



RODMELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 8th January, 2019 at 8.00pm in Rodmell Village Hall

Present: Councillors: John Gillies – *Chair* (JG), John Harvey – *Vice-Chair* (JH), Richard Sellick (RS), Anne Sword-Daniels (ASD), Jill Goldman (JGm), David Smart (DS), and Derek Blackhall (DB: Clerk). One member of the public attended.

Item No		Action
1	<p>Apologies were received from George Hickey (GH), Vic lent (VL), and Sarah Osborne (SO). There was one Declaration of Interest from JG in respect of the payments schedule; and no requests to consider any dispensations.</p> <p>Public questions.</p> <p>None on this occasion.</p>	
2	<p>District and County reports.</p> <p>Neither Councillor attended on this occasion.</p>	
3	<p>The minutes of the meetings held on the 6th November and 18th December had been circulated and were approved and signed as a correct record.</p>	

4

Planning

4.1 SDNP/18/05628/FUL | Proposed erection of a single dwelling house | Old Farm House The Street Rodmell Lewes East Sussex BN7 3HE

There **were no objections** provided a) as stated on the application, the height of the proposed house remains no greater than that of its neighbour, Ash Tree Cottage, and b) the number of trees affected is no greater than as indicated in the application.

4.2 SDNP/18/06079/HOUS | New below ground swimming pool with landscaping (amendment to planning approval SDNP/17/05440/HOUS) | Lane House Mill Lane Rodmell Lewes East Sussex BN7 3HS

There **were no objections**.

4.3 SDNP/18/06185/HOUS | Partial demolition of existing bungalow and erection of extension to existing dwelling to create entrance hall, great hall, gallery, two bedrooms, two bathrooms, living room/kitchen, den and creation of a swimming pool | Admiral's Knock Mill Lane Rodmell BN7 3HS

There was no objection in principle to increasing the size of the existing house or to the concept of a 'folly'. However Parish Council objected to a number of features of this application as it stands.

- Despite the tree cover on the higher ground to the North West, the proposed overall height of the building would be too great for what is largely an open Downland landscape
- The proposed mix of different styles and materials presents a fussy and confused visual appearance overall. It is noticeable in the photographs of other castles and fortified houses presented in the application that each individual building tends to present a single unified style to the viewer
- Certain individual design elements such as the glass and brise soleil may appear very out of place in the general rural Downland setting
- There was concern that the overall height of the building, together with the larger areas of glass in the proposed upper storeys, could lead to an unacceptable degree of night-time light intrusion into an area of National Park Downland otherwise mostly free of light pollution.

	<p>4.4 SDNP/18/06174/HOUS Proposed ground floor extension, car port, natural pool and external works to existing dwelling; The Farmhouse, South Farm Close, Rodmell BN7 3HW</p> <p>There was no objection to the overall plan in broad terms, but it was felt that the apparently black timber cladding on the walls presented too much of a contrast to the mellow brickwork of the rest of the house, and to the materials used in other buildings in this part of the village. But apart from the colour there was no objection in general terms to the use of a more subdued timber cladding.</p>	
<p>5</p>	<p>Maintenance reviews</p> <p>5.1 The Dicklands – nothing to report.</p> <p>5.2 Sports Field: It was noted that there were 3 potential bookings. The booking procedure needed to be updated with the addition of instructions related to lighting of fires.</p> <p>5.3 Roads and Drains: Roads - nothing to report. Barleyfield Drainage: JG had received an email stating that the local Highway Steward had recently inspected the drains along Barleyfield and advised they appeared to be working correctly.</p> <p>5.4 Housing Association Wall Maintenance It was noted that there were some difficulties in obtaining a response. The Clerk would continue chasing.</p>	<p>DB</p> <p>DB</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Legal and procedural matters</p> <p>6.1. Diocesan Board of Finance: JGm reported that we await a response to the letter sent on 10th December to clarify RPC requirements. After some discussion, it was agreed there was no requirement to involve an external solicitor as there was sufficient expertise in the village, and that this was the least cost solution to the residents</p> <p>6.2. It was agreed to renew the ACV applications for the pub and cricket pitch.</p> <p>6.3. Affordable Housing in Rodmell: JH explained meetings were ongoing and a feasibility study report was due in February which would become a March agenda item.</p> <p>6.4 In respect of new Parish Councillors required for the May elections, JG reported he was making contact by newsletter and personal contact and encouraged others to think about contacting other potential candidates to help advertise the matter.</p>	<p>DB</p> <p>DB</p> <p>ALL</p>

<p>7</p> <p>8</p>	<p>Other matters</p> <p>It was noted there was currently a potential underspend for 2018/19, due to receipt of some unexpected donations. Current maintenance requirements were two new playground benches, repair to the gable end and electrical box of the pavilion, and improvements to the bus shelters and playground equipment.</p> <p>Finance Report</p> <p>7.1 The bank statement reconciliations for November and December were circulated, approved and signed.</p> <p>7.2 The following payments were authorised: -</p> <p>Online banking transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> £93.60 LDC dog bins £1.00 National Trust wayleave £26.00 J Gillies email setup £52.00 J Gillies web costs £432.64 D I Blackhall Dec/Jan salary/expenses £104.80 HMRC Income Tax <p>7.3 The Precept for 2019/20 was agreed at £11,846, which represented a 2% increase on the previous year.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 09.50pm. The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, 5th March. Any suggestions for the agenda should be sent to the Clerk by Friday 22nd February.</p>	
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