



PLUMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held via E-meeting on 13th October 2020 at 19:30.

Present: Cllr N Beaumont – Chair (Cllr NB), Cllr P Morgan (Cllr PM), Cllr P Stevens (Cllr PS), Cllr P Burford (Cllr PB), Cllr R Jury (Cllr RJ), Cllr A Gardiner (Cllr AG), Cllr N Shefras (Cllr Shefras), Cllr Nick Satchell (Cllr NS), District Councillor R Banks (Cllr RB) and County Councillor S Osborne (Cllr SO).

Absent: None

Anita Emery (Clerk & RFO).

Members of the Public: 1

The AGENDA is as follows:

47. To accept apologies for absence

- None

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

- None

49. To Approve Minutes from Parish Council meeting held on 8th September 2020

- Unanimously agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th September 2020 were an accurate account of that meeting.

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

- Clerk reported she was waiting to hear back from Network Rail regarding the level crossing. **Clerk to chase.**
- Clerk reported SLR meetings are taking place remotely. Dates to be forwarded to ES Highways. **Clerk to action.**

51. Brief Report from the County and District Councillor on matters affecting this Parish.

County

- Cllr Osborne reported the financial implications of CV-19 showing underfunding of £10.1m so far with a deficit of £11.5m with a figure of just under £24m cumulatively. County will be deferring cuts for 2 years but still proceeding with planned cuts of £7.2m. A motion was agreed to press the Government to allow local authorities to have the permanent power to choose whether they meet remotely, hybrid or face to face when the temporary removal to meet in public will expire in May 2021.
- Any libraries that have remained closed during the pandemic will be fully open from 19th October.



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- It has been reported that there have been a marginal increase in CV-19 cases across the county but it is still low. Figures showed 130 across county testing positive per 100,000 and in the Lewes area 33 cases per 100,000. Wards have been clustered together for sake of figures.

District

- Cllr Banks reported the testing site at the Racecourse is up and running, there was zero consultation with District about chosen site. Had some lighting issues for some residents of EVF but this has now been resolved.
- White paper planning shows a lack of direct input on planning proposals and will have an impact on neighbourhood plans as to what status they will have. District will comment when they can.
- Strawlands site has received outline approval for development with multiple different conditions to be filed and met with flooding the main issue.
- Wave Leisure has had a loss of income during pandemic, LDC have loaned £500k to help stay open as Government funding did not cover all debts.
- Dudmans site – all quiet at the moment, Cllr RB working with PC Atfield of the newly formed Sussex Rural Crime Prevention Team.

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

- None. MoP was observing the council meeting as interested in becoming a parish councillor.

53. Planning applications

To Ratify

LW/20/0577

Ashurst Cottage, Ashurst Lane Plumpton BN7 3AP

Continued use as independent C3 residential dwelling

LW/20/0578

The Coach House, Ashurst Lane, Plumpton BN7 3AP

Continued independent C3 residential use of the Coach House, not in conformity with the limitations imposed on the occupation by Conditions 5 & 6 of LW/99/1311

LW/20/0442

Tanners, South Road, Plumpton BN7 3DG

NMA in relation to planning application LW/18/0912 alter the appearance of the proposed front dormer.

- It was unanimously agreed to ratify planning applications 0577/0578/0442 filed as no comment.

Decisions to note:

LW/20/0110

Asby Cottage

Variation of condition 1

Approved.

- Noted by council.



54. Correspondence

- Item 30 – White Paper Planning. Cllr PS had drawn up an appraisal of the white paper from PPC perspective. Unsure what impact this will have on the neighbourhood plan as parameters not set yet. Cllr PS asked members to digest the appraisal and forward any questions they may have to him and Cllr Shefras before 20th October. The deadline of the consultation is 29th October.
- Cllr NB recommended to discuss agenda item 58 now – this was duly agreed. Cllr PS reported District had opened a consultation on Land Availability Assessment (LAA). This was a call for new sites. PPC cannot comment as does not have any further sites to add to their neighbourhood plan. PPC to react if anything falls within the boundaries of the neighbourhood plan.

55. Finance Committee

- Cllr PS reported on the current financial position. VH income as expected due to loss of income through lockdown, this will be discussed at the finance committee meeting on 20th October. Easement legal fees for PPC are netted off. Cllr PS queried electric bill for Pavilion being extremely high for September. Clerk advised this was an estimated bill and should reset next month.
 - a. To approve expenditure as itemised on the schedules
 - Clerk advised there were some further costs to approve that arrived after publication of the expenditure as follows;
 - VH - £20 cleaning cover
 - VH - £94.99 Norton antivirus expense for VH manager computer.
 - PF - £109.58 Castle Water
 - Cllr PS therefore requested that Council approve the total expenditure as follows;
 - PPC - £4,884.83
 - VH - £1123.17
 - PF - £860.22
 - This was unanimously agreed. It was noted however VH Manager should look at cost of antivirus software next year. **Clerk to action.**
 - b. To approve year to date accounts
 - Unanimously agreed.
 - c. To approve combined bank balances
 - Cllr PS and PB confirmed the bank statements against bank reconciliation all agreed.
 - Unanimously agreed.
 - d. Community Infrastructure Levy



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- Standard agenda item nothing to discuss at present.

