

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 13th November at Winchelsea New Hall

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

In attendance: Jenner Sands, Clerk & RFO, Cllr Paul Osborne (RDC), members of the public were also present.

23/130 Item 1. The Chair opened the meeting and reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. She also confirmed that Cllr Hugh Sutton had resigned and thanked him for his 40 years of sterling service. Then invited comments or questions from members of the public on matters relating to the business of the Council.

A resident from Icklesham spoke in relation to item 6 of the agenda. He was representing the Icklesham Trust Committee who are responsible for the project. He said that he wants to seek the Council's support for the project and also for access to the recreation ground for the builder and permission for a skip whilst the works are being carried out and to install a soakaway.

He confirmed that the proposed plans are now to refurbish the existing pavilion rather than to demolish the pavilion and build a new one as was planned before. The reason for the change of plans is that it was clear that they would not be able to raise the £350,000 that was needed for this to happen. He said that the new plans are realistic. He said that the Trust Committee have had reports prepared by a structural engineer, have an experienced architect and builder. In developing the plans, the Trust Committee involved the local sports clubs and local residents. They have raised the money needed for the refurbishment work. They held a public meeting with the residents of Icklesham which was very well attended. The votes were 63 for the project and 3 against the project. The Trust Committee strongly urged the Parish Council to support the project and confirmed that if the Council's permission was given, they would apply to Rother District Council for planning permission.

23/131 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's report was circulated prior to the meeting.

Cllr Paul Osborne confirmed that he attended a meeting on Thursday afternoon. He confirmed that there is a Rother UK SPF Local Partnership which is where the Department for Levelling Up has given Rother District Council £1,600,000 for various rural community infrastructure grants, rural spaces improvement grants and rural rother business grants scheme. The rural community infrastructure grant starts from 30th December, the rural spaces improvement grant starts from 1st February 2024 which is Round 2. Paul confirmed that he had signed off on the Parish Council's grant application for the bus shelter in Winchelsea Beach.

23/132 Item 3. To record any apologies for absence.

Apologies received from Cllrs Thomson, Rixon, Kitteridge, Creaser (RDC), Mier (RDC) and Glazier (ESCC)

23/134 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 as he is the Secretary of the Icklesham Trust Committee and in item 9 as he is the treasurer for the Icklesham Parish Community Land Trust

Cllr McConnochie declared a personal interest in item 6 as ~~she~~ ^{he} is on the Icklesham Parish Community Land Trust

Cllr Chappell declared a personal interest in item 12 as an allotment holder.

Cllr Mann declared a personal interest in item 12 as an allotment holder.

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23/135 Item 5. To consider and approve the signing by the Chair of the attached minutes of the Full Council Meeting of 11th September 2023. **RESOLVED:** the Minutes were approved and signed.

Matters requiring a Decision by Council

23/136 Item 6. Icklesham Pavilion Refurbishment

- a) To consider draft plans for refurbishment of Icklesham Pavilion
- b) To confirm whether or not Parish Council are supportive of the plans.
- c) To authorise Bill Coney Developments Access to the recreation ground to carry out the works.
- d) To authorise a skip to be sited on the recreation ground whilst the works are going ahead.
- e) To authorise the installation of a soakaway as detailed in the attached note.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council support the project and all items approved. The Trust Committee are also going to look into installing CCTV cameras.

23/137 Item 7. Financial Matters.

- a) To receive the list of items paid to date in October and November and items for payment to date. **RESOLVED:** approved.
- b) Receipts and Payments report (budget vs actual) **RESOLVED:** approved.
- c) To receive and approve the second quarter bank reconciliation **RESOLVED:** approved and Cllr Smedley signed.
- d) To consider Grant Applications received from the following: -
 - i. Winchelsea New Hall - £1,725 (annual Village Hall Grant).
RESOLVED: it was agreed to grant £1,675 to Winchelsea New Hall which is £1,725 less £50 which is how much the Parish Council have paid for hire of Winchelsea New Hall.

23/138 Item 8. Internal Audit

- a) To consider appointing Mulberry & Co as internal auditors for 2023/24 **RESOLVED:** approved.
- b) To authorise the Clerk to arrange an interim internal audit for December 2023. **RESOLVED:** approved.

23/139 Item 9. Affordable Housing in Icklesham Parish

Icklesham Parish Community Land Trust (IPCLT) have investigated the Community Grant Fund available from Rother District Council. The Community Grant is a match funding scheme and for a project to be eligible, the Parish Council must support the project and commit to provide 30% of the grant. The total cost of the housing needs survey is £7,011.06 therefore 30% is £2,104. Council is asked to consider: -

- a) Whether they support the project
- b) Whether to grant £2,104 to the IPCLT towards the housing needs survey.

Concerns were raised over whether a new housing needs survey is necessary as we know the housing need is there due to the number of applicants for the previous project. Cllr Warren explained the requirements of exception site housing i.e., that a new housing needs survey is undertaken each time. Cllr McConnochie also raised concerns over local infrastructure in Icklesham and whether the sewer system could cope with extra housing. He confirmed that Conway, who are Southern Water's contractors have confirmed to him that the sewers cannot cope.

RESOLVED: Cllr Chappell proposed to support the project and to grant the £2,104 however this was not seconded.

23/140 Item 10. Remembrance Day Poppy Appeal Donation.

