

ICKLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

A local council for the peoples of Icklesham, Winchelsea, Winchelsea Beach and Rye Harbour

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at 7:15 pm on Monday 10th July 2023 at Winchelsea Beach Community Hall

Present: Councillors: C Chappell, Ms. N Eldridge, J Justice, D Kitteridge, Mrs. S Lyward, I Mann, I McConnochie, A Rixon, Mrs. A Thomson, D Smedley (Vice Chair), Mrs J. Stanford (Chair), H Sutton, and N. Warren

In attendance: Cllr Andrew Mier, Cllr Lizzie Hacking, Cllr Tim Grohne (RDC) and Cllr Keith Glazier (ESCC).

23/88 Item 1. The Chair invited comments or questions from members of the public on matters relating to the business of the Council.

No members of the public were present.

23/89 Item 2. To receive reports and ask questions of the County Councillor Keith Glazier and the Rother District Councillors concerning County Council and Rother District Council matters. (10 minutes)

Cllr Glazier confirmed that East Sussex realised at the beginning of the year that the roads were much worse than they had planned for. He confirmed that the contractor changed on May 1st and the standard of work since Balfour Beatty have taken over is much better. There are still teething problems and he has today been called out to a road where a repair has not been done properly. He urged everyone to keep reporting pot holes and any repairs that are not up to standard. East Sussex County Council commissioned a report to look at the situation with the roads and to make recommendations on how to improve the situation. He highlighted that there is no point spending the money without evidence. The report concluded that an extra £5,100,000 is needed to be spent on the roads and on top of that an extra £5,600,000 this year is needed to work on drainage. It was also agreed to bring forward another £5,000,000 to make it all work. This means that this year East Sussex County Council will be spending £33,000,000 on capital investment on the Highways network. He said that in order to bring all of the roads in East Sussex up to a standard £300,000,000 would need to be spent. He said that the Councillors have made it clear to officers that they want the money spent on the roads and not just to sit in the bank.

Cllr Glazier confirmed that 70% of the Council's budget is spent on looking after the most vulnerable people in society. He confirmed that last year there was £11,000,000 overspend on children's services most of which was spent on specialist placements. He confirmed that this is not just an East Sussex issue, it is a Nationwide issue.

Cllr Warren asked whether anything could be done about large lorries going through the rural lanes i.e. more signage to say unsuitable for large vehicles. Cllr Glazier confirmed that you cannot simply state a lane is unsuitable for large vehicles. Cllr Glazier confirmed that most of the time lorry drivers will be following a Sat Nav which take them on this routes. He confirmed that East Sussex are working with Sat Nav companies as it is a major issue.

Cllr Justice raised an issue with a road drain on Sea Road in Winchelsea Beach which he reported in May 2023, the case is now showing as closed online but it has not been dealt with. Cllr Glazier asked Cllr Justice to send him an email and he will look in to this.

Cllr Lyward asked whether there is a default procedure for the works not carried out by the previous contractors Costains. Cllr Glazier confirmed that it is not a case of claiming the money back, they simply would not be paid for works not carried out.

Cllr Mier of Rother District Council gave an update on caravan parks where parishes suspect that people have been permanently living in caravans that are licenced for only holiday use. Cllr Mier confirmed that he met with the officer who deals with these matters and he is somewhat reassured that since 2016 the licences for caravans have included a requirement to keep a record of the people who are coming to stay and they have to prove their identity and their permanent address. The register of this is kept by the operator of the caravan park. Cllr Mier had been very sceptical as to whether that could be enforced but he has been assured that the officers do go round and they do spot checks.

Cllr Hacking of Rother District Council confirmed that this month they are carrying out interviews for the new

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Chief Executive. Cllr Hacking also encouraged everyone to take part in the dog consultation which closes on 31st July.

23/90 Item 3. To record any apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Cllr Creaser and Cllr Osborne.

23/91 Item 4. Disclosure of Interests - to receive any disclosure by members of personal interest required under the Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any written requests made by members for dispensation to allow them to participate in, and vote on, an agenda item for which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest. Members are reminded a) to repeat their declaration immediately prior to commencement of the item in question and b) complete the declaration of interests' form.

Cllr Warren declared a personal interest in item 6 e ii) and item 15

Cllr Thomson declared a personal interest in item 15

Cllr McConnochie declared a personal interest in items 6ei) and 6 e ii)

23/92 Item 5. To consider and approve the signing by the Chair of the attached minutes of the Annual Council Meeting of 15th May 2023. **RESOLVED:** the Minutes were approved and signed.

Matters requiring a Decision by Council

23/93 Item 6. Financial Matters.

