



## RODMELL PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 8.00pm in Rodmell Village Hall

Present: Councillors: John Gillies (JG), John Harvey (JH), David Smart (DS), Richard Sellick (RS), George Hickey (GH), & Jill Goldman (J Gm), and Derek Blackhall (DB: Clerk) There were no members of the public or District or County Councillors in attendance.

1	<b>JG opened</b> the meeting and asked for <b>nominations for the Chair. John Gillies</b> accepted a nomination and was <b>unanimously elected</b> .	
2	JG asked for <b>nominations for Vice Chair. John Harvey</b> was nominated and was <b>unanimously elected</b> .	
3	A <b>Declaration of Acceptance of Office</b> was completed by the Chairman & Vice Chairman.	<b>DB</b>
4	<b>Apologies</b> had been <b>received</b> Anne Sword-Daniels (ASD).	
5	There were no <b>declarations of interest</b> . No requests to consider any <b>dispensations</b> had been received. The minutes of the meeting held on the 7th March 2017 had been circulated and were <b>approved and signed as a correct record</b> .	
6	It was noted that a reply had been received from the school governors offering £200 as their affordable contribution to grass mowing. This would leave the Parish Council with a deficit to fund of £500, and it was <b>agreed to approach the school governors</b> for a budget contact point at ESCC to whom the Parish Council should write in order to find out why there was apparently a funding issue this year when in fact the school was still operating as normal.	<b>JG</b> <b>JG</b>
7	<b>General Power of Competence</b> The Council <b>confirmed it had met the prescribed conditions</b> set out in the Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) Order 2012 and <b>unanimously resolved to readopt the General Power of Competence</b> .	
8	<b>Finance Report</b>  <b>8.1</b> The <b>bank statement reconciliations</b> for February, March, and April 2017 were <b>circulated, approved &amp; signed</b> . <b>8.2</b> The <b>following payments were authorised</b> : - 000300 £40.00 Morgan Kelly legal fee cricket field lease. 000301 £20.00 LDA of local councils 2017 subscription. 000302 £741.91 D I Blackhall April/May net salary, and annual laptop security/payroll software charges reimbursement. 000303 £102.80 HMRC income tax 000294/295 Blank emergency cheques to John Gillies. Online banking transfers to: ESALC £122.33-ESALC/NALC 2017/18 subscriptions Le Bureau £100.00-printing Lewes D C £93.60-dog bins to 30/6/17.	

	<p><b>8.3</b> Following an extensive review of renewal options it was <b>agreed</b> to accept the Clerk's recommendation to award a 3-year renewal to Inspire via Came &amp; Co. for insurance.</p> <p><b>8.4</b> The Parish Council agreed the 2016/17 Annual Governance Statement, which was <b>approved and signed by the Chairman</b>; then agreed the 2016/17 Accounting Statement which was <b>approved and signed by the Chairman</b>.</p> <p>The Clerk reported the internal audit process was a great improvement on last year, and the Chairman agreed to write and thank the new auditor.</p> <p><b>8.5</b> The Parish Council <b>discussed</b> two recent articles published by our insurance broker. Firstly, in respect of defibrillators, it was felt there was no further action required and that the ambulance service would be the first point of contact; secondly regarding overhanging trees, where the situation would be reviewed after consideration by JH.</p> <p><b>8.6</b> The 2017/18 grass cutting contract rates were duly noted and <b>ratified</b>.</p>	<p><b>DB</b></p> <p><b>JG</b></p> <p><b>JH</b></p>
<p><b>9</b></p>	<p>It was <b>noted</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-This autumn the National Trust intends to plant hedging around the Monks House carpark where they recently removed ground cover. This will probably be in cooperation with The Woodland Trust.</li> <li>-we still awaited the ESCC comments on the proposed yellow line, and now anticipated a report in June.</li> <li>-we still awaited the reply from ESCC in respect of the queries lodged in respect of verge flowers and bulbs.</li> <li>-There were no current requests for training.</li> <li>-Regarding the allotments, Councillor Smart would continue to collect the cash payment rentals and pass them on to owner, Chris Wettern; and the Clerk would continue to administer the underlying paperwork.</li> </ul>	<p><b>DS/DB</b></p>
<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>Planning</b></p> <p><b>10.1 It was noted that</b> there were no new applications for consideration at this meeting.</p> <p><b>10.2 Notification of decision notices received:-</b></p> <p><b>10.2.1 To note that</b> application SDNP/17/00614/HOUS (Croft Cottage), which was considered at the last meeting, had been approved.</p>	
<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>Maintenance reviews</b> of The Dicklands, The School Playground and The Sports Field, including the Cricket Pavilion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The annual playground inspection would continue to be in October.</li> <li>-There had been a request to hire the sports field in August; and a tentative enquiry regarding the forthcoming bank holiday weekend. This was welcomed in principle and RS would ask the hirer to contact JG with further details.</li> <li>-JG would contact Pauline Burnaby-Davis regarding a bookings diary for the Sports Pavilion and liaising with the Clerk regarding charging for</li> </ul>	<p><b>DB</b></p> <p><b>RS</b></p>

	hires and exchange of contact details.	<b>JG</b>
<b>12</b>	<p><b>Brief Reports from Clerk and/or Councillors on external meetings attended since the last Parish Council meeting, correspondence received, and any forthcoming meetings:</b></p> <p><b>JGm reported</b> that the Village Hall committee has noted that the School has announced its closure in 2018 and that there had been some talk amongst villagers of the school buildings being used for Village Hall activities in the future. The committee did not come to an immediate view of this matter as it is not even known if the buildings will be put up for sale. However, if there were to be a move to take over the school buildings, it would need very strong community and Parish Council support. The Village Hall committee would not want to manage this on its own and would welcome the support of RPC.</p> <p>The Deeds to the Village Hall do allow the sale of the existing Village Hall but only after a village poll in favour of this action. The committee recorded that there are several good reasons for keeping the Village Hall in its current position. It was <b>agreed that</b> JGm would report back that RPC currently did not currently have a role here, but were willing to become involved in future.</p> <p><b>JG reported</b> the outcome of the recent EGM in respect of the Land Registry correspondence meeting which had been separately minuted.</p> <p>It was <b>noted</b> there would be no representation at the East SALC AGM and autumn conference on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2017.</p>	<b>JGm</b>
<b>13</b>	<p><b>The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.</b> The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2017. Any suggestions for the agenda should be sent to the Clerk by Friday 23rd June 2017.</p>	