



DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
on 6th May 2021 at 7.00pm on Zoom

1. Present

Councillors John Gillies (JG: Chairman), Nikki Terry (NT), Sue Carroll (SC), Sarah Last (SL), Lesley Prosser (LP) and David Smart (DS). District Councillor William Meyer (WM) and Alison Stevens (AS) were also in attendance. There were no members of the public present.

There were no apologies for absence.

Councillor Gillies announced the resignation of Councillor Sellick. Rodmell Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to formally thank Councillor Sellick for everything he has done for the Parish during his tenure.

The meeting was suspended.

2. Public Questions

There were no questions from any members of the public.

3. To elect the Chairman for the forthcoming year

Councillors resolved unanimously to appoint Councillor Gillies for the role of Chairman. Councillor Gillies accepted the role.

4. To elect the Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year

Councillors resolved unanimously to appoint Councillor Prosser for the role of Vice Chairman. Councillor Prosser accepted the role.

5. Updates from the County and District Councillors

District Councillor Meyer had nothing new to report.

The meeting was then re-opened.

6. Disclosures of Interests

There were no disclosures of interest on any items on this agenda nor were there any changes to the Register of Interests.

7. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th March 2021

The Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on the 16th March 2021, were read, confirmed as a true and accurate record, and signed by the Chairman.

8. Planning

Councillor Carroll said the latest planning applications for Iford Farm have been accepted but the approval is subject to a long list of Conditions. Neighbours at Northease will also be consulted on the colour of the buildings.

District Councillor Meyer said the application should be regarded as a success story because if had it gone to Appeal, it would have been accepted as it was. This way a long list of Conditions have been imposed which makes it more acceptable.

9. Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

Rodmell Parish Council resolved to adopt the Standing Orders (2021) and Financial Regulations (2021) as recommended by NALC for the ensuing year.

10. Code of Conduct

Councillors resolved to accept the Code of Conduct introduced by Lewes District Council under the Localism Act 2012.

11. General Power of Competence

Rodmell Parish Council resolved that it meets the prescribed conditions and is eligible for the General Power of Competence.

12. Maintenance Reviews

12.1: Defibrillator Report – Councillor Prosser continues to monitor the defibrillator. The battery is currently at full power and the pads are unused.

12.2: Dog bin at Mill Lane – At the last meeting Councillors agreed to supply and fit a new dog bin at Mill Lane. The new bin has now been fitted and is being emptied regularly by Lewes District Council.

12.3: Replacement Litter Bins – Two new bins have been ordered and delivery has been arranged for the week beginning the 14th May. Councillor Sellick has recently resigned from the Parish Council but has confirmed he will still fit the bins once we have them.

13. Clerk's and Councillor's Reports

13.1: Legal Matters

- General update on the school and playground progress – There was nothing new to report on this occasion.

13.2: Other updates

- Website and Email Problems: There was nothing new to report.
- Tree Warden – The Tree Warden also had nothing new to report.
- Countryside, agriculture and allotments – Councillor Gillies said the allotments are looking very smart, and acknowledged the hard work of all the allotment holders.
- Repairs to The Street – Councillor Gillies said he will continue to ask the County Councillor for updates and he will also ask her if she knows which meeting she is handing her petition into yet. Councillor Terry offered to be there when she does. It was also noted that contractors have yet to repair some potholes at the top end of The Street. The Clerk will chase Highways.
- Sports Field, Mowing and Trimming – More work is needed at The Pavilion than was first thought. Councillors considered two prices which both include replacing a rotten window, one with a wooden window, one with a UPVC one. Councillors asked the Clerk to find out if there are any restrictions on what types of window can be fitted there.

The Clerk will find ask each contractor to price for both types of window and report back. It was also noted that the two bins in the recreation ground are open to the both the elements and animals, so rubbish tends to get blown everywhere. Councillors agreed that the bins will be removed for now and that the situation will be monitored to see if people take their litter home. Bins will only be put out for events in the meantime. Councillor Terry said she has some spare notices which ask people to put their dog mess in the dog bins and she will arrange for them to be fitted.

- Communication with Northease residents – There was nothing new to report on this occasion.
- The possibility of extending the footpath between Northease and Rodmell – There was nothing new to add so Councillors agreed this item will be removed from agendas in the future.
- Village Hall Committee – The hall has received some grants from the District Council which will allow work to begin on some of the desired refurbishments.
- Safe C7 Report – Fund raising for a planning consultant continues. Crowdfunding will be used and Parish Councils along the C7 may be asked to contribute.

The first phase is to employ a consultant to conduct a physical survey of the C7 and come up with a proposed design to force traffic to slow down along its entire route. When assessing whether they will take action, ESCC base their criteria on the number of killed and seriously injured (KSI) and the road's natural speed, but it has been noted that the Department of Transport guidelines take into account two additional criteria - the nature of the road and its location. The surveyor the campaign would like to use is used to working with ESCC. The Parish Council understands that Highways will be prepared to use the Community Infrastructure Levy once this first phase has been completed.

14. Brief Report from the Clerk and/or Councillors – There have been no POLO or LDALC Meetings since the last Full Council Meeting.

15. Finance Report

15.1: Councillors resolved to authorise the following payments;

		<u>£:</u>
Came and Company	Insurance	869.15
ESALC Ltd	Subscriptions	148.32
ESCC	Verge Cutting	182.40
ICO	Subscription	40.00
Lewes DC	Dog Bin Emptying	93.60
Simon Goacher	Payroll	137.12
A Stevens	March Salary	345.05
A Stevens	April Salary	345.25

15.2: Councillor resolved to;

15.2.1: To approve the Annual Governance Statement to 31st March 2021.

15.2.2: To approve the Annual Return Accounting Statements to 31st March 2021.

15.2.3: That they are exempt from an External Audit for the year to 31st March 2021 because the Parish Council's receipts and payments were each less than £25000.

16. No Cold Calling Zones – The Clerk obtained some 'No Cold Calling' Stickers from Trading Standards for residents to put in their windows to help deter cold callers. Judith Bradbury, Chair of the Good Neighbour Scheme, said she will hand them out to those who would like them.

17. The next Full Council Meeting is planned for Tuesday 20th July 2021, items for the agenda need to be with the Clerk by Friday 9th July 2021.

There was no further business and this meeting closed at 8.00pm.