



## PLUMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 19:45.**

**Present: Cllr N Beaumont – Chair (Cllr NB), Cllr N Shefras (Cllr NDS), Cllr R Jury (Cllr RJ), Cllr A Gardiner (Cllr AG), Cllr Z Needham (Cllr ZD), Cllr Paul Stevens, Cllr Paul Burford, Cllr Jim Brown and District Councillor R Banks (Cllr RB)**

**Absent: Cllr Nick Satchell (Cllr NS) and County Councillor S Osborne (Cllr SO).**

**Also present: Anita Emery (Clerk & RFO).**

**MOP's: 0**

**The AGENDA is as follows:**

360. To accept apologies for absence
- Cllr N Satchell tendered his apologies and reasons accepted. County Cllr S Osborne also tendered her apologies.
361. Declarations of pecuniary and disclosable interests in respect of matters to be discussed.
- None
362. To Approve Minutes from Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022
- Unanimously approved
363. Clerk's Report and discuss any Matters Arising from previous meeting.
- Clerk reported Copse in a box had been applied for and she had received confirmation that LDC approved the application to register the Fountain Inn as a community asset.
364. Brief Report from the County and District Councillor on matters affecting this Parish.
- No report received from County.
  - District Report – Cllr R Banks  
Cllr RB reported he had met with Leigh Palmer (Head of LDC planning), along with Cllr Stevens and D Williams from the working group, over the local plan. The plan is not progressing to the previously indicated timetable and a draft for consultation is likely to appear late in 2023..
  - The potholes by the shop have now been filled in.
  - Southdowns road works are set to complete on 20<sup>th</sup> April.
  - Still working with residents of Oakfield Lane on the sewage connections and fencing boundaries to existing houses.



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- Ukraine refugees – District are processing thank you payments and County actioning applications. Government are essentially leaving it to county and district councils to process. 1-2 residents interested in helping. Hosting helpline 01323 724478 opening 10am-4pm which is an advice line for residents wishing to host refugees.
- The equestrian application that had been submitted it was insisted that a condition on the accommodation was temporary for a worker and treatment for foul water.

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

- None

364. Planning applications:

### **LW/22/0163**

#### **16 Riddens Lane BN7 3DS**

Single storey side extension

- Unanimously agreed no comment.

To ratify the below planning applications'

### **LW/22/0151**

#### **Land Adjacent to Castle House, South Road, Plumpton BN8 4EA**

Continued use of static caravan as a residential property, outbuilding used as a workshop and store yard used as a builders yard.

Decision: No comment

- Duly ratified.

365. Community Planning Alliance (CPA) – to discuss PPC registering as members

- Cllr NB explained CPA are a group of campaigners from around the UK who provide support, resources and training for campaign groups, and to lobby for change of the planning system.

. Cllr NB asked if remaining Council would support registering PPC as a member or should individuals just join. It was no cost to PPC. Unanimously agreed to register PPC. **Cllr NB to action.**

366. Correspondence

- Clerk advised she had been contacted by CCLA regarding Travers Trust and she is dealing with it. **Clerk to action.**

367. Finance Committee

a. To ratify the Finance Committee minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> March 2022

- It was noted FC did not meet on 8<sup>th</sup> March.

b. To adopt expenditure as itemised on the schedules to 31<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> April onwards



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- Cllr PB advised £2886 expenditure for VH was the remaining balance for the radiators as previously agreed. £2k overspend on electricity, measures taken with LED lights and new radiators but will keep an eye on costs. Unanimously adopted.

c. To adopt year to date accounts at 31<sup>st</sup> March.

- Cllr PB reported the VH income of £23k for hiring was consistent with the reports received from the booking system and Cllr NS's reports, plus the covid and omicron grants. PF hiring income down by £400 due to senior football unpaid bill. Unanimously adopted.

d. To adopt combined bank balances at 31<sup>st</sup> March.

- Unanimously adopted

368. Neighbourhood Plan Update

(i) Planning Liaison Working Group update

- Cllr NB reported still no response from Michael Gove to the inter-parish letter regarding the issues with minimum housing targets arising from the flawed Standard Method. Cllr PS/RB and D Williams held a video meeting with Leigh Palmer, head of planning at LDC, and there appeared to be increasing confidence in refusing speculative developments; it was noted two applications in Ringmer had been declined. LDC did clearly state that not all required housing was fully allocated in the Local Plan, and therefore some applications would be approved to meet the windfall element. The recently published Land Availability Assessment has marked some of the available sites in Plumpton as undeliverable, but it was stressed that the LAA does not form part of the Local Plan and should not be regarded as definitive in its assessment of the likelihood of a site being developed.
- Cllr PS was asked to present at the Wealden inter-parish group and it showed their agenda mirrors that of Lewes in respect of challenging the results of the Standard Method.

369. To note and action if necessary monthly RA reports.

- Nothing to report.

