

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AMENITIES AND SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON 6th NOVEMBER 2018 IN THE ROSE ROOM OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

PRESENT: Cllrs. J Wogan (Chairman), Hill, R. Lewin, Pritchitt, Summers & Williams

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. McKinney & Josephson
NOT PRESENT:

IN ATTENDANCE: The Clerk and Assistant Clerk. 1 member of public

581/18 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No public present at this time.

582/18 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. McKinney due to family commitments & Cllr. Josephson due to work.

583/18 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS PERTAINING TO THE ITEMS BELOW

Name	Min. No.	Category of Interest	Reason
None			

584/18 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- The Minutes of the meeting held on 12th June 2018 were proposed for acceptance by Cllr. Williams, seconded by Cllr. R Lewin and were signed as a true record.
- There were no objections to the deletion of the digital transcript of the meeting of 12th June 2018.
- The Minutes of the meeting held on 31st July 2018 were proposed for acceptance by Cllr. Pritchitt, seconded by Cllr. Hill and were signed as a true record.
- There were no objections to the deletion of the digital transcript of the meeting of 31st July 2018.

585/18 CLERKS REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING NOT LISTED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

- The allotment hedge – the hedge surrounding Johnson’s Field has become too big to cut by hand. The Clerk is negotiating for a mechanical cut to make it manageable. NOTED
- Step painting – The handyman is currently renewing the non-slip paint on the steps at Newlands Place & elsewhere. NOTED
- Rush Green headwalls – Currently being constructed. NOTED
- Sign to Mews – There was no objection from the original sign provider, so this will be replaced. NOTED
- Gilham Spring – A quote for renovation work has been received, approval from the Conservation Officer is awaited. NOTED
- The Canal – A date is being negotiated for the ‘formal opening’. NOTED
- SLR Matters – Notes of the meeting of 1st October had been previously circulated. NOTED
- Footpaths – Rights of Way have notified us that repair works to Path 53 will be carried out shortly. NOTED
- Play Areas – The report from RoSPA is being gone through to see what can be done in-house and what may require contractor support. NOTED
- Skatepark repairs & drainage – The main contractor has agreed to deal with these items as part of the Venu works. NOTED
- Streetlights – Committee to note that the regular maintenance programme is proceeding but has been particularly intensive and costly of recent months. NOTED
- Ashurst Wood burials – The Ashurst Wood Village Council has now formally ratified the proposal to allow special cemetery rates in return for a maintenance contribution. NOTED

- Cemetery Trees – A tree surgeon will be inspecting the large cedars later this month to ensure they are sound for the winter. NOTED
- Cemetery land purchase – Sight is awaited of the professional valuation. NOTED
- Devolved Services – Further proposals are awaited from East Sussex County Council. Wealden District Council has no plans to devolve any of its services 'at the present time'. NOTED
- Tree Warden – A qualified person willing to undertake a survey of our trees has been found, which will be at a cost. NOTED

586/18 FINANCIAL REPORT

1. Financial position to mid-month 7 had been previously circulated and was NOTED.
2. Draft Budget for 2019-2020. This was discussed. Cllr. R Lewin proposed a review of the assumptions and calculations on which the decision to take outdoor maintenance in house were based and its progress thereafter. This was seconded by Cllr. Pritchitt and AGREED with 1 against.

Cllr. Wogan asked that the following nominated reserves be considered.

Playground equipment	£ 5,000.00
Purchase of cemetery land	Unspecified amount.

Cllr. Hill proposed that the draft budget be adopted. This was seconded by Cllr. Pritchitt and AGREED.

A Member of the public – Mr Trevor Unwin joined the meeting.

587/18 ALLOTMENTS

- Admin Report:
 - 13 people on the waiting list inside the Parish
 - 1 person on the waiting list outside the Parish
 - No one on the waiting list for raised beds
 - There are no empty plots on Johnson's Field
 - There are no empty plots on the new site.
 - Allotments are being advertised on the website and notice boards.
 - Rent – 18 plots still outstanding. Letters to be sent.
 - Leaf mould – notices and e-mails sent asking people to help themselves. NOTED
- Allotment rep for New site – Annette Armstrong has sadly passed away. A new rep needs to be appointed. Plot holders to be contacted to ask if anyone willing to take on. It was NOTED that the adverts should be amended as there are none available for immediate tenancy.

Cllr. Wogan proposed that Standing Orders be suspended to let Mr Unwin speak. This was seconded by Cllr. Pritchitt and AGREED.

