

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AMENITIES AND SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON 11th JUNE 2019 IN THE ROSE ROOM OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7.30PM

PRESENT: Cllrs. J Wogan (Chairman), Hill, Josephson, R Lewin, McNally & Summers

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Royall and Williams
NOT PRESENT:

IN ATTENDANCE: The Clerk and Assistant Clerk.

Cllr. Wogan welcomed all members to the new term of office and thanked all for electing her as Chairman of Amenities & Services Committee.

167/19 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No public present.

168/19 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Royall due to holiday & Cllr. Williams due to family commitments.

169/19 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS PERTAINING TO THE ITEMS BELOW

| Name | Min. No. | Category of Interest | Reason |
|------|----------|----------------------|--------|
| None | | | |

170/19 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- The Minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2019 were proposed for acceptance by Cllr. Hill, 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 5th February 2019.

171/19 CLARIFICATION OF ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

None

172/19 CLERKS REPORT ON MATTERS OUTSTANDING WHICH DO NOT REQUIRE A DECISION

1. The new ride-on mower – this was delivered on 24th April. It is much quicker and easier to manoeuvre than its predecessor.
2. Current Tree Work – Two smaller trees in the cemetery have died back and will have to be cut down, and a large tree in Stone Park Drive has dangerous hanging branches. Two trees on Foresters Green also need attention, but require permission as being within the Conservation Area. The ‘parish tree survey’ appears to have ground to a halt, and the Clerk is chasing this up.
3. Bollards – the bollards on Ashdown Close are still intact and helping to preserve the road edges. Bollards have been installed on the right-hand side of the Mews approach. This area has been fenced off and reseeded.
4. School Lane – inconsiderate parking and aggressive behaviour have been causing problems. The Parish Council are currently in negotiation with East Sussex, whose right of way it is, to find a solution.
5. Gilham Bank & Spring – Further grant funding for the Bank is being investigated and the refurbishment of the Spring will be revived.
6. Ashdown surgery access – There has been no more news on this. The local practice does not own the premises and this matter needs to be looked at by NHS Property Services.

NOTED

173/19 FINANCIAL REPORT

This had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

174/19 ALLOTMENTS

1. Admin Report:
 - 16 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
 - Vacancy for site rep on the New Site – this has now been filled by Susan Wright
 - A letter had been sent out to inform a plot holder to lower one side of his allotment poles to the same height as the other side, allowing the netting covering the top to lay flat – this has now been done.
 - A site inspection had been carried out in on 28th May.
 - Paul Neuman had agreed to judge the Allotment Competition this year.

NOTED

175/19 OUTDOOR MAINTENANCE

1. Verge Cutting – Committee agreed that the grass verge outside Chapel Cottages, Hartfield Road should be cut by the outdoor maintenance team as a concession.
2. An issue regarding an uncut verge in Freshfield Bank had been raised by a disabled resident – this was causing the lady inconvenience and cost. Cllr. Summers offered to talk to neighbours and see if one of them would be willing to do it.
Cllr. Hill proposed that the Parish Council cut the area of grass at the Freshfield Bank/Priory Road junction, so the sight lines were clear. Seconded by Cllr. R Lewin and AGREED.
3. Maintenance of Jubilee Garden – the volunteer who has looked after routine maintenance of the Jubilee Garden is now retiring. A potential volunteer had not materialised. The issue remained unresolved.

Cllr. Josephson joined the meeting at 7.55pm.

176/19 TREE PLANTING

A proposal had been received for tree planting from an organisation called “New Enchantment”, working in partnership with the Woodland Trust.

There was discussion about this matter. Cllr. Hill proposed that we reply saying that this was a lovely idea but the area that we understood was being proposed does not belong to the Parish Council and they would need to negotiate with the owners. The Parish Council would welcome trees elsewhere but there are a lot of utility services on the land behind the play area.

This was seconded by Cllr. Summers and AGREED.