- a) Royal British Legion – Minimum donation £20 for Chair's wreath. Council are asked to decide whether they wish to donate any extra. **RESOLVED:** it was agreed to donate £120 in total.
- b) To consider purchasing memorial wreath for the Mary Stanford Lifeboat House. Approximate cost £40. **RESOLVED:** it was agreed to purchase the wreath and to donate an extra £80.

23/141 Item 11. Winchelsea Beach Bus Shelter

- a) To note the results of 'drop-in session' and online survey **RESOLVED:** noted.

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- b) To note the Clerk has applied for match funding from East Sussex County Council in the sum of £11,400. **RESOLVED:** noted.
- c) To authorise the Clerk to apply for a Community Grant from Rother District Council in the sum of £13,334. **RESOLVED:** approved.
- d) To consider Clerk's recommendation to transfer the £700 refund received from National Highways in relation to the Icklesham Bus Shelter project into the ear marked reserve for the Winchelsea Beach bus shelter project. **RESOLVED:** approved.

23/142 Item 12. Allotment Committee

- a) To note the attached draft Minutes of the Allotment Committee Meeting held on 9th October 2023 **RESOLVED:** the Minutes were noted.
- b) To consider commissioning the trial well hole at a cost of £462. **RESOLVED:** it was agreed to defer this and investigate running water as an option as discussed at the budget meeting.
- c) Update regarding Pear Tree Marsh Pathway **RESOLVED:** it was agreed to go ahead with the pathway whether or not we are successful in obtaining grant funding.

23/143 Item 13. Open Spaces Committee

- a) To note the attached draft Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee Meeting held on 25th September. **RESOLVED:** the Minutes were noted.

23/144 Item 14. Urban Grass Cutting Options

To consider the attached email received from East Sussex Highways and to decide on Option 1, 2 or 3 for 2024. **RESOLVED:** Option 2 was agreed (2 extra cuts) at a cost of £2,047 for the year.

23/145 Rother Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2023

Rother District Council is required to divide its area into polling districts for the purposes of UK Parliamentary elections, and to designate polling places for each of these districts. The notice of review, timetable, current polling scheme (including draft proposals) and polling district maps can be found at the following link:

[Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places 2023 – Rother District Council](#)

Council is asked to consider whether they wish to comment on the current polling arrangements and draft proposals for the Parish. **RESOLVED:** it was agreed to support Rother's proposals (no changes).

23/146 Item 15. Complaint Received regarding Rye Bay Football Club's Use of Harbour Field

The Clerk explained that she has received multiple complaints regarding Rye Bay FC's use of Harbour Field. Emails and letters received from residents were circulated to Councillors. **RESOLVED:** the Clerk is to liaise with residents regarding problems with the football club and a new Agreement be drafted to cover these to be agreed at the next Full Council meeting. A few residents will be asked to monitor usage over the next few weeks, the results of which will be used in future decisions regarding Harbour Field.

23/147 Item 16. Rye Harbour Car Park Signage

- a) To agree winter and summer opening hours **RESOLVED:** Summer hours: 6.30 am to 9.00 pm and Winter hours 6.30 am to 7.30 pm.
- b) To consider quote from Care Signs in the sum of £562.65 plus VAT for interchangeable signs for summer and winter opening hours. **RESOLVED:** approved.

23/148 Item 17. Winchelsea Beach Flooding/ Sewage Issues

- a) To note the attached Minutes of the Public Meeting with Southern Water held on 23rd September. **RESOLVED:** the draft Minutes were noted.
- b) To approve the attached draft press release. **RESOLVED:** the press release was approved.

Matters for Information or Noting

23/149 Item 18. Correspondence. (Any late received correspondence will be tabled at the meeting).

- a) Email received from Winchelsea Resident regarding traffic calming **RESOLVED:** noted.

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- b) Email received from Icklesham Resident regarding speeding traffic in Icklesham **RESOLVED:** noted. Cllr Chappell suggested amending the Terms of Reference to include traffic calming throughout the whole parish. **RESOLVED:** to be considered at next Open Space Committee Meeting.
- c) An email was circulated that had been received from a resident regarding the Windmill Caravan Park **RESOLVED:** noted.

23/150 Item 19. Programme of Works. Consider and update where necessary. **RESOLVED:** noted.

23/151 Item 20. Reports from Councillors on meetings they have attended.

Cllr Stanford raised that she attended HoRAC and there was an update on the works that would be taking place on Strand Quay which is going to make a huge difference to boat owners and visitors. The Environment Agency are doing sterling work and they are about to commence shifting shingle which will hopefully resolve the problems at the Lifeboat House, and at Winchelsea Beach..

Cllr Warren raised the fact that the Planning Development, Management and Enforcement Training has been postponed to 12th December.

Cllr Smedley raised that he attended the remembrance service in Winchelsea and laid the wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

23/152 Item 21. Items for Consideration for Future Agendas.

Amending Open Spaces Committee Terms of Reference to include traffic calming for the whole Parish.

23/153 Item 22. Date and venue for next meeting.

Monday 11th December 7.15 pm at Winchelsea Court Hall (budget meeting)

Monday 8th January 7.15 pm at Winchelsea Beach Community Hall (Full Council)

Agreed as a true record of the meeting

Signed

Dated: 8th January 2024

**Cllr J Stanford
(Chair)**