

PEVENSEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the COUNCIL MEETING held on 6th November at St. Wilfrid's Church Hall, Pevensey Bay, commencing at 7.00PM

Present: Councillor's Lowton, Slater, Beaney, Pursglove, Beck, Scott, Belcher, Howard, Burton, Withey, Peasgood and Rabbits.

1. Apologise: Councillor MacKinnon

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Scott – Agenda item 13 Vehicles of Yesteryear.

Cllr Beaney – Agenda item 18 Orders of payment.

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the previous Council meeting held on the 4th September 2018 were signed as a true and accurate record proposed by Cllr Pursglove seconded by Cllr Scott. All agreed with 1 abstention from Cllr Beck.

The Minutes of the previous Council meeting held on the 2nd October 2018 were signed as a true and accurate record proposed by Cllr Beaney seconded by Cllr Pursglove. All agreed with 2 abstention from Cllr Beck and Belcher.

4. Local Police Issues

Nothing Reported.

5. Open Forum

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

6. County Councillor's Report

Nothing to Report.

7. District Councillor's Report

Cllr Dear reported that she is in contact with Sussex Police to tackle the issues with illegal parking in Pevensey. She has written to the Chief Constable to see if they can undertake parking enforcement (DPE) as currently WDC do not enforce on parking as they haven't accepted responsibility from Sussex Police.

She has also written to Kate Bourne the Police & Crime Commissioner for Sussex on the 13th October 2019 and received a response yesterday advising the Police cannot prioritise the illegal parking unless harm is caused by it.

Cllr Dear informed Council that she was continuing to pursue the issue and that there were further meetings to be arranged. She advised she will keep the public and Council informed of her progress.

Cllr Lowton thanked Cllr Dear for her report.

8. Matters Arising

Nothing Reported.

9. Discussion on First Draft of the 3 Year Plan

Cllr Lowton firstly wanted to thank the Sub Committee for the time and effort they have put into the first draft of the 3 Year Plan. He then explained there was a lot of ground to be cleared first by ascertaining information and costs for Parish assets, Budget Pressures, Parish Maintenance, Grass Cutting and inflation and how this would affect the Council in the next 3 years.

Cllr Lowton went on to explain that Pevensey Parish Council has the 12th lowest Precept in Wealden and a lower precept than Westham, Hooe and Herstmonceux. Pevensey was one of only few Parish Councils that reduced their precept in the last 5-year period. He explained that given the reduction in Government Support Grant, inflation and the reduction in services by ESCC that it is likely that the precept will have to increase but the aim is to keep this to a minimum.

Cllr Lowton advised that street lighting is currently not included in the first draft as more information was required. But he advised that in year 1 of the plan it was intended to change the 34 sodium street lights to LED lights. The Sub Committee is currently trying to find grants and other schemes to fund this without raising precept. In years 2 -3 the Council will explore changing the rest of the lights to LED. He explained by changing the lights this would generate a benefit for the environment and save money in long run through lower electricity bills. There are also options of dimming and switching the lights off which the current street lights cannot do.

Cllr Lowton then handed over to Cllr Howard to explain the draft in more detail.

Cllr Howard advised that the draft is designed so that it is easy to follow gives an overview of who Pevensey Parish Council are and what they do and have control of. She then went on to say that the plan is a rolling document which will be continually updated with what the Council have planned, and their aspirations are and how they have achieved them and any funding.

Cllr Howard then talked through the first draft of the 3 year plan outlining its contents and aspirations.

Cllr Lowton thanked Cllr Howard and added that she recommends that one of the proposals was to increase the grants funding from £4000 to £7000 as over the last few years it has reduced. The idea being to help support local initiatives that benefit the local community,

where appropriate. He explained the grants process would need to be updated. Cllr Lowton then asked Council for their views and suggestions on the draft plan.

Cllr Beaney wanted to thank the Sub Committee for their hard work and input with 3-year plan. He then asked if it would work as a new project each year or it would roll on. Cllr Lowton advised that some projects like street lighting and a pedestrian crossing would take more research and more work over the next few years. He also advised that the plan itself be revised each year and kept up to date.

Cllr Beck suggested that the draft needs to have page numbers and column headers. She also would like the figures and stats to be more specific to Pevensey rather than WDC and ESCC. Cllr Howard will investigate more Pevensey based statistic. She also asked about the Community Surgeries. Cllr Lowton said he understood that the proposal was for this would take affect from April 2019 and this would be linked with having the District, County and possibly the local MP in attendance. Councillors would need to be well sighted on the issues, topics and feel confident to deal with them. His aspiration is for Council to be more accessible but is wary of Councillors limited time and advised it needs work.

