



# PLUMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Village Hall, Plumpton on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 19.45.

**Present:** Cllr N Beaumont (Cllr NB) (Chair), Cllr C Jackson (Vice Chair) (Cllr CJ), Cllr G Murphy (Cllr GM), Cllr Chris Thompson (Cllr CT), Cllr Peter Morgan (Cllr PM) and Cllr Paul Stevens (Cllr PS).

**Absent:** County and District Councillor Sarah Osborne (Cllr SO) and Cllr Nick Satchell (Cllr NS)

**Anita Emery (Clerk & RFO).**

**Members of the Public: 2**

1. To accept apologies for absence.

- **Cllr Nick Satchell and County and District Councillor Sarah Osborne tendered their apologies.**

2. Declarations of pecuniary and disclosable interests in respect of matters to be discussed. Chair

- **None**

3. To Approve Minutes from Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

- **290: It was RESOLVED and AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019 were an accurate account of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.**

4. Engagement with Primary School

- Executive Head Mr James discussed with the PC about ways for the PC to interact with the school and vice versa. After a discussion it was decided that two councillors would attend the next school council meeting to listen and to also advise the school council what the PC does, with a view to establishing a more formal arrangement between the school and the PC if appropriate. **PC to decide which councillors. Clerk to contact Mr James to arrange.**

5. Clerk's Report on any Matters Arising from previous meeting.

- Ditchling PC confirmed they did not have an air monitoring unit. The size of the unit is small and cannot be seen. Clerk to advise LDC of potential pollution area north of the level crossing or where Southdowns meets Station Road near the school. **Clerk to report back.**
- There is a split tree on the allotment due to high winds, encroaching on a plot and dangerous, Clerk has arranged for usual supplier to investigate and quote. PC wished to note



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that they do not compromise on safety and given the urgency to arrange as soon as possible.

**Clerk to action.** It was also noted to get the tree assessment completed Clerk to contact usual supplier to discuss. Clerk asked Cllrs if they could take a note of all trees that are PC responsibility when out walking. This was agreed.

- Annual Parish Meeting has been set for Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 8.30pm at the moment – hoping to get an earlier time slot. Clerk to check with the VH Manager on using the Pavilion in order to have an earlier time. **Clerk to report back.**
- VH jumble sale funds to be earmarked in the project expenditure total £2633. Noted by PC.

6. Brief report from the County and District Councillor on matters affecting this Parish.

- No report received.

7. Questions from Members of the Public – limited to a maximum of 15 minutes in total

- None

8. Planning Applications

- Cllr CJ advised there were 1 planning application plus another which needed to be agreed before the next meeting. Cllr CJ asked councillors to declare any pecuniary and disclosable interest in the applications – none received.

- **LW/19/0076**

**The Den, Station Road, Plumpton**

New detached, two storey, three bedroom house to the south of The Den, Station Road, Plumpton Green.

**290: It was RESOLVED and AGREED to support.**

- **LW/19/0173**

**The Southern Stables Ashurst Lane Plumpton East Sussex BN7 3AP Proposal**

Residential conversion and extension of redundant former stable block to create a single dwelling with ancillary annexe. Material amendments to previously granted LW/18/0700

**291: It was RESOLVED and AGREED to support.**

9. Correspondence

- Clerk wished to note item 15. Clerk advised Network Rail (NR) were wanting feedback on the works currently being done to the station bridge. PC wished to thank NR for making good the damage that had been made and advised that when the remaining outstanding fees are paid for the grant of easement, the PC would be delighted to thank NR when the works are complete. **Clerk to action.**
- It was queried whether any correspondence had been received yet from Southern regarding complaints from replacement bus service drivers of dangerous parking on the bend north of Lentrige. Clerk confirmed no correspondence received.



## 10. Finance Committee Report 12.02.2019

- Cllr PS reported FC meeting was uneventful with budgets tracking to budget. FC had approved expenditure and year to date and asked PC to adopt items 10.1 to 10.3.

10.1 To adopt and approve expenditure as itemised on the schedule for PC, VH & PF accounts

10.2 To adopt and approve year to date account 2018/19

10.3 To adopt and approve the Finance Committee Minutes of 08.01.19

- **292: It was RESOLVED and AGREED to adopt items 10.1 to 10.3.**

10.4 To approve VH and PF budgets for year 2019/2020.

- PC reviewed the two budgets. It was noted there were a couple of budget lines on the VH that needed amending. PC wished for the 3-5 year budget line to be increased to £5000 and the projects line to be increased to £6633 to cover £4000 for stage curtains and remainder is user group expenditure. For PF budget Grass & Pitch budget line to be increased to £5000 to cover £1400 for verti-draining. It was noted that this level of expenditure would require money from reserves and was not sustainable long term if required annually. The work with Plumpton College would identify the necessary frequency.

