



RODMELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd July, 2019 at 8.00pm in Rodmell Village Hall

Present: Councillors: John Gillies – Chair (JG), Sarah Last (SL), Richard Sellick (RS), David Smart (DS) and Nikki Terri (NT) and Alison Stevens (AS: Clerk). There were no members of the public in attendance.

County Councillor Sarah Osbourne and District Councillor William Meyer sent apologies for their absence.

Item No:		Action
1	<p><u>Apologies for absence</u></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Lesley Prosser (LP) and Sue Carroll (SC). Their apologies were accepted by those present. There were no requests to consider any dispensations.</p> <p><u>Public Questions.</u></p> <p>There were no questions from the public.</p>	
2	<p><u>District and County Reports.</u></p> <p>The County Councillor had sent a brief report which had been posted to the village Facebook group. There were no reports from the District Councillor on this occasion.</p>	
3	<p><u>Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 14th May 2019 and the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on the 22nd June 2019.</u></p> <p>Councillors resolved unanimously that Minute 8.1 of the Annual Parish Meeting Minutes should read;</p> <p>8.1 The Clerk introduced the 2018-2019 statutory reports and advised the Parish Council that he had experienced difficulties with the internal audit this year. The accounts had been signed off following discussions between the Chair and the internal auditor, as she and the Clerk had been unable to reach agreement. Both the auditor and the Clerk made a number of recommendations for the future, which the Council would consider at its next meeting.</p>	

	<p>The Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting were then approved by all and signed as a true and accurate record by the Chairman.</p> <p>The Minutes of the Extra Ordinary Meeting held on the 22nd June 2019 were read, approved by all and signed by the Chairman.</p>	
4	<p><u>Planning</u></p> <p>There were no planning applications for consideration at this meeting.</p> <p>Councillors resolved unanimously to display future planning applications using a projector so that they are easier to read in meetings. Councillor Last will see if the Parish Council can use the Village Hall's projector.</p>	SL
5	<p><u>Maintenance Reviews</u></p> <p>5.1 The Dicklands – The parking issue recorded in the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting has now been resolved.</p> <p>5.2 Sports Field – This was covered later on in the meeting.</p> <p>It was noted that the footpath behind The Street which leads up to the C7 is overgrown and needs cutting back. The footpath is the one that runs around the edge of the field. The Clerk will ask ESCC Rights of Way to cut it.</p>	
6	<p><u>Clerk's Report and/or Councillor's Reports</u></p> <p>The Clerk reported that;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lewes District Council has acknowledged receipt of the Parish Council's request to retain Rodmell Cricket Field and the Abergavenny Arms on its list of Assets of Community Value. • On 1st July ESCC began consulting residents, businesses and stakeholders on proposed changes to parking charges across East Sussex. The consultation will end on 11th August. Full details can be found on the East Sussex County Council website. <p>Councillors resolved to answer the consultation as residents.</p>	

	<p><u>6.1 Legal Matters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was noted that the old school is now up for sale by tender. It is understood the Asset of Community Value moratorium period runs out in August. • The Clerk asked the Parish Council’s insurers if they would insure a volunteer and his mowing equipment when he cuts the grass on the Sports Field. The insurers confirmed that as a volunteer he is automatically covered when undertaking tasks on behalf of the Parish Council but a risk assessment would need to be carried out to help reduce the risk of injury or damage. He would also need to include his mower on his own home insurance policy for this use. The Chairman and Councillor Sellick will see if they can find a way forward. • The dispute between the Diocesan Board of Finance and the Parish Council has been resolved, as mentioned at the Annual Parish Council Meeting, and the documents are awaiting registration by the Land Registry. <p><u>6.2 Other Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website and Council Emails – No problems were reported with the website. Ongoing issues with the emails are being dealt with by JG. • Tree Warden – Northease Manor School would like to carry out some health and safety work to an oak tree (SDNP/19/03142/TCA). Councillors agreed they had no objections to the work taking place. • Countryside, agriculture and allotments – Councillor Smart asked if the Clerk has any information on the size of the Parish Council’s allotments. The Clerk said she will find out and report back. • Sports Field, Mowing and Hedge Trimming – Councillors asked whether the patch of grass needs cutting at the playground. Councillor Gillies will look and report back. • Village Hall Committee – There will be a Harvest Supper on Friday 4th October. • Northease – The Clerk confirmed that a planning query in Northease has been raised with Enforcement. • POLO – There was nothing new to report on this occasion. Councillor Carroll has agreed to represent Rodmell on the POLO committee. 	<p>JG/RS</p>
<p>7</p>	<p><u>Brief Report from the Clerk and/or Councillors on external contacts and meetings attended since the last Parish Council Meeting.</u></p> <p>Councillor Gillies attended the latest Newhaven Strengthening Local Relationships Meeting. He complained about the state of The Street because some potholes have been repaired but others</p>	

	<p>have been left. Councillor Last agreed to keep an eye on the situation, but residents are encouraged to report all potholes requiring repairs on the ESCC website.</p> <p>The Manager of Monk's House had offered to give the Council a donation of £500 this year in lieu of a village event, and Council agreed to use this for the provision of a dog bin at or adjacent to Monks House car park. The Clerk said there would be an ongoing cost of emptying the bin and she would bring prices for bins and the emptying of them to the next meeting.</p>	AS						
8	<p><u>Finance Report</u></p> <p>8.1 – Councillors resolved to accept the accounts from 1st April to 4th June 2019.</p> <p>8.2 – The following invoices were approved for payment;</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Friends of South Downs Membership</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 15.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ESALC Membership</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 143.34</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alison Stevens – Locum Clerk</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 348.40</td> </tr> </table> <p>8.3 – Rodmell Parish Council resolved to re-appoint Fiona Roberts as its Internal Auditor for the financial year 2019-2020.</p> <p>8.4 – The Locum Clerk continues to chase Lewes District Council twice for the £1000 it owes and has now escalated the request.</p>	Friends of South Downs Membership	£ 15.00	ESALC Membership	£ 143.34	Alison Stevens – Locum Clerk	£ 348.40	
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9	<p><u>East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service Review 2019/20</u></p> <p>Councillors considered the East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service Annual Plan Review and agreed that a formal response was not necessary.</p>							
10	<p>The meeting closed at 9.00pm.</p> <p>The next meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday 3rd September 2019/ Please send any items for the agenda to the Clerk by Friday 23rd August.</p>							