

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2023 IN THE GARDEN ROOM OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7.30PM.**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. Cocks, Eichner, la Djoï, Jaffay, Lewin & Waters

**APOLOGIES:** Cllrs. Scott & Volkers

**NOT PRESENT:** Cllr. Christie

**IN ATTENDANCE:** The Clerk, Asst Clerk. 2 members of public. District Cllr. Patterson-Vanegas

**91/23 PUBLIC QUESTIONS:**

Mr Keen said that he was impressed with the list of potential services that were being looked into, and hoped it could be published more widely.

**92/23 TO DESIGNATE A CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR THIS COMMITTEE**

Cllr. Eichner proposed Cllr. Lewin as Chair of this Committee. This was seconded by Cllr. Waters and AGREED.

Cllr. Lewin proposed Cllr. la Djoï as Vice Chair of this Committee. This was seconded by Cllr. Waters and AGREED.

**93/23 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Scott (away) & Volkers (holiday).

Cllr. Lewin read out some brief words of reflection as recently used by the Chair of Wealden District Council at the beginning of their meetings.

Cllr. Lewin proposed that these or similar words could be used at the commencement of each Community Services meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. la Djoï and AGREED.

Cllr. Lewin announced that former Councillor Fred Bishop had passed away. His work for the Parish as both Councillor and Chairman for many years was acknowledged.

Cllr. Lewin advised that he had the funeral details of James Adler (former Ashdown Forest CEO)

**94/23 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS PERTAINING TO THE ITEMS BELOW**

Name	Min. No.	Category of Interest	Reason
Cllr. Eichner		Personal	Involved in website construction

**95/23 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2023 were proposed for acceptance by Cllr. Eichner, seconded by Cllr Lewin and AGREED

There were no objections to the deletion of the digital transcript of that meeting.

**96/23 CLARIFICATION OF ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING**

1. Improving the website – this was discussed and Cllr. Eichner volunteered to build a new system at no cost . Cllr. Lewin proposed that Cllr. Eichner give a report to Full Council of his recommendations for the new website (a budget for designers would be needed). This was seconded by Cllr. Waters and AGREED
2. Creating a new newsletter – Cllr. Lewin proposed that Cllr. Eichner would exercise overall editorial control of a new newsletter and would report on progress to the next Full Council meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Waters and AGREED.
3. Purchasing a thermal camera- Cllr. Lewin proposed that this purchase go ahead (formerly voted). This was seconded by Cllr. la Djoï and AGREED.

Cllr. Lewin asked that the Parish Council liaise with Friends of the Medway with a view to joint action and cooperation in a pollution monitoring project.

It was noted that there had not been a lot of take up of the Warm Spaces and no report was forthcoming.

Cllr. la Djoï asked what the relationship was between the Business Forum and the Parish Council. It was advised that there was no formal link between the two.

### **97/23 FINANCIAL REPORT**

This had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

It was suggested that Wealdlink should be advertised in our new newsletter. Also that more details of the service were obtained for a future meeting.

### **98/23 THE MARKET**

Cllr. Lewin advised that there had unfortunately been some cancellations at the July market so it was quieter than expected, but successful overall. Cllr. Lewin would suggest that Emily Pyle contact Kate Taylor-Smith re stalls that attended the Farmers market.

### **99/23 GAGES COMMUNITY LUNCHES**

A report from Sandra Ayles covering this service had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

### **100/23 THURSDAY CLUB**

A report from Sandra Ayles covering this service had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

### **101/23 LIBRARY VOLUNTEER SERVICE**

A report from Sandra Ayles covering this service had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

### **102/23 YOUTH SERVICE**

A report had been received from Mel Mesher and was circulated.

Cllr. Waters to liaise with Mel Mesher about future youth projects and report back to Council.

### **103/23 THE 'SHED' PROJECT**

Cllr. Lewin advised that the next step was to appoint an architect (hopefully *pro bono*). In the meantime, he asked that all members look out for a building that could be used temporarily for storage and to gauge interest. Cllr Jaffay will be undertaking a consultation (through a working group) to find out the levels of community support

NOTED

### **104/23 EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT PROVISION**

This was discussed and Cllr. Jaffay proposed that – assuming that Working Groups are formally agreed at the Finance & Policy meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> July, this could be taken on by the To&Frow group and ask the community what they thought would be required. This was seconded by Cllr. Lewin and

AGREED

### **105/23 THE "TO&FROW" GROUP**

This was discussed and The Clerk confirmed that the formation of Working Groups would be discussed at the Finance & Policy Committee meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> July. Cllr. Lewin thanked Cllr. Jaffay for her hard work in getting this group started.

### **106/23 A CAR CLUB PROPOSAL**

An approach had been made suggesting a new format. This had been looked at and it was advised that this was not suitable for our situation.

### **107/23 A VILLAGE 'HUB'**

This was discussed and it would be on the next Community Services Committee agenda for discussion.

### **108/23 A COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP**

This was discussed and it was felt that this content would be covered by other Working Groups – it was agreed to see if this was the case and revisit if necessary. In the meantime, Cllr. Lewin would speak to Ken Farrar (a former Parish Councillor who was involved in the original Group).

### **109/23 ROAD SAFETY MEASURES**

Cllr. Lewin advised that more volunteers were needed for the Speedwatch group in the village.

The Council had been advised that to qualify for any consideration of a 20 mph speed limit an independent traffic survey would have to be submitted to Highways. Cllr. Lewin proposed that the cost of a traffic survey be investigated. This was seconded by Cllr. la Djo and AGREED.

**110/23 ITEMS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY THIS COMMITTEE OR FULL COUNCIL**

Cllr. Waters asked that a report regarding the formation of a Youth Forum be put on the next agenda.  
District Cllr. Patterson-Vanegas asked that Befriending be put on the next agenda.  
Cllr. Eichner advised that he had been working with Cllr. Harvey on internal and external communications. He asked that WhatsApp Communities be trialled from now until the next meeting, when this would be reviewed.

The meeting closed at 9.23 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman