

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 January 2022 at Winchelsea Beach Village Hall

Present: Councillors: J. Justice, D. Kitteridge, I Mann, I. McConnachie, Mrs. C Rice, D Smedley, Mrs J. Stanford, H. Sutton, N. Warren, Mrs A Thomson P. Turner (Chairman)

In attendance: Jenner Sands (Clerk and RFO), Councillors K Glazier (ESCC), E Hacking (RDC). Members of the public were also present

22/01 Item 1. The chairman opened the meeting and reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. He invited comments or questions from members of the public on matters relating to the business of the Council.

Jane Taylor of Winchelsea confirmed that she was representing the Winchelsea Traffic Calming Working Group. She confirmed that their focus is traffic calming but that they recognise that the Council have other pressing issues such as the flooding which they recognise fully and they are grateful for the Council giving the time that they have for the traffic calming this evening. She said that they wanted to pass on a sincere thankyou to the Clerk for the summary of responses that she provided so promptly in a very short space of time, it was very helpful and it does show an excellent response in that time scale. She noted that there were 74 individual responses and that a high majority were in favour of traffic calming generally and it allowed people to express clear views on the possible options. She said that for that reason it was a very valued exercise and she thanked the Clerk for her work. She confirmed that the Working Group provided quite a detailed response in an even shorter time and they hope it was helpful for both established and the new Councillors to give some context and some views. She said that the Working Group with the two Councillors particularly want to contribute to the next stages and to share the workload with the Councillors, the Clerk and the consultant. She said that Councillor Turner published comments in the Parish Magazine confirming that further consultation will be needed and she confirmed that the Residents' Association stand ready, as they have offered before, to support and help in anyway in the next stages of consultation. She said that they have brief questions to the Council at this stage which they have already provided to the Clerk. They are asking what the next stage is that is intended by the Parish Council and is there a timetable, particularly whether it is crossing over into the next financial year. In terms of money they would like assurance from the Council that the related loan to the traffic calming process, will be or has been at least in part and that it will be in time for the March deadline which is only 8 weeks away. They also want to know what funding will be available from the Council to support traffic calming in the next financial year.

22/02 Item 2. To receive reports and ask questions of County Councillor Keith Glazier and Rother District Councillors concerning County Council and Rother District Council matters.

Cllr Keith Glazier confirmed that the County Council have been working towards formulating their budget. He confirmed that the final settlement from Government came in on 20th December and their team have been working hard on putting together a draft Budget for them to consider informally tomorrow and then formally on 25th January when the cabinet will put a recommendation to full council on 8th February. The settlement is 1 year and not 3 years as

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they had hoped and they have been allowed to raise council tax by 1.99%. On adult social care they have allowed a 1% increase on council tax this year and they have a 1.5% hangover from last year. He said that it is very likely that the proposal that will come through from officers to them on 25th will include a recommendation to take the full 2.5% for adult social care. He said that if they do not do that they will have to make another £4,500,000 of savings at a time where they feel that looking after the most vulnerable is the most important job they are being asked to do. He said that if the Council do decide on a 4.5% increase that is the equivalent on a band D property of £1.33 a week or £69 a year. He said that it is an incredible amount of extra money and they would not want to levy any extra money than they have to but the choice is, levy that money or £4,500,000 of cuts.

Locally, he confirmed that Pett Level road is in a horrendous state and he said he has been working on this with the Highways Steward for some months. He said that it is beyond patching, it always was. He said that it never did fit the criteria, it is another Harbour Road situation whereby the depth of the tarmac is not 40mm and therefore it was never going to fit the criteria of a 40mm hole. It is not in a position where it needs total resurfacing and it is in the programme and as soon as the weather breaks it will be done. He has asked the Highways Engineer to go and have a look today and clear up as there is now some fairly large fragmented bits of tarmac that could fly up and hit somebodies screen. He confirmed that this has not been helped by the weather and that the rain and frost will make it worse before it is fixed.

Cllr Warren asked Cllr Glazier to clarify that if they get they reach the settlement they are expecting to get they aren't anticipating making any cuts to adult social care. Cllr Glazier confirmed that they are not looking to make any further cuts in the programme and in fact there was an £800,000 cut in early intervention work with Children's Services that was planned and they intend to remove that. He confirmed there are some planned cuts in transport and environment in the coming years but nothing will happen in the next 12 months.