177/19 PLAY AREA AND SKATEPARK

1. Repairs to the Playpark – An application for grant funding had been unsuccessful. Consideration for repairs would be deferred until after the annual RoSPA inspection later this month. Cllr. Hill reported that play parks in Horsham had patch repaired the base successfully and suggested the Clerk contact Horsham Town Council to find out the company concerned.
AGREED
2. To consider the location & upkeep of the ‘adult gym’ – this was deferred until after the RoSPA inspection.
AGREED
3. To review the skatepark extension proposal – The prospective designer had asked what the Council’s attitude would be to alternative sites for the extension. Maps had been previously circulated. It was NOTED that the project was still subject to funding.
This was discussed. Cllr. Hill proposed that the family be contacted and told that the Council is supportive of the proposal but the idea needs adaptation taking into account the underground services, the path, safety and preservation of tree roots. She suggested that an informal meeting be held with the family and the designer to discuss the issues with the Clerk. This was seconded by Cllr. McNally and AGREED.

178/19 CEMETERY

1. Report:

- Memorials and additional inscriptions approved since the last meeting

| | | |
|-----------|--------|---------|
| Deed 1201 | EA8 | Markies |
| Deed 1317 | EB52 | Plater |
| Deed 1328 | GOR231 | Wigley |
| Deed 1055 | 1605 | Larkin |

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

| | | |
|---------------|--------|----------|
| Deed No. 1328 | GOR231 | Wigley |
| Deed No. 1329 | GOR232 | Carabine |
| Deed No. 1330 | 1613A | Mills |
| Deed No. 1331 | EB43 | Gordon |

- Headstones laid down for safety since the last meeting

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Lawn Memorial | EA – Contact Mason to refix | Hibbs Kenneth |
|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|

- Deeds of Grant transferred since the last meeting

| | | |
|----------|-----|---------|
| Deed 989 | JE5 | Regenye |
|----------|-----|---------|

REMAINING SPACES

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Total Full Burial Plots – Adult | 174+4 |
| Total Garden of Remembrance Plots | 79 |
| Total Child Plots | 10 |

NOTED

2. To consider cemetery fees – Cllr. Hill proposed that all fees should be increased by 2.5% - rounded up to the nearest pound, with effect from 1st July 2019.

Cllr. McNally proposed that fees should be increased by 2.5% for parishioners and 5% for non-parishioners. There was no seconder for this proposal.

Cllr. R Lewin seconded Cllr. Hills' proposal and this was AGREED.

The Clerk was asked to ask the Burials Clerk how many non-parishioners had been interred in the last few years.

3. To review progress on additional cemetery land – another plot of land was being looked at and information was awaited from the Land Registry. NOTED
4. To consider a request for a sculpted memorial – this matter was now postponed.

179/19 BEST KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION

Cllr. Wogan advised that this was in hand and forms were already being collected. The closing date was 5th July and Cllr. Summers & Wogan, with Janet Lamprell would judge the competition.

NOTED

180/19 TO NOTE VILLAGE GREEN ENCROACHMENTS

A list of known encroachments had been previously circulated and was discussed.

Cllr. Hill proposed that owners of signs – particularly A-frames, should be contacted and told that permission must be asked, or they will be removed. Cllr. Wogan offered to make a list of A-frames on Parish Council land. Cllr. Josephson seconded the proposal and it was AGREED.

Cllr. Josephson proposed that the Ashdown Surgery be contacted and told that unless the driveway extension is negotiated within 6 months, the signs would be removed. This was seconded by Cllr. Hill and AGREED.

181/19 CORRESPONDENCE

None

182/19 ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION BY THIS COMMITTEE OR FULL COUNCIL

Cllr. Hill asked that the signage policy on Village Greens be reviewed at the next Amenities & Services meeting.

Cllr. Josephson asked that a space be set aside in the cemetery for memorials for stillborn and miscarried infants.

Cllr. Summers asked that weeds between roads and kerbs be discussed at a future meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

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