



RODMELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held On 8th February 2024 at 7pm at Rodmell Village Hall

Present: Councillors – Sue Carroll (SC) Acting Chair, Claire Dishington (CD), Nicki Myers (NM), Chrissie Toye (CT), Fred Wettren (FW), Georgina Hickey (GH)
Lynette Kemp (LK) Parish Clerk
Three members of the public were also present

- 1. Apologies and Declarations of Interest** – There were no apologies and no declarations of interest.

Public Questions

A member of the public asked that, to prevent speculation, the resignation letter of the former Chair, Lindy Smart be circulated in full. SC as Acting Chair stated that this would not be appropriate.

A second member of the public voiced concerns about the latest resignation and the future of the Parish Council, and that further resignations could lead to the Parish being administered by Lewes District Council, and as such the needs of local residents would not be understood.

Questions were raised about the way in which this meeting had been publicised. The Clerk reported that the agenda has been published in the same way as all previous meetings, on the noticeboards and on the website.

A third member of the public made comments about the behaviour/approach of the Acting Chair in the past.

The Clerk stated that it had been agreed that the Civility and Respect Pledge would be adopted at the next meeting. SC stated there has been agreement on the process for circulating draft minutes of meetings, which remain the Clerk's until they are signed as true and correct, or amendments made, at the following meeting.

- 2. To note the resignation of Lindy Smart and to resolve the appointment of a Chairperson until the Annual General Meeting of Rodmell Parish Council.**

The resignation of Lindy Smart was **noted**, Lindy Smart was thanked by Council for her hard work. Following discussion it was **resolved** that Cllr Claire Dishington would be appointed Chairperson until the AGM on 21st May 2024. Proposed by NM and seconded by FW.

Two members of the public left the meeting.

CD left the meeting.

- 3. Preparations, including the Parish Newsletter, and formation of any working groups for the Parish Assembly.**

The date of the Parish Assembly was confirmed as 19th April 2024. Suggestions were made regarding speaker topics, the Parish Priority Statement including a summary of the questionnaire results and the announcement of the PPS follow-up meeting, the Safer C7 project, an update on the school

Rodmell Parish Council: Sue Carroll (*Deputy Chair*), Claire Dishington,

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building, biodiversity net gain, wildflower planting. Community groups in the Parish would be contacted to ask if they would like to contribute to the Parish Newsletter. A Parish Assembly Working Group was formed, members – CT, NM, SC, GH, CD

4. Formation of a working group for the Wildflower Planting Project

It was **resolved** that the working group would be formed and members of the working group would be GH, Lindy Smart and Ali Walters.

5. Rural Grass Cutting Option for the 2024/2025 season

Following discussion it was **resolved** that the chosen option would be - Option 2 - *Environmental Enhancement Service (reduced rural service) - Excluding single track lanes, the first cut at start of season to be only visibility cuts for safety at junctions and on the inside of bends where sight lines between road users may be obscured by vegetation. The second cut later in the season will be visibility plus a 1 metre wide swathe along the verge.*

The Clerk was asked to contact East Sussex Highways to ascertain if RPC could appoint contractors to cut the verge from footpath ROD/6/1 to the Abergavenny Arms car park entrance. The Clerk will report back.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.25pm