- **293: It was RESOLVED and AGREED to approve the VH and PF budget for 2019/2020.**

10.5 To adopt S137 Grants

- FC had approved the following S137 Grants and wished for the PC to adopt.
- £30 to Stoolball Club for new indoor stoolballs
- £250 to Ladybirds Playgroup for new play equipment
- £200 to St Peters and St James's Hospice to cover hall hire fees for jumble sale – PC decided it was more prudent to send a donation direct to the hospice.
- £200 to Monday Group – for upkeep on stiles.
- **294: It was RESOLVED and AGREED to adopt the S137 grant applications as recommended by the Finance Committee.**

10.6 To note precept amendment (as previously circulated)

- Clerk advised that LDC had calculated the Tax Base incorrectly. The original precept applied for was £57,183 but due to the tax base drop this would now be £56,985 a drop in £198. LDC confirmed that this drop would be made up by increasing the precept support grant (originally £347) by £198 to £545. The PC would still receive the same amount of money for 2019/2020. **This was noted by the PC.**



## 11 Neighbourhood Plan Update

- Cllr NB reported Nolands Farm planning application had been refused because and one reason for the refusal was that it was outside the Neighbourhood Plan. Cala Homes have advised they will let the PC know when they are starting construction at Oakfield site, and nothing to note on Riddens Lane. The Diocese have sold the Rectory and the land to go with it. The PC are hoping to make sure the Oakfield and Glebe developments share one access and the Rectory will not be demolished, as per the Neighbourhood Plan. **PC to contact the Diocese agent, David Evison, for an update.**

## 12 Update on Gypsy/Traveller site

- Cllr NB reported the independent examiner hearing will take place on 5<sup>th</sup> April. Cllr NB circulated the PC responses to the issues raised by the examiner. Cllr NB asked for Councils support to submit the written statement by the deadline of 15<sup>th</sup> March. **PC agreed to support.** The result of the examination will be published in July.

## 13 Bandstand Update

- Cllr NB reported he is meeting the contractor on 13<sup>th</sup> March to discuss groundwork, including preparation for path. Care is being taken to protect the green by using 50-ton matting and should only take a couple of days. PC still needs to decide on the flooring for the bandstand. Cllr NB to notify VH Mgr of contractor movements and advise PC of start date.

## 14 Election Update

- Clerk wished to check those wanting to stand for election were happy with their nomination forms and if needed any advice to contact her.

## 15 Committee/Working Group Reports.

### 15.1 Transport and Environment/Footpaths/Policing

- Cllr NB reported SLR meeting took place. ES Highways were asked to report back on costings of painting the white bridge and whether the road would need to be closed. NB to report back next month.

### 15.2 Village Hall

- Cllr CT reported user group met and two MOP have offered to run the VH jumble sales. The VH has had a six-month alarm check. Fred Symes is to plant a new oak tree to replace the diseased oak that was felled. The VH currently has no window cleaner and VH Mgr is looking for recommendations. R Westgate will repair the bridge. -VH Mgr is testing eco-products and will report back. The T&C's of the hiring of the VH has been amended to state recycling and general tidying up. Green has had its first cut.
- Cllr CT asked for PC's approval in raising the hiring fees by 2%. **The PC supported.**

#### 15.2.1 Stage Curtains



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- Panto advised parts of the stage curtains needed to be replaced. Cllr PS advised he was awaiting proposals from Panto.

15.2.2 To adopt the VH Committee Minutes of 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

- **295: It was RESOLVED and AGREED to adopt the VH Committee Minutes of 15<sup>th</sup> November 2018.**

### 15.3 Playing Field/New Pavilion

15.3.1 To discuss PF Grass Maintenance Contract.

- Cllr PS reported the grass cutting contract was due for renewal as was only to set to one year last year with a view to obtaining more tenders throughout the year this has been difficult. Cllr PS proposed setting a 3 year contract with current local supplier with a cost of living increase each year to give the contractor certainty.
- **296: It was RESOLVED and AGREED to set PF grass cutting contract for 3 years with consumer price index increase each year.**

15.3.2 To discuss playpark inspection report (circulated prior to meeting)

- LDC monthly playpark inspection had been received. It had been reported the two picnic benches are broken and needed to be removed, in addition to other areas of concern. Cllr PM was happy to start a playpark committee and would approach Tina Lambert of the Honeybees. Clerk to send Cllr PM contact details for the playpark constructor. **Clerk to action.**

### 16 Communications/Website

- Cllr GM had nothing to report.

### 17 Questions from Parish Councillors

- None

### 18 Confidential item

Meeting Closed 21.53

### Dates of next meetings:

9<sup>th</sup> April 2019 – Finance Committee – 19:00 – Parish Council – 19:45

Anita Emery | Parish Clerk | 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019