



PLUMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in Plumpton Village Hall on 11th February 2020 at 19:45.

Present: Cllr N Beaumont – Chair (Cllr NB), Cllr Peter Morgan (Cllr PM), Cllr Paul Burford (Cllr PB), Cllr P Stevens (Cllr PS), County Councillor Sarah Osborne (Cllr SO) and District Councillor R Banks (Cllr RB).

Absent: Cllr Nick Satchell (Cllr NS)

Anita Emery (Clerk & RFO).

Members of the Public: 1

The AGENDA is as follows:

1. To accept apologies for absence
 - Cllr N Satchell tendered his apologies and reason for absence were accepted. It was also noted M Caulfield MP tendered her apologies and report provided was accepted.
2. Declarations of pecuniary and disclosable interests in respect of matters to be discussed.
 - None
3. To Approve Minutes from Parish Council meeting held on 14th January 2020
 - **343: It was RESOLVED and AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2020 were an accurate account of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.**
4. Clerk's Report on any Matters Arising from previous meeting.
 - Clerk noted she had distributed the amended Finance Regulations, and these were to be adopted further on in the meeting.
5. Brief Report from the County and District Councillor on matters affecting this Parish.
 - County Report
Cllr SO reported the County budget meeting had taken place and the council tax rise was raised to the maximum without having to go to referendum, Lib Dems voted against with Conservatives leading with backing from Labour. Full report is available from Cllr SO.



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Cllr SO had raised questions regarding the changes to the household recycling sites for ESCC residents if using WSCC household waste site, the ESCC formal agreement with WSCC had been turned down by WSCC and if an ESCC household used the site they would be charged. All WSCC residents have to show proof of address when using the site.

Cllr SO confirmed the flu pandemic plan was fit for purpose, at the time of reporting there had not been any reports of the Coronavirus in East Sussex.

District Report

Cllr RB backed up the household waste issue. The bus stop by the Fountain and new timetable were in use and if using the winning post bus stop, the bus will stop if safe to do so. There is a backlog of actioning potholes due to the inclement weather.

Cllr RB had visited the food and garden waste site in Whitesmith on the A22 to see the processes in place and it was noted that very little contamination was received and LDC residents understood the recycling process.

GTR parking petition has received 250 signatures so far against the £6.60 a day proposal – the new charges were hitting all small station car parks. This will have an impact on Station Road and Barnfield residents.

Districts Council tax will be 15% of total bill as they do not deal with social care nor highways, this works out to be £5 per year increase on tax band D households, there has been no front-line service cuts this year, extra help for homelessness and climate change on budget.

Cllr NB asked Cllr RB about the coach accident and if any contact with the Principle of the College and Director of Highways? Until the incident report from the police is received no comment can be made, however a white line has been agreed to be painted at the edge of the road.

Cllr RB commented that the rail services will be providing 8 carriages throughout the day but unsure if this is at weekends also.

Cllr RB advised the Ash Dieback trees on the open road down to Lewes will need to be felled due to diseased and there will be a series of road closures throughout the day from 24th February.

Cllr NB wished for Council to note the report provided by Maria Caulfield MP which was circulated prior to the meeting, this would be appendices against these minutes.

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

- None



7. Planning applications

SDNP/19/05935/LIS

Drews Farmhouse, Plumpton Lane, Plumpton BN7 3AJ

New bi-folding doors to north and west elevations and internal alterations

Decision: No Comment

SDNP/20/00057/FUL

The Old Mill House, Plumpton Lane, Plumpton BN7 3AH

Installation of an 18 panel/6KW ground mount solar PV system

Decision: Support

LW/20/0038

51 East View Fields, Plumpton Green, BN7 3EF

Proposed single storey rear infill extension

Decision: No comment

8. Correspondence

- Clerk advised a complaint had been received regarding one of the allotment plots. Another half plot had been offered in replacement of this plot – Clerk waiting to hear back from tenant. It was noted by Council that this is two plots that are not fit for purpose and potential RAG day project for the College. **Cllr NB to contact College.**

9. Finance Committee Report 11/02/2020

9.1 To adopt expenditure as itemised on the schedules

9.2 To adopt year to date accounts

9.3 To adopt combined bank balances of PPC, VH & PF

9.4 To adopt amended FC 2019 Regs to allow Clerk expenditure limit

- Cllr PS reported all accounts remain healthy, VH was tracking to budget whilst income was behind – subsequently it appears between hiring income received and what has hit the bank account there is a discrepancy, the VH income will probably come in under income budget of about £2k there are no alarm bells to note. VH is late on receiving FIT payments due to complications with filing the numbers but this will catch up. PPC has increased the VH manager hours due to increase in overtime over the past year – overtime is larger than last year and is not sustainable as PC cannot keep having a large payment at the end of the year. This overtime could be to do with user group/committee communications. This was noted by Council.
- **344: It was RESOLVED and AGREED to adopt and approve items 9.1-9.3**
- **345: It was RESOLVED and AGREED to adopt and approve item 9.4 to allow the Clerk to spend up to the value of £300 without prior authorisation.**