He reiterated his points made in a letter that would be dealt with later in the meeting.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

- Cllr. Summers had suggested revisions to the allotment rules. These had been previously circulated. Cllr. R Lewin offered to investigate the sizing of fruit trees and advise Committee accordingly.
Cllr. Wogan proposed that Cllrs. Summers and Wogan and Janet Lamprell meet to go through the tenancy agreement and bring proposals to the next meeting.
- A letter of complaint had been received from Mr Unwin. His points were considered. Cllr. Pritchitt proposed that the Clerk reply to the correspondent in the terms of the discussion. This was seconded by Cllr. Hill and AGREED.

588/18 OUTDOOR MAINTENANCE

1. Ashdown surgery request – The surgery wish to enlarge their access onto the A22 for safety reasons – across a piece of village green land. Cllr. R Lewin proposed that a reply be sent saying that we would be willing to look favourably on an acceptable plan, if regulations allow it, with a lease on a peppercorn rent & appropriate road markings. This was seconded by Cllr. Williams and AGREED.
2. Bollards on Ashdown Road – The necessary posts have been purchased. The Clerk to chase up the matter of the contribution from the resident’s association.
3. Gilham Bank renovation – Cllr. Williams proposed that the clearance work go ahead, and a grant be applied for. This was seconded by Cllr. Hill and AGREED.
4. Ornamental areas –
 - o Chequers flower bed – Mrs Susie Kemp had informed Council that she was no longer able to look after the flower bed. She will continue to tend the war memorial bed and the planters on Hartfield Road. She had expressed her willingness to fund an extra row of bricks on the Chequers bed as the soil was higher than the surround. Cllr. Wogan proposed that a letter be written in the terms of the Committee’s discussion. This was seconded by Cllr. Pritchitt and AGREED.
 - o Newlands Place Planters – It was agreed that primulas would be purchased to put in the planters.
 - o Telephone Exchange – Cllr. Wogan proposed that BT be written to asking them to tidy and clear the area. This was seconded by Cllr. Williams and AGREED.
 - o Verge Cutting – There was much discussion on this matter. Cllr. R Lewin proposed that Forest Row Parish Council continue with East Sussex County Council’s 2 cuts per year and research options for additional cuts. This was seconded by Cllr. Pritchitt and AGREED.

Withyham Parish Council had made an approach to the Council to go into partnership with regard to grass cutting. Details and a map had been previously circulated. Cllr. Hill proposed that considering travelling time, and the necessary purchase of new equipment, it was impractical at this time. This was seconded by Cllr. Pritchitt and AGREED.

589/18 STREETLIGHTS

A resident had made a proposal via the Chairman of the Committee for an additional streetlight in Priory Road. This was deemed too expensive. Cllr. Hill proposed that this request be refused. This was seconded by Cllr. Williams and AGREED.

590/18 CEMETERY

I. Report:

- Memorials and additional inscriptions approved since the last meeting

Headstone	EB73	Paterson
Add inscription	270	Nulty
Add inscription	JJ4	Outten
Headstone	EA47	Freeman
Headstone	697	Thomson
Bulbs	EA33	Edwards

- Deeds of grant of exclusive right to burial issued since the last meeting

Deed No. 1320	EB60	Griffin
Deed No. 1321	EB59	Lessem
Deed No. 1322	EB58	Sollars
Deed No. 1323	GOR214	Grantham
Deed No. 1324	EB56	Westmuckett
Deed No. 1326	EB31	Dyke

- Headstones laid down for safety since the last meeting

Barton	722N	Stake and band
Luxford	725N	Stake and band
Cook	711N	Stake and band
Holt	685N	Stake and band
Tremayne	684N	Stake and band
Cleverly	682N	Stake and band
Clark	680N	Stake and band
Wickham	348	Stake and band
Edgill	311A	Letter re unauthorised kerb
Gilbert	304	Laid down
- Deeds of Grant transferred since the last meeting

Deed No. 1011	JB1	Saunders
Deed No. 1012	JB2	Saunders
Deed No. 596	680N	Clark
Deed No. 351	1360	Bishop
Deed No. 1145	769A	Peverall
Deed No. 918	JJ4	Outten

NOTED

- ii. Correspondence had been received from a resident about the proposal to cut away the front boundary wall where it is under pressure from a mature oak tree. This matter was discussed. Cllr. Wogan proposed that the decision to cut away the wall be adhered to. This was seconded by Cllr. Pritchitt and AGREED.

591/18 CORRESPONDENCE

A written request had been received from a resident to consider a new pathway on Forester’s Green parallel to the Hartfield Road pavement. This was considered. Cllr. Wogan proposed that the resident be thanked for their suggestion, but it was felt that there was adequate pavement already and would not be taken any further. This was seconded by Cllr. Pritchitt and AGREED.

592/18 ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION BY THIS COMMITTEE OR FULL COUNCIL

Cllr. Wogan asked that a review of the Best Kept Garden competition be put on the next agenda.

The meeting closed at 9.38pm.

SIGNED.....(Chairman) DATE.....