370. To discuss broadband fibre optic community scheme and actions.

- Cllr PS reported PPC has about 75 expressions of interest which may not be sufficient to proceed given that this would raise about £200k in grants but East Chiltington's initiative cost £260k to install fibre. Clearly more EoI are required but PPC cannot take forward as there is no general power of competence given the small number of elected councillors. East Chiltington residents formed a limited company and Plumpton should follow suit – Cllr PS proposed to be one of the directors so he can report to PPC on progress. Beresford Lane residents acting independently. It has been reported in the national press that Openreach are falling behind in their national rollout and they are prioritising fibre partnership companies. A resident's initiative is to be formed by Cllr PS who will draft letter drop to residents. One big issue is convincing residents that fibre will not cost more, and Cllr PS still waiting to find out how much a 12 month fibre contract will cost a household in East Chiltington. **Cllr PS to report back.**



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371. To revisit defib and first aid training sessions

- Clerk advised dates had been supplied in May but a busy month – revert back next month.  
**Clerk to action.**

372. Committee/Working Group Reports

a. Transport and Environment/Footpaths/Policing

- Cllr NB met with Highways and walked the village to discuss sites for the SID's. It was noted the repeater signs need replacing. Village gates north of the village were discussed.
  - i. Allotments update
- Cllr RJ reported all plots now taken and a wait list has now been formed.
  - ii. Community Orchard Update.
- Cllr NB advised nothing to report – no landowners have come forward to offer land. Racecourse approached but this isn't viable operationally given the commercial users of the racecourse site. Playing field seems the only suitable and available site. Cllr NB to approach community orchard groups to provide clarity how it would work in practice and put out a consultation to all clubs and residents.
  - iii. Update on the registering of the Fountain Inn as a community asset.
- See agenda item 363.

b. Village Hall

- i. Management of pond – vegetation and wild area between pond and footpath.
- Cllr AG reported the Newt conservation advised the pond wouldn't be suitable as there are fish in there.
- Cllr JB advised the work around the Jubilee tree will be done end of April. Turfing the area was discussed. Roots will need to be dug out and it was approved for a 6yd skip to be ordered so to dispose of the waste.

c. Playing Field/Pavilion

- Cllr RJ reported the shed is still broken. Additional keys for the pavilion have been requested at the cost of the individual/club. VH Manager has a list of key holders.
- Cllr RJ is trying to find a defib cabinet. **Clerk to send details.**
  - i. To note playpark & skatepark inspection and action where necessary
- Cllr RJ reported no action required on report.
  - ii. Update on path installation



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- Path installation complete clubs have been asked not to walk on the path with spikes and boots. Cllr JB polished the plaques and reinstalled.
  - iii. Pre-project pavilion planning
- It was agreed to shelve pending CIL and further development. Cllr RJ will notify clubs and clerk to remove from agenda. **Clerk to action.**
  - iv. To ratify grass cutting contract 2022-2023
- It was ratified that the grass cutting contract was to be fulfilled by Countrywide for 2022-2023 at a cost of £3550 which included additional cuts if needed in the height of the growing season. Clerk obtaining a copy of the fixture cards for all clubs. Clerk to action.
  - v. Parking on match days at playing field.
- Inconsiderate Match day parking that adversely impacted residents near the playing field was discussed. PPC agreed very difficult to police and there are no immediate cost-effective alternatives. Junior FC are trying to use other locations to play. Consider putting concrete groundworks for winter parking – however fundraising would be required and the cost to be borne by the clubs. It was agreed to invite the PCSO to the next meeting to see if available to patrol on match days. **Clerk to action.**

### d. Events Committee

- i. Jubilee Celebrations update.
  - Cllr AG reported full jubilee weekend events will be published in the June parish magazine as an insert. Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> is unveiling of the tree. PVS have asked if PPC would donate some fizz. It was discussed that perhaps the college or Artelium may like to donate. **Cllr NB to enquire.** It was agreed for PPC to cover the children's drinks. Cllr AG also asked if there could be a strong parish council presence at the church service on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June at 14.30. This was duly noted. It was noted and agreed that PPC would cover the cost of the plaque for the tree at £50.

### 373. Interaction with Plumpton Primary School

- Cllr AG advised Cllr JB had cleared the area at the school for their trees. Now waiting to hear from school on what trees they would like.

### 374. Communications/Website

- Clerk advised not heard any further on when the hosting will change. Confirmed domain is staying the same.

### 375. Annual Parish Meeting – to discuss content/agenda/guest speaker

- Cllr NB confirmed he has secured a guest speaker from Ovesco to present at the APM on 17<sup>th</sup> May. Clerk to see if she can get a banner to advertise the APM. **Clerk to action.**



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

- Cllr NB advised the next meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May included the annual meeting where the chair for the parish council is elected. If anyone is interested please speak with the Clerk. Clerk also asked for Cllr's to think which committees they wish to sit on.

Meeting closed: 21.30

**Dates of next meetings:**

10<sup>th</sup> May 19:00 PPCFC, 19:45 PPC Annual Meeting, 20:00 PPC Meeting

17<sup>th</sup> May 19:30 Annual Parish Meeting

Anita Emery | Parish Clerk 22/04/2022

DRAFT