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10. Neighbourhood Plan Update
 - No updates since last meeting more documents available on LDC website. Southern Water works have given useful contacts should further issue arise.
11. Update on Gypsy/Traveller site
 - No update
12. To note and action if necessary monthly RA report, (Grit bins and salt)
 - Clerk advised the VH and PF car parks do not have a salt/grit bin and to purchase one would cost £52.15 +VAT. **Cllr PM to talk to a contact and report back.**
13. Former Cllr Reg Stone
 - Cllr NB advised that Reg Stones funeral was taking place on 14th Feb and the family had asked for no flowers but donations to Hospice or Cancer Research. It was agreed to donate £100 to St Peter and St James's Hospice.
14. To adopt new Code of Conduct
 - **346: It was RESOLVED and AGREED to adopt the new Code of Conduct as advised by LDC.**
15. To adopt Bridge Policy and note expenditure of £200
 - **347: It was RESOLVED and AGREED to adopt the Bridge Policy and expenditure of £200.**
16. Committee/Working Group Reports
 - 16.1 Transport and Environment/Footpaths/Policing Cllr NB
 - Cllr NB reported on the parking charges at the station, after much discussion PPC acknowledge that GTR have the commercial right to charge and PPC have limited practical options to mitigate, it was decided to wait and see what happens and then act accordingly.
 - The white bridge repair will take 4 weeks to repair and will commence on 24th February.
 - 16.2 GTR Railways parking charges to discuss and comment
 - Noted at 16.1 above.
 - 16.3 Village Hall Cllr NS
 - 16.3.1 Update regarding online booking system
 - It was agreed for the Clerk to sign up to the online booking system for a single user 3 month trial and to report back once all set up. **Clerk to action.**
 - 16.3.2 Path by pond Cllr NB
 - Cllr NB had received a complaint about the state of the path. Last March at a cost of £250 and the Monday Group laid chippings down for free. PPC noted it was a rural path and a potential college project in the future but no remedial action at this time will be taken.
 - 16.4 Playing Field/Pavilion Cllr PM/NS
 - 16.4.1 – To discuss extra security at Pavilion
 - No report Cllr NS absent.



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16.4.2 To note playpark inspection and action where necessary

- Cllr PM reported Cosmos are going into implement the tunnel and bank.
- Cricket Club have complained about the state of the pitch. 2 quotes have been received from verti-draining and a third quote is in the process and hope to have by the next meeting.

16.4.3 Grant of easement and substation at tennis courts plus tennis club lease

- Clerk advised of the complications over the grant of easement and tennis club lease. After much discussion PPC wished for the Clerk to initially go back to UKPN and question the population the substation will be serving. **Clerk to action and report back.**

16.5 Interaction with Plumpton Primary School

Cllr PM

- Cllr PM reported the whole school are involved with terracycling
- Cllr PM reported that the school were looking for lollipop wardens and to contact the school office. Cllr RB is also pursuing with County a slow down road sign to be painted on the road.

17. Communications/Website

17.1 To discuss upgrading website hosting package.

- Clerk advised she had spoken with the website host and was hoping to come back with some prices on upgrading the website to enable the black homepage to coincide with the Bridge Policy. Plus making the website accessible to all plus create a login page for Councillors so they can view all the papers electronically at meetings so the Clerk does not have to use so much paper every month which will also tie in with the environmental policy. **Clerk to report back next month.**

18. Items to be reported by Parish Councillors and/or to be included in future meetings.

- Cllr PS reported that a working committee was looking to reinstate the Village Fair as there had been such good support at the Bandstand opening last year. A proposal will be put forward to Council next month and the potential date for the fair would be 27th June 2020. Any funds raised would go towards the Hospice and local school/groups dependent on their involvement.
- Cllr PM asked regarding the CPR/Defib training – Clerk advised she had chased the person who had originally offered to hold the training several times but to no avail. Clerk advised she had approached another company who were very good last year and Council agreed to arrange for the trainers to be booked as it has been budgeted for this year and to also look into a first aid course. **Clerk to action and report back.**
- Cllr NB wished it to be noted that at the next ASM in May he will be standing down after having sat as Chair of the Parish Council for 4 years. He will be staying on the Council. This was duly noted.
- Cllr Burford tendered his apologies for next months meeting. This was noted by the Clerk.

Meeting Closed 21:40



Dates of next meetings:

10th March 2020 – Finance Committee – 19:00 – Parish Council – 19:45

Anita Emery | Parish Clerk 16/02/2020

Appendix 1 **Maria Caulfield MP Report**

Update for Plumpton Parish Council for meeting on 11th February 2020

I am sorry that I am unlikely to be able to join you at your meeting this week.

I just wanted to update you on a few key issues.

Road Funding – the County Council was awarded £604K for pot hole repairs this year and we are expecting further funding to come forward in the budget shortly. Please could you let me know if there are any roads locally that need repair or resurfacing so I can feed them into the council. The more aware we are of the need locally the easier it is to get extra funding from the Government.

Policing – Sussex Police are returning to a community-based model where each village and town will have dedicated officers and PCSO's. In October an extra 129 officers were recruited to help with this. I am fully aware that removing PCSO's from villages previously was very unpopular and I am committed to supporting the police to get the funding they need to provide the services the public wants and needs.

Trains – The May timetable will see a re-introduction of many of the services that have been previously lost and so Plumpton should see an improved service. At Hayward's Heath there will no longer be a joining of trains and so journeys should be quicker. In addition, we will see an end to four carriage trains with all trains being at least eight carriages.



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Flexible season tickets are to be trialled on Southern Rail later this year so that there are cheaper commuting options available for passengers.

You will have seen the consultation on parking charges being introduced by GTR at Plumpton station. Please do let me have any feedback on this.

As always do let me know if there are any issues, I can help with

Maria Caulfield MP

DRAFT