- e. 2021/2022 budget setting
 - Cllr NS confirmed he is meeting with Cllr PM to discuss the VH and PF budgets and will send draft figures over before FC meeting on 20th. Clerk confirmed draft budget figures have been drawn up and will distribute to FC. It was noted that the budgets were to be set as would normally be done on a year by year basis. It will be discussed at the FC meeting whether there is anything discretionary can be removed due to current pandemic and to budget also for future spend. This was noted.

- f. To consider S137 applications
 - Clerk advised no applications had been received. Cllr NS advised the playgroup were calling for financial help as their numbers were now lower due to CV-19 and may put an application in. It was reminded to members that S137 grants have to be spent on tangible items relevant to the organisation. This was duly noted.

- g. To approve additional 4 urban cuts at £387 for 2021/2022.
 - Clerk advised that as per last year would Council be prepared to pay for the 4 additional verge grass cuts by ESCC. Fee unchanged. This was unanimously agreed. **Clerk to action.**

- h. To approve extra virti-draining at PF of £300
 - Cllr PM advised this was an addition to the planned works agreed on the playing field. It was financially more beneficial to virti-drain when the final works take place in the next couple of months, rather than arrange for it to be done separately at £800. It was unanimously agreed to spend an additional £300. **Cllr PM to action.**

56. Neighbourhood Plan Update

- Cllr NB confirmed as per Cllr Banks report, the outline planning on Strawlands/Wells Close had been approved which was originally 12 now 10 units – still awaiting a full planning application.
- Cllr NB reported a second consultation had been received from the Diocese regarding the Rectory. As the consultation deadline isn't until 23rd November this can be discussed at the next meeting. Consultation distributed to all members to comment on. **Clerk to add to November agenda.**

57. To note and action if necessary monthly RA report.

- Clerk advised RA received nothing to report.

58. Lewes District Council – Land Availability Assessment (LAA)

- Cllr NB advised this was covered under item 54.



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59. Committee/Working Group Reports

a. Transport and Environment/Footpaths/Policing

- Cllr RJ had reported to ES Highways regarding potholes on Station Road.
- Cllr NS and PM reported hedge infringements at East View Fields, brambles on Station Road/Smithys and a large conifer on Station Road. Clerk advised she had received a call from a resident but they left no number nor name and therefore cannot follow up. Cllr PM had received quote for clearing the brambles (£350) on the bank that backed onto 5 & 6 Smithy's Close as these brambles were dangerous and encroaching onto pathway. It had been confirmed by no 5 they did not own the bank. No response from No 6. Clerk to submit query to ES Highways and Land Registry about who owns the bank to obtain clear clarification on ownership and responsibility of clearance. **Clerk to action.**

b. Village Hall

- Cllr NS – nothing to report hall in good condition. Hall being used by majority of regular users. All adhering to CV-19 protocol.
 - i. Update regarding online booking system
- Clerk reported VH Manager now reinstating system and will report back on activity in a couple of months. **Clerk to action.**
 - ii. Management of pond – vegetation and wild area between pond and footpath
- Cllr PM spoke with College who are still keen to help out, needs to discuss with local engagement manager and include their activities within the village and allotments.

c. Playing Field/Pavilion

- Cllr PM reported some chairs belonging to the pavilion were outside along with a sofa. Unsure how these got there but it is clear too many keys for the pavilion are in circulation. VH manager is obtaining locksmith quotes to change locks and then issue keys to relevant organisations and have a note of who has the key.
- Awaiting a quote for the rotting timber around the mound in the playpark.
- Playpark entrance gate both posts have rotted. R Westgate can fix for £300. This was unanimously agreed and to be taken from maintenance budget. **Cllr PM to action.**
 - i. To note playpark inspection and action where necessary
 - Noted and as above action.
 - ii. To discuss grant of easement and substation at tennis courts.
 - Clerk advised still ongoing. Surveyor attending this week, Fields in Trust heads of terms completed and with solicitor as involves lease for tennis club – clerk wanted to check all correct. Newspaper advert will be placed once Clerk gets a response from Mid Sussex Times and Sussex Express.



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iii. Update on 3G football pitch

- Cllr PM advised Junior FC manager and college having a constructive discussion. Now not part of KGV no further reporting required to PPC. Clerk to remove from future agendas. **Clerk to action.**

60. Interaction with Plumpton Primary School

- Cllr PM reported there was no Harvest Festival due to CV-19, the school has developed a theme of neighbourhood engagement whereby pupils write letters to vulnerable residents. Cllr PM in communication with Cllr RB and Good Neighbourhood scheme for addresses.
- Cllr NS reported although not PPC related he had been to the school to help with stage lighting.

61. Communications/Website

- a. Update of accessibility upgrade on website
 - Clerk confirmed security certificate now up to date.

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

- Cllr NB asked if any members would like to take on the task of updating the Facebook page from time to time to let him know.
- Cllr RJ/PS to act on behalf of the parish council at the ESALC AGM on 4th November.
- Cllr PM reported that Cllr RJ is happy as a plot holder to be responsible for reporting on any items relating at the allotment. Cllr RJ reported he is obtaining quotes to clear the soil that was dumped there and will be liaising with the college on allotment clearance as another option.

Meeting closed: 20.53

Dates of next meetings:

20th October 2020 – Finance Committee 19:30 (remote)

10th November 2020 – Parish Council meeting 19.30 (REMOTE MEETING)

Anita Emery | Parish Clerk 14/10/2020



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Anita Emery'.

DRAFT