smart (DS), Richard Sellick (RS), George Hickey (GH), Anne Sword-Daniels (A S-D), Jill Goldman (JGm); Derek Blackhall (DB: Clerk), and 5 members of the public.

| Item No | | Action |
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| 1 | Apologies had been received from Lewes District Councillor Vic Ient (VI) and East Sussex County Councillor Carla Butler (CB). No requests to consider any dispensations had been received. | |
| | Public Question Time. A member of the public noted that the National Trust had unilaterally undertaken clearance work in the Monks House car park, to which some residents objected. JG reported that he had spoken to the resident manager; she regretted not informing residents in advance, but pointed out that it was NT property, it was essential maintenance, no nests were removed, and they had been formally required to remove some diseased elm trees. They intended to plant a proper hedge going forward and there was to be a summer review at which residents were welcome to make suggestions. | |
| 2 | There were no District or County reports. | |
| 3 | The minutes of the meeting held on the 10th January 2017 had been circulated and were approved and signed as a correct record. | |
| 4 | Planning 4.1 SDNP/17/00614/HOUS. Croft View Cottage, The Street, Rodmell, BN7 3HF was discussed . This effectively returns it to its original state, the plans and drawings showed an improvement, it was not visible from the road, and the materials used were the same or better than currently. The application was fully supported via a vote. 4.2. It was noted that the application by Iford Farms re pheasant breeding had been rejected; and the application for the shooting lodge had been approved by LDC. | |

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| 5 | <p>Maintenance reviews</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JG thanked Christine Isitt for organising C7 litter picking. • The Dicklands and Sports Field. There was nothing new to report. • School Playground: It was noted the repairs requested to roof and floor had been completed and a good result. • Roads and Drains: AS-D reported -the potholes on the C7 were still an issue to be taken to the next ESCC meeting. -potholes criteria cards had been published by ESCC. -There was still a drainage outstanding issue at Barleyfield. | <p>A S-D</p> <p>A S-D</p> |
| 6 | <p>6. Clerk's and/or Councillors' Reports:</p> <p>6.1 Legal matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rodmell School: Asset of Community Value application discussion. It was noted this was for the benefit of the community and the majority voted in favour of continuing with it, even though ESCC cannot currently confirm the school closure. • National Trust sewerage easement. It was noted that agreement had been reached to renew at the original fee of £1/annum; but that the matter of their legal fees was still outstanding. • School playground right of way. It was noted the application was complete and would be submitted to Land Registry via the local solicitor with our cheque for £40 • School playground lease termination. It was noted we must give 12 months' notice of termination. • Cricket pitch land registration. It was noted that the legal documents to support the application would be collected from the Parish Clerk for submission and a cheque for £40. • Following discussion JG offered to write to the water works company about damage to kerbs in Mill Lane as a result of their tank replacement works. <p>6.2 Other updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish Assembly update - JG was preparing the newsletter for distribution in the last week of March; there were three guest speakers (Maria Caulfield MP, the Head of Northease Manor School and Lawrence Thomas). • March/April POLO meeting in Rodmell Village Hall. It was noted the Parish Council had agreed to fund the | <p>GH</p> <p>A S-D</p> <p>JGm</p> <p>A S-D</p> <p>JG</p> <p>JG</p> |

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| | <p>event, but it was unclear if and when it would happen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hedge cutting - it was noted this had been satisfactorily completed. • Proposal for a yellow line on the corner of the C7 and the Street. Following discussions with ESCC and the public house, it was agreed by a majority vote to apply to Highways for this to be considered, at which point funding requirements would become clear. | JH |
| 7 | <p>Brief report from Clerk &/or Councillors on external contacts and meetings attended since the last Parish Council meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locations for bulb planting update - ongoing • Transparency funding update - it was noted instructions were awaited from SSALC regarding how to claim in 2017/18 • Online Banking update - it was noted Councillors need to contact the Natwest helpdesk in order to access the system and view the account. DB would email contact details; and that separate and additional arrangements must be applied for in order to actually make payments. | JH DB ALL |
| 8 | <p>Finance Report</p> <p>8.1 2016/17 financial position - it was noted that the likely outturn result depended on receipt of the hedge cutting invoice.</p> <p>8.2 2017/18 possible funding shortages - it was noted that the potential loss of school funds for grass cutting, and several legal fee issues, none of which were apparent when the Precept was agreed in January 2017, would require the Council to look carefully at additional fundraising opportunities and cost containment going forward.</p> <p>8.3 The bank statement reconciliations for December 2016 & January 2017 were circulated, approved, and signed.</p> <p>8.4 The following cheques and online payments were authorised for payment: -</p> <p>000296 £18.98 J Gillies gift reimbursement 000297 £463.67 D I Blackhall Feb/March 2017 salary & expenses 000298 £101.80 HMRC income tax Online banking £26.99 S E Water-water Online banking £40.80 Southern Water - sewerage Online banking £96.00 SSALC - training for new auditor and Clerk 000299 £646.95 Martin Mullally - school shelter repairs</p> | |
| 9 | <p>The date of the next meetings are the Parish Assembly on Friday 7th April; and the AGM on Tuesday 9th May; items for the agenda to the Clerk by Friday, 28th April please.</p> | |
| 10 | <p>The meeting closed at 9.33pm.</p> | |