Cllr Scott thought the draft it was a good informative document and liked that if an item cropped up it can be added to the document.

Cllr Burton thought it was an excellent document. She suggested that the whole document is done in black font and boxes are altered so that it is accessible for all readers. Cllr Howard advised that the layout is still a working progress and it will need to be formalised and front tested. It will also need to be tested on all device platforms. Cllr Burton also suggested that roles and responsibilities are split by what Council must do legally and what they want to do as a Council. Also, to bullet point and make it clear the roles and responsibilities of ESCC and WDC and how they deal with matters.

Cllr Beaney asked about the costs to Council with keeping the document up to date. To which Cllr Lowton advised it depends if it was to be produced as a PDF document which would be 'free' and easier to amend, but hard copies would have a small charge for printing and updating. He felt Council should wonder how the plan should be made available in due course.

Overall Council was very supportive of the 3 year draft plan.

Cllr Lowton raised the issue of a short questionnaire that could be sent to the residents of Pevensey and Pevensey Bay asking for their feedback on what's most important to them using this list provided on the questionnaire he had recently send to Councillors.

He advised this could be sent out using a mail drop or an online survey, but the information would need to be collated by January's Meeting. The general concern from some Councillors was the potential cost and whether many responses would be received. Views were expressed that it would provide other benefits including the opportunity to share information and about the Parish Council. Cllr Slater advised on the potential costs to send out a questionnaire which was quite low.

Cllr Belcher felt it was a good idea as it gets the residents engaged and it shows trust between Council and the parishioners. Cllrs Burton and Pursglove also agreed. Council felt that this was a good way to engage with the residents and shows that Council take on board residents views and feedback.

The aim would be to get the views of the parishioners and collate the date before Christmas ready for January's meeting. The Funds allocated for the production and distribution will be £250 but this is to be kept to a minimum.

Cllr Lowton proposed that Council issue a short questionnaire leaflet to all houses holds in the Parish to raise awareness of the Parish Council role and responsibilities and to gain an understanding of the publics most important priorities. A budget of up to £250 will be allocated. Seconded by Cllr Belcher. Carried 10/2 with Cllrs Peasgood and Beaney against.

10. Review of Car Parking Charges in Sea Road and North Road Car Park

Cllr Slater gave a brief explanation of the paper presented to Council with regards to the proposal from WDC to change and up date the lease on Sea Road Car Park. Cllr Slater asked for the views of Council to whether they want to keep the 33%, but this would mean employing a ticket warden in the peak times of the summer period.

Council felt that this has been rushed with very little information provided from WDC and that we have very little choice in matter. There was also concerns that this will have an impact on the public relations with Council and residents. There was also concerns that this would have impact on events that are carried out at the Car Park ie Vehicles of Yesteryear.

Cllr Lowton explained Council have two options with regards to WDC's request for a Warden:

- Council do not provide a warden and just collect the money. The income would then decrease from 33 % to about 5 % which wouldn't be beneficial to the Council and the monies would have to be found elsewhere.
- Council employ a Warden with any training needs being done by WDC and retain the income from the Car Park. For the peak times during the summer period.

The following proposals were made with regards to Wealden District Council's request for a warden.

Cllr Slater proposed we retain the free parking in North Road Car Park, seconded by Cllr Burton. All agreed.

Cllr Slater proposed that we employ a warden subject to WDC providing the appropriate authorisation and meeting the training needs requirement for the person(s) concerned. With flexible hours agreed by the Parish Council and a possible revenue increase in percentage on all car park incomes. Seconded by Cllr Lowton. All agreed.

Cllr Beaney proposed that fees remain the same of £3 for all day and the Car Park to remain free over the winter period. Seconded by Cllr Withey. Carried 8/2 with Cllrs Burton and Belcher against. Cllr Slater abstained.

Cllr Withey asked if a strongly worded letter can be written to WDC with Councils concerns how this has been dealt with and the inflexible timeframes given.

11. Proposal for Pevensey Parish to join 'Plastic Free Community Initiative'

Cllr Burton gave a brief explanation of her paper that had been circulated to Council. She asked Council to support the scheme and to pass a resolution supporting the journey to a plastic free community status. She advised that Council are already 1 step ahead by having 4 litter picks a year.

