



RODMELL PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD

On 20th June 2023 at 8pm
at The Village Hall, Rodmell

1. Present

Councillors Lindy Smart (Chairman), Sue Carroll (Vice Chair), William Meyer, Chrissie Toye

Lynette Kemp (Parish Clerk)

No members of the public were present

2. Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Nicki Myers and Cllr Claire Dishington. Cllr Meyer declared an interest in agenda item 5, Cllr Meyer is standing in the SDNPA Parish representative election.

3. Public Questions

Cllr Meyer spoke of his attendance at a number of Parish Council meetings recently, particularly Alfriston, where 50 members of the public attended, it was noted that the population of Alfriston is much greater than Rodmell. Interest in the upcoming SDNPA election has been varied across parishes. Cllr Meyer informed members that CEO of ESALC, Trevor Leggo, was dealing with the election in East Sussex parishes, observers from SDNPA will attend the count. The meeting was informed that of 27 board members 6 were elected by Parish Councils, two from East Sussex, two from West Sussex and two from Hampshire. Neville Harrison had been with the National Park at the beginning and was still very highly regarded. Cllr Meyer spoke of his time on the SNDPA board as a District Council representative, and therefore was familiar with the National Park system, and if elected to represent Parishes, would continue to be strong on planning in all parishes, as well as those on the National Park boundaries. It was noted that two nominees on the ballot paper, one from East Sussex and one from West Sussex had been excluded from the election as they were also District Councillors.

4. The Dicklands

Cllr Toye gave a report on the current situation regarding maintenance of the grass area at The Dicklands. For the past 2½ years Jenny Brown has asked her garden contractor to mow the grass at The Dicklands, this was paid for by Mrs Brown. It had been previously agreed by Rodmell Parish Council that these costs should be reimbursed. The cost is estimated at £600. Cllr Toye has requested quotes from 4 contractors and was still waiting for one quotation to be

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submitted. The contractor currently mowing has quoted £95 per cut, and second contractor quoted £60. The clerk informed members of the budget provision for mowing in the parish. Cllr Carroll said that future costs should be carefully monitored. The timing of regular cuts should be agreed and then conveyed to the chosen contractor. Mrs Brown will be asked to provide an invoice to reimburse the costs she has incurred; this will be submitted at the next meeting. Cllr Toye highlighted problems that had been encountered, such as cars parked on the grass area at the time of mowing leading to inconsistency of cut. In future Cllr Toye will put a notice on the grass area when mowing is to take place. Members thanked Cllr Toye for her detailed report. It was also noted that some strimming has taken place, but Cllr Toye doesn't know who carried this out.

5. Changes to the bank mandate

It was resolved to add Cllr Smart to the bank mandate, and to remove John Gillies, Lesley Prosser and Alison Stevens. Further details of the bank account will be provided to Cllr Carroll as she is now a signatory.

6. Authorisation of payments

The following payments were authorised:

Friends of the Southdowns	Subscription	£15.00
EDF	Electricity supply	£47.00
Team 4	Payroll	£12.00
Lewes District Council	Dog bins	£93.60
J Gillies	Domain registration	£20.04
Emerald Services	Grass cutting	£150.00
L Kemp	Clerk's salary June	£345.93
L Kemp	Expenses/reimbursement	£30.09
HMRC	Tax/NI	£34.20
Lewes District Council	Dog bins	£93.60

Cllr Smart will arrange a meeting with John Gillies regarding the website, the clerk will attend also.

7. SDNPA Elections

Members noted that the parish has two votes, after careful scrutiny of the candidates' statements it was agreed that one vote was to support Vanessa Rowlands, proposed by Cllr Carroll and seconded by Cllr Meyer.

Cllr Meyer left the meeting at 8.50pm.

The remaining members considered further the candidates' statements and it was agreed that the remaining vote was to support William Meyer, proposed by Cllr Toye and seconded by Cllr Smart.

Cllr Meyer rejoined the meeting at 8.55pm.

8. To note

The planning application regarding The Flint Barn has been withdrawn.

Items for the next meeting agenda: -

Parking at Marten's Field

The meeting concluded at 9pm.