

# ICKLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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

## Minutes of the Open Spaces Committee Meeting held at Winchelsea Court Hall on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023

**Present:** Cllrs: I Mann, D Smedley (Chair) H Sutton

In Attendance: Jenner Sands (Clerk and RFO), Danielle Heffernan (Assistant Clerk) members of the public were also present.

- 1. The Chairman to Open the Meeting at 7.15 pm.**
- 2. To record any apologies for absence.** Cllrs D Kitteridge
- 3. To receive any Declarations of Interest (Personal or Personal & Prejudicial) by Members.** To receive any disclosure by members of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct. Members are reminded of the need to repeat the declaration immediately prior to commencement of the item in question. Members should ask the Clerk for a Declaration of Interests form which must be completed and returned to the Clerk at the next convenient occasion. **There were none.**

**4. Comments or questions from members of the public present relating to items on the Agenda.**

A resident from Winchelsea spoke about item 12 of the agenda. He said that he and another resident had been involved in discussions with Rother about the opening of the toilets. He said that Rother did a survey which suggested works needed in order to make the toilets safe to open. The Clerk confirmed she had sight of this. He said that he knows Rother have agreed with another Council to put the toilets in a good condition before they are taken over and this may be something worth exploring.

A resident spoke about item 6 of the agenda. He said that the residents feel they need a proper explanation from National Highways as to what rules they are referring to and what flexibility we have. He said that having worked for the Department for Transport he found it odd that there would be no flexibility, especially as the proposal would make the junction safer. He made the point that highways rules are made in the public interest to make roads safer.

**5. To approve the Minutes of the Open Spaces Meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022.**  
**RESOLVED:** the minutes were approved and signed.

**6. Winchelsea Traffic Calming**

Update regarding meeting with East Sussex Highways, National Highways, IPC and GTA. To consider a possible second option to put forward.

*There was a general discussion regarding the best way forward. Standing Orders were suspended to allow members of the public to contribute to the conversation.*

**RESOLVED:** it was agreed that the no left turn, no right turn option is still the preferred option. If absolutely necessary full closure of Strand Hill may have to be considered as a second option however this would be subject to further public consultation.

**7. Tree Management**

To consider the attached draft Tree Management Policy.

**RESOLVED:** As per Councillor Turner's suggestion, the Clerk is to add "Reports from Officers arising from their routine inspections of the Council's property assets" in the paragraph regarding when tree works will be notified.

**8. Dog Fouling**

Clerk has received a complaint regarding the amount of dog fouling at Icklesham Recreation Ground. Committee is asked to consider the options contained in Clerk's report.

**RESOLVED:** Clerk is to write to both primary schools and ask them if the children would design posters for the Parish Council to erect throughout the Parish.

**9. Rother District Council Consultation on Public Spaces Protection Order (Dog Control)**

The PSPO Dog Control expires in January 2024. [THE PUBLIC SPACES PROTECTION ORDER \(No.1A\) ROTHER DISTRICT COUNCIL 2020 \(windows.net\)](#) Rother District Council are consulting on any changes required to the current Order. The Committee is asked to consider whether they have any proposals.

**RESOLVED:** Clerk is to write to Rother with the comments received from Cllr Justice and also flag up that no dogs are allowed in any of our playgrounds.

**10. Rye Harbour Car Park**

**a) Repair to Rye Harbour Car Park Barrier**

To consider the quote received from C.S. Engineers to repair the barrier at Rye Harbour Car Park. (quote will be tabled at the meeting).

**RESOLVED:** Clerk was instructed to accept both quotes from CS Engineers in the sum of £1,515.60 and £725.30.

**b) Resurfacing Works**

Clerk is still waiting on Rother District Council for quotes (met on site in September 2022). Committee asked to consider next steps.

**RESOLVED:** Clerk is to check signage in the car park and to write to Rother and explain that we need the quotes asap otherwise we will have to look at getting our own quotes.

**11. Winchelsea Beach Bus Shelter**

To consider the Clerk's Report and recommendations for next steps.

**RESOLVED:** Clerk is to write to the Winchelsea Beach Community Association and is to refer the matter to Full Council as it may be that the costs involved outweigh the benefit of the bus shelter.

**12. Public Toilets**

To consider the possibility of Rother District Council devolving the public toilets in Winchelsea Beach and Winchelsea.

**RESOLVED:** Clerk is to write to Rother and ask them whether it would be possible for them to put the toilets in a good condition before the Parish Council were to take them over. Clerk is then to refer the matter to Full Council.

**13. Rural Verges as Wildlife Corridors**

To consider whether to take part in the trial for reduction of rural verge cutting.

**RESOLVED:** it was agreed to opt out for this year as we have already undertaken the extra verge cuts for the urban verge cutting. The Committee will consider this again next year.

**14. Jubilee Field Fence Repair**

To consider quotes received to repair Jubilee Field fence (quotes will be tabled at the meeting).

**RESOLVED:** it was agreed to accept Darren Kitteridge's quote in the sum of £160.

**15. Winchelsea Beach Café Request for Dog Waste Bin**

To consider request received from Winchelsea Beach Café to install a dog waste bin and signage near to the Café.

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**RESOLVED:** the Council only supply dog bins on their own land. Clerk is to send details for dog bin providers to the Winchelsea Beach Café.

**16. Pound Field Bin**

To consider relocating the bin in Pound Field to further into the field as building waste has been fly-tipped here. Assistant Clerk is keeping a record of this. Cost of moving the bin £100.

**RESOLVED:** it was agreed to leave the bin where it is for now. Assistant Clerk will keep an eye on this and refer it back to the Committee if necessary.

**17. Suggested Items for Future Agendas**

Cllr Sutton raised Smeatons Lane. The Clerk confirmed that sufficient budget provision is in place for this for the new financial year and the work will take place in April.

**18. Date & venue of next Open Spaces Meeting.**

TBC.

*Agreed as a true record of the meeting*

**Signed.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dated: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023**