



RODMELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 5th March, 2019 at 8.00pm in Rodmell Village Hall

Present: Councillors: John Gillies – *Chair* (JG), John Harvey – *Vice-Chair* (JH), Jill Goldman (JGm), Richard Sellick (RS), David Smart (DS) and Derek Blackhall (DB: Clerk), and Vic Ient (VL – Lewes District Councillor) Ten members of the public attended.

Item No		Action
1	<p>Apologies were received from Anne Sword-Daniels (ASD), 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>A resident expressed thanks to the Parish Council for all of the hard work undertaken on behalf of the community over the last four years in office - in particular in respect of the school closure and its implications.</p>	
2	<p>District and County reports.</p> <p>Councillor Ient reported that LDC finances were in good shape, unlike those at ESCC. However, the website was still not functioning satisfactorily, responses to queries were poor and there was now only one planning team.</p> <p>He reminded the Parish Council that planning applications were subject to SDNPA policies in the first instance; however, 95% of those applications dealt with by LDC were now decided by an officer rather than the planning committee. If there was anything that the Parish Council felt should go to the committee, this should be made known to him as early as possible.</p> <p>Polo were still pursuing a foot/cycle path for the C7. He reported that Highways had environmental funding that was potentially available for this but it required ESCC to signal their agreement to the proposals. This was still being negotiated.</p>	

3	<p>The minutes of the meeting held on the 8th January had been circulated and were approved and signed as a correct record.</p>	
4	<p>Planning</p> <p>4.1 SDNP/19/00864/HOUS 8 The Paddocks. Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and porch extension to an existing detached dwelling at the front of the property, rear terrace in garden and glazed link to garage.</p> <p>The Council had no objection to the general principle of building extensions to this house. It did however have objections to a number of the details.</p> <p>4.1.1 It was felt that a proposed ‘glazed link’ between the house and the garage was not in keeping with either the design or the materials used in the construction of the other properties on this estate.</p> <p>4.1.2 The style of the proposed front entrance with its ‘wrap over roof light’ would be wholly out of character with the other properties on the estate.</p> <p>4.1.3 The proposed rear extension, as currently described, was intended to incorporate ‘a sun terrace’. This would create problems of privacy for residents in neighbouring gardens.</p> <p>4.1.4 It was felt that at night the net effect of the wrap over roof light, the glazed tunnel, and other proposed roof lighting, taken together, could be damaging to the SDNP’s policy on dark skies and to its support for the International Dark Skies Reserve status of this area.</p> <p>4.2 SDNP/19/00504/HOUS, 8 Badgers Dene. Single storey rear extension, replacement entrance canopy, new dummy pitch roof to front of attached garage.</p> <p>The Council had no objection to this application.</p>	
5	<p>Maintenance reviews</p> <p>5.1 The Dicklands – nothing to report.</p> <p>5.2 Sports Field: It was noted that there were three potential bookings. The booking procedure needed to be updated with the addition of instructions related to release of helium balloons and Chinese Lanterns.</p>	<p>DB</p>

6	<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. JG would continue chasing.</p> <p>Legal and procedural matters</p> <p>6.1.: JGm reported that the Diocesan Board of Finance appeared to be keen to conclude the negotiations, and that the Council was awaiting a response to the letters sent.</p> <p>6.2. It was agreed to renew the ACV applications for the pub and cricket pitch. DB reported that they were ready to be submitted.</p> <p>Other matters</p> <p>It was noted that Councillor Hickey had resigned following a conflict of interest, and the Council expressed thanks for her past services.</p> <p>It was noted there was currently a potential underspend for 2018/19, due to receipt of some unexpected donations. The two new benches had been delivered and the invoice was awaited. The quotes for the maintenance of the bus shelter opposite the pub, and the repair of the old playground bench (estimated cost £1700) were approved to go ahead.</p> <p>A new Parish Assembly date had to be set to conform with regulations regarding the election process. This was now agreed as 3rd May. Similarly, any newsletter to be produced needed to go out before purdah.</p>	JG
7	<p>There were 3 allotment plots vacant, and one new application to be processed.</p> <p>It was noted a new dog bin was required for the Monks House car park. JG would approach Monks House with a view to sharing costs of purchase and/or emptying.</p> <p>JG reported that the website had changed hosting and a new email system had been created which needed to be set up individually by Councillors.</p> <p>It was noted there had been two recent traffic accidents at Northease, and a letter needed to be sent to ESCC asking for a speed reduction outside the school.</p> <p>Finance Report</p> <p>7.1 The bank statement reconciliations for January and February were circulated, approved and signed.</p> <p>7.2 The following payments were authorised:</p>	DB
		JG
		JG
		JG
		JG/ALL
		JG

8	<p>Online banking transfers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">£420.00 Countrymans Hedge cutting£125.99 D I Blackhall McAfee laptop security-2 years£95.64 Rodmell village hall Rent£65.00 J Gillies repayment of web costs£100.00 J Gillies repayment for Gifts£372.72 D I Blackhall Feb/Mar salary/expenses£93.00 HMRC Income Tax Feb/Mar <p>The meeting closed at 09.50pm. The next meeting was the Annual Parish Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 14th May. Any suggestions for the agenda should be sent to the Clerk by Friday 26th April.</p>	
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