The general sense from Council was that this was a good idea. Cllr Lowton asked if the local steering group would be Council lead or not. Cllr Burton advised this would be an independent group and no cost to the Council. She also advised there is a meeting at the Ocean View where business can get involved.

Cllr Burton proposed that Council passes the resolution to support the journey to be a Plastic Free Community. Seconded by Cllr Belcher. Carried 8/3 with Cllrs Rabbitts, Beaney and Pursglove against. Cllr Withey abstained.

12. Information Day

The Clerk advised that the Information Day will be held on the 27th April 2019 in both church halls in Pevensey Bay and there would be a small cost for beverages for participants. Volunteer would also be required to run the Pevensey Parish Council stand and setup.

Cllr Burton suggested that a new banner for the event would be a good idea.

Cllr Lowton thanked Council for their supportive comments, ideas and feedback. He advised that the Clerk would to pass these on to Cllr Mackinnon.

Cllr Lowton proposed Council approve the date of the 27th April 2019 for the Information Day and allocate a budget of £50. Seconded by Cllr Slater. All agreed.

13. Vehicles of Yesteryear

Cllr Pursglove advised there are two dates in mind for the event. The 30th March 2019 or 6th April 2019. He advised there will be no budget required from Council at this time.

Cllr Pursglove proposed Council approve the date of the 6th April for the Vehicles of Yesteryear event to take place at Sea Road Car Park, with no budget required at this time. Seconded by Cllr Rabbitts. Carried 12/1 Cllr Belcher against as she is concerned about using Sea Road Car Park. The Clerk will confirm with WCD that the Car Park will remain free to use for the event.

14. Village in Bloom

The Clerk advised the Village in Bloom event will be held on from the 15th to 19th July 2019 and suggested Council provide a sponsored donation of £100 to help with the costs of engraving, prizes and a small gift for the Judge.

Cllr Lowton proposed that Council agree to the date provided for the Village in Bloom event and provided a sponsorship of £100. Seconded by Cllr Burton. All agreed.

15. Correspondence

The Clerk read out an email from Margaret Martin with an expressed view there should be a Council representative with regards to the Library given the grant agreed. This was noted by Council.

The Clerk read an email from a group called 'Community Stuff' who want approval to put on a two hour event once a week for families during the School and Easter holidays. They would like to use the two recreation grounds in Pevensey.

Cllr Burton proposed that we support and approve the project. Seconded by Cllr Howard. All agreed.

The Clerk read out a letter from Rotary Club of St. Leonards on Sea. Requesting Council given them to use permission to use the area near the East Gate of the Castle as a stopping point for refreshments for cyclists on Sunday 28th April 2019.

Cllr Beaney propose that we give the Rotary Club permission to use the East Gate of the Castle. Seconded by Cllr Pursglove. All agreed.

The Clerk asked if Cllr Slater could leave the room before reading the next Correspondence.

Cllr Lowton gave a brief explanation of the letter circulated to Councillors from Robert Slater on behalf of HEALTH4LIFE CIC. They are raising funds for a defibrillator and have request permission from the Council that the defibrillator can be placed on the Ethel Wood Community Centre. He advised that the Clerk has created an agreement between the Council and HEALTH4LIFE clearly setting out the with responsibilities of both parties.

Cllr Pursglove proposed that Council give the permission for the defibrillator to be placed on Ethel Wood Community Centre. Seconded by Cllr Burton. All agreed.

Cllr Slater returned to the meeting.

16. Matters of Urgent Public Safety

Nothing to Report.

17. Chairman's Remarks

Cllr Lowton thanked Councillor's for all their ongoing efforts and hard work that has been put into the Parish and hoped that Council could to continue to build on past achievements and through the 3 year plan meet the financial challenges facing Council.

He reminded Council about the Remembrances Service taking place at St Nicolas's Church on Sunday 11th November 2018 at 10:45am and mentioned that there was usually a pew reserved for Parish Councillors.

18. Orders of Payment

The listing appears at the end of these minutes as an integral part. Proposed Cllr. Pursglove seconded Cllr. Burton that these be accepted as presented. All agreed except Cllr. Beaney, who declared a pecuniary interest.

19. Plan

WD/2018/LDE Mobile Home at 6 Grey Tower Bungalow, Grey Tower Road, Pevensey Bay – Existing Buildings used as C3 Dwelling.

NO OBJECTIONS – Proposed Cllr Burton Seconded Cllr Pursglove. Carried 12/1 Cllr Belcher against.

WD/2018/2086F – 1 The Promenade, Pevensey Bay – Removal of existing rear single storey extension and erection of new side and rear extension.

NO OBJECTIONS – Proposed Cllr Scott Seconded Cllr Howards. All agreed.

WD/2018/1596F – 1 Wallsend Road, Pevensey Bay – Proposed conversion of dance studio to 6No. flats with two storey rear extensions and additional floor – (amended floor layout and updated FRA and highway report received dated stamped 22/10/18)

OBJECTED – Cllr Slater proposed that we object on the same grounds as the last application. Loss of the iconic building, parking issues, not in keeping with the rest of the village and over shadowing. Seconded by Cllr Burton. Carried 12/1 Cllr Belcher against.

WD/2018/2279/FR – Moonfair, Norman Road, Pevensey Bay – Retrospective permission for in-fill first floor extension to rear and side elevation and associated works.

Cllr Pursglove proposed we object on the grounds that this is not in keeping with with rest of the house. Seconded by Cllr Beany not carried 4/8 against the proposal with 1 abstention.

NO OBJECTIONS – Proposed Cllr Slater. Seconded Cllr Burton. Carried 8/4 with Cllrs Pursglove, Beaney, Scott and Howard against. Cllr Peasgood abstained.

20. Advisory Officers Reports

- **Sea Defences and Water Management** – Nothing to Report – Cllr Pursglove advised the beach shingle is currently being moved as per schedule and the sand levels are starting to build up.
- **St. Wilfrid's Hall** – Cllr Withey had nothing to report. Cllr Pursglove will send a letter to the St Wifrid's committee to request sola panels to be placed on the roof of St Widfrid's.
- **Ethel Wood Community Centre** – Nothing to Report
- **St. John's Trust** – Cllr Beck advised that the new bungalow in Weaverly Gardens is currently being completely re-decorated and new couple will be moving in the 1st December 2018. Cllr Burton asked if next time an advert is advertised if an email address can be added to the application.
- **Town Trust** – Cllr Scott advised the planning application as been given to WDC and they have received a donated replica chain of Armor.
- **Sports Club** – Cllr Lowton advised we are still waiting for a meeting date to discuss the ongoing matters.
- **WDALC** – Nothing to report as Cllr Mackinnon absent.
- **Memorial Hall** – Cllr Beaney advised the new men's toilets have been installed and the decoration is going well. They are having issues with parking at the memorial hall at the weekends due to football games in Wallsend.
- **Tree Warden** – Cllr Beaney advised that he has received a report with the TPOS in Pevensey and Pevensey Bay and areas of conservation. A report should be sent to the Clerk.

21. Committee Minutes

Planning

Proposed Cllr. Slater seconded Cllr. Scott that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd October 2018 be accepted as a true and accurate record. All agreed Cllr Belcher abstained. Proposed Cllr. Slater seconded Cllr Scott that these Minutes be adopted by the Council. All Agreed. Cllrs Beck and Belcher abstained

Recreation and Beach

Proposed Cllr. Howard seconded Cllr. Withey that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd October 2018 be accepted as a true and accurate record. All agreed. Cllrs Belcher and Beck abstained. Proposed Cllr. Howard seconded Cllr Burton that these Minutes be adopted by the Council. All Agreed. Cllrs Beck and Belcher abstained

Highways and Byways

Proposed Cllr. Beaney seconded Cllr. Howard that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd October 2018 be accepted as a true and accurate record. All agreed Cllr Beck abstained. Proposed Cllr. Beaney seconded Cllr Rabbitts that these Minutes be adopted by the Council. All Agreed. Cllrs Beck and Belcher abstained

Finance and General Purposes

Proposed Cllr. Pursglove seconded Cllr. Withey that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd October 2018 be accepted as a true and accurate record. All agreed Cllr Beck abstained. Proposed Cllr. Pursglove seconded Cllr Slater that these Minutes be adopted by the Council. All Agreed. Cllrs Beck and Belcher abstained

22. Public Excluded to Consider Tenders for Grass Cutting Services

Cllr Slater proposed that we excluded the public from the meeting to consider the tender for grass cutting. Seconded by Cllr Burton. All agreed.

23. Decision Regarding Tender Grass Cutting 1st April 2019

A decision was made by Council.

The public could return to the meeting.

24. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 4th December 2019

Meeting Closed at 9.40pm

DRAFT