Cllr Justice asked Cllr Glazier if he is aware of the sewage tankers have increased by 30%, they are now 6k tankers rather than 4k and they are doing down Pett Level Road and turning around by the ponds or occasionally they are driving in to the Co-Op and reversing on the road. Cllr Glazier confirmed that he is aware of all of that and that they pay their road tax so there is absolutely nothing we can do to stop it. Cllr Justice said that they are quite possibly causing some of the damage to the roads, Cllr Glazier agreed with this and said that he raised this when he was here last time but the bottom line is we would need to prove that they are the ones that caused the damage and his understanding is that is really difficult.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Glazier and said that if he and his colleagues can deliver that budget then they deserve our thanks.

Cllr Hacking of Rother District Council confirmed that she did not have much to report as their Full Council Meeting in December got postponed due to Covid and that is now happening at the end of January. She confirmed that she did attend a meeting regarding the new planning enforcement plan which is on the cabinet agenda for tonight. She said that it is slightly disappointing in that their focus is still going to be on asking people to apply for retrospective

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planning which she knows is quite a big issue, particularly in Winchelsea Beach. One positive element is that they are hopefully going to be communicating better with Parish Clerks so they can try and differentiate which applications are really critical and urgent enforcements and not just neighbour disputes. She also said that Sally-Ann is also trying to arrange a public meeting on 4th March with Southern Water and she confirmed that she will try and be at that if she can be of any help at all. She also asked Cllr Warren if she ever got hold of Peasmarsh about the speedwatch. Cllr Warren confirmed that he had and that he had passed the information on to the Councillors. He confirmed that this hasn't gone any further at this time.

22/03 Item 3. Apologies for Absence. Apologies received from Cllr Meir, Cllr T Moore and Cllr S Tollett.

22/04 Item 4. Disclosures of Interest. There were none.

22/05 Item 5. Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting on 13th December 2021.
RESOLVED: The Minutes were approved and signed.

Matters Requiring a Decision by the Council

22/06 Item 6. Financial Matters.

- a) To receive the list of items paid to date in December and January and items for payment to date. **RESOLVED: the list of payments be accepted.**
- b) Receipts and payments report. **RESOLVED: the report be accepted.**

22/07 Item 7. To agree draft Budget for 2022-23 and the precept of £157,588 and to approve the Clerk notifying Rother District Council. **RESOLVED: the draft Budget and precept of £157,588 be agreed and the Clerk is to notify Rother District Council.**

22/08 Item 8. Replacement Cradle Swings. To consider quote received from Wicksteed Leisure for replacement cradle seat swings and replacement chains and fixings (£434 plus VAT). **RESOLVED: Wicksteed's quote be accepted.**

22/09 Item 9. Tree Survey. To consider quotes received from New Timber Ltd (£580 plus VAT) and PJC Consultancy (£1,100 plus VAT). **RESOLVED: It be agreed to accept New Timber's quote in the sum of £580 plus VAT.**

22/10 Item 10. Annual Play Inspection. To consider quotes received from Wicksteed Leisure (£300 plus VAT), The Play Inspection Company (£375 plus VAT) and Sovereign Play Equipment (£770 plus VAT). **RESOLVED: It be agreed to accept Wicksteed's quote in the sum of £300 plus VAT.**

22/11 Item 11. Winchelsea Beach Flooding and Sewerage Issues. To receive Clerk's report on Public Meeting and to discuss and agree the best way forward. **RESOLVED: it was agreed that the Clerk is to go back to Sally-Ann Hart and stress the importance of the meeting being held on a Saturday so that all residents can attend.**

22/12 Item 12. Winchelsea Traffic Calming

- a) To receive Clerk's report summarising residents feedback/ comments on GTA Traffic Calming Feasibility Assessment

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- b) To receive the Traffic Calming Working Group's response to the GTA Traffic Calming Feasibility Assessment.
- c) Clerk's report summarising responses received so far from other organisations.
RESOLVED: it was agreed to await responses from all organisations before deciding on next steps.

Items for Noting by the Council

22/13 Item 13. Programme of Works.

The programme of Works was discussed and progress was noted.

22/14 Item 14. Correspondence.

There was no correspondence to report.

22/15 Item 15. Reports from Councillors on meetings they have attended.

Cllr Warren confirmed that he went to one meeting on behalf of the Council and on behalf of the Icklesham Community Land Trust. He said there is a group in Guestling who have noticed the houses in Icklesham. They are looking either doing this themselves or sharing the work with a housing association.

The Chairman reported he gave a similar presentation on housing to Peasmarsh Parish Council.

22/16 Date and Venue for Next Meeting. Monday 14th March 7.15 pm at Icklesham Memorial Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.15 pm

Agreed as a true record of the meeting

Signed

Cllr P Turner (Chairman)

Dated *14/3/2022*