- a) To receive the list of items paid to date in June and July and items for payment to date. **RESOLVED:** approved.
- b) Receipts and Payments report (budget vs actual) **RESOLVED:** approved.
- c) To approve first quarter bank reconciliations **RESOLVED:** approved.
- d) To consider Clerk transferring £40,000 to Nationwide Savings account (2.7% interest rate) from Unity Trust Account. **RESOLVED:** approved.
- e) To consider Grant Applications received from the following:-
 - i. All Saints With St Nicholas Church Icklesham - £600 for maintenance of the Church Yard **RESOLVED:** approved.
 - ii. Icklesham Memorial Hall - £1,725 annual grant **RESOLVED:** approved.

23/94 Item 7. Open Spaces Committee

- a) To note the Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee Meeting on 19th June. **RESOLVED:** the Minutes were noted.
- b) To note Traffic Calming Consultation Meeting has been arranged for 11.00 am on Saturday 22nd July at Winchelsea New Hall. **RESOLVED:** the meeting was noted.
- c) To approve the Open Spaces Committee recommendation to start lease negotiations with Rother District Council for the public conveniences in Winchelsea Beach and Winchelsea. This can be a decision in principle for the time being. **RESOLVED:** this was approved 'in principle'.

23/95 Item 8. Allotments Committee

- a) To note the Minutes of the Allotment Committee Meeting on 22nd May 2023 **RESOLVED:** the Minutes were noted.
- b) To approve the Allotment Committee recommendation to amend the Allotment Rules to the effect that new tenants will pay a deposit equal to one year's rent. This will be repaid to the tenant at the end of the tenancy subject to a satisfactory final inspection. **RESOLVED:** approved.

23/96 Item 9. Annual Play Inspection

- a) To receive the annual play inspection report **RESOLVED:** the report was noted.
- b) To approve the purchase of new seat for Zip Wire in Icklesham (quote will be tabled at the meeting)
- c) To consider quotes received for Coronation Field Fence repair from New Timber Ltd and Simon Matthews Fencing (quotes will be tabled at the meeting)
- d) To consider quote received from Rother District Council's Maintenance Team for the following various

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maintenance/ repair jobs (quotes will be tabled at the meeting).

RESOLVED: as none of the items flagged our priority works, items 9b), 9c) and 9d) were deferred to the next Open Spaces Committee Meeting to allow the Clerk and Assistant Clerk time to get comparison quotes.

23/97 Item 10. Policies

- a) To consider adopting the attached draft Health and Safety Policy **RESOLVED:** the policy be adopted.
- b) To consider adopting the attached draft Lone Working Policy (to follow). **RESOLVED:** the policy be adopted.

23/98 Item 11. Parish Council Website

To consider the attached Clerk's report and quotes received from DotGo and Eyelid Productions. **RESOLVED:** this was deferred to the next Full Council agenda to give new Media Group the chance to look at website options in further detail.

23/99 Item 12. Committees and Working Groups

- a) To consider reforming Media Working Group **RESOLVED:** approved. Cllrs Stanford, Justice and Chappell were appointed as members.
 - i) To consider the attached draft Terms of Reference for Media Working Group. **RESOLVED:** this was approved but is to be reviewed by the Working Group at the first meeting.
- b) To consider merging the Allotment Committee and Open Spaces Committee **RESOLVED:** it was agreed to keep the two committees separate for now but to revisit this at the next Annual Meeting.

23/100 Item 13. To consider Clerk purchasing refurbished android mobile telephone which can be used to set up black cat radar devices.

Good condition refurbished Samsung Galaxy S9 available from GiffGaff for £139. Comes with 12 months warranty. **RESOLVED:** this is now not necessary as Cllr Justice has given the Clerk an old HTC device.

23/101 Item 14. To consider locking Icklesham Recreation Ground Car Park overnight.

There was an incident over the weekend where a car entered the car park and drove on the field. The CCTV captured this and the Clerk has reported this to the police. Cllrs McConnochie and Thomson have offered to lock and unlock on a rota basis. Cllr Warren and the Clerk can be on reserve. **RESOLVED:** Clerk is to liaise with the Icklesham Trusts Committee regarding locking times.

Matters for Information or Noting

23/102 Item 15. Correspondence.

- a) Letter received from the Icklesham Parish Community Land Trust **RESOLVED:** the letter was noted and the request for the Parish Council to carry out another housing need survey would be placed on the next Full Council Meeting Agenda.

23/103 Item 16. Programme of Works. Consider and update where necessary. **RESOLVED:** noted. Clerk is to look into memorial bench records.

23/104 Item 17. Reports from Councillors on meetings they have attended. Nothing to report.

23/105 Item 18. Items for Consideration for Future Agendas. Nothing to report.

23/106 Item 19. Date and venue for next meeting. Monday 11th September 7.15 pm at Icklesham Memorial Hall.

Agreed as a true record of the meeting

Signed
Cllr J Stanford
Chair

Dated 11th September 2023