

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON 14th FEBRUARY 2023 IN THE GARDEN ROOM OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7.30PM.

PRESENT: Cllrs. T Lewin (Chairman), Davies, Eichner & Pritchitt
APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Josephson, Moore & Waters
NOT PRESENT: Cllr. R Lewin
IN ATTENDANCE: The Clerk, Asst Clerk. Mel Mesher & Janie Mesher (Youth Service) & Kate Taylor-Smith, Lynn Squires & Simon Couldry (Second Life)

1/23 PUBLIC QUESTIONS:

None

2/23 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Josephson (away), Moore (ill health) & Waters (family)

3/23 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS PERTAINING TO THE ITEMS BELOW

Name	Min. No.	Category of Interest	Reason
None			

4/23 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 29th November 2022

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 29th November 2022 were proposed for acceptance by Cllr. Davies seconded by Cllr Eichner and AGREED
There were no objections to the deletion of the digital transcript of that meeting.

5/23 CLARIFICATION OF ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

Cllr. Pritchitt noted that there had been a proposal for a review of Gages at a future meeting.
Cllr. Pritchitt noted that reports on Warm Spaces & the Business Forum had been requested.

6/23 COMMITTEE CHAIRMANS COMMENTS

There was Government funding available for 'Active Travel'. Cllr. T Lewin would like to set up a Working Group to look into this further at the next meeting.
The *Friends of the Medway* group were assisting with a citizens science report analysing water in the River Medway. Cllr. T Lewin advised that he would like to extend the project into the Forest Row stretch of water and asked that this be put on to the next agenda.

7/23 FINANCIAL REPORT

This had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

8/23 GAGES COMMUNITY LUNCHES / THURSDAY CLUB

A report from Sandra Aylen covering these areas had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

9/23 LIBRARY VOLUNTEER SERVICE

The Clerk advised that this was now approved and would be starting shortly – on Fridays until 4pm. The volunteer schedule was being drawn up.

10/23 YOUTH SERVICE

A report had been received from Mel Mesher and was circulated. Cllr. Pritchitt asked for clarification of the attendance figures which Mel Mesher answered. The Committee was pleased to hear that the youth were working with the elderly as this was a return to initiatives begun by the Community Development Officer.

11/23 REPORT ON PROGRESS OF 'SECOND LIFE' SHOP

Cllr. T Lewin proposed that Standing Orders be suspended to enable the representatives to answer queries from Committee. This was seconded by Cllr. Davies and AGREED.
Lynn Squires advised that all was going better than expected and surplus monies were going toward paying back the loan from the Parish Council.
Cllr. Pritchitt asked if the 'voucher scheme' was permitted under the terms of the loan agreement. The Clerk provided her with a copy of the agreement and Kate Taylor-Smith explained that this had been checked and was a way of giving to the families in need with dignity and respect.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

12/23 TO NOTE UPDATE ON THE MARKET

Cllr. T Lewin advised that the March market would be cancelled as there was still no one in the post of Market Manager. However, he and the Clerk had spoken to a potential candidate about the position. She was very interested and had relevant experience. There were a few practical details to sort out, but it was hoped that the April market would go ahead. NOTED

13/23 TO NOTE UPDATE ON 'SHED' PROJECT

Cllr. T Lewin advised that there had been little progress as the other volunteers were busy but hopefully they would be able to get together for a meeting soon.
Cllr. Pritchitt asked how much this project would cost the Parish Council. Cllr. T Lewin explained that this had been advised previously – the Parish Council will only take the project as far as Planning Permission. Once this had been granted, it would be handed over to a Community Group to carry on. NOTED

14/23 TO NOTE UPDATE ON THE NEWSLETTER PROPOSAL

Cllr. T Lewin reported that there had been a couple of meetings and they have ideas for the content. Cllr. Eichner showed a 'mock up' of the newsletter. NOTED

15/23 TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO ENHANCE THE WEBSITE

Cllr. T Lewin explained that he felt the Council website should have a 'Community' section. Cllr. Eichner offered to help with the website.
Cllr. T Lewin suggested that Committee should look at the website of Chudleigh in Devon for ideas of how this could be done – and give feedback to him.

16/23 TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO PURCHASE A THERMAL CAMERA

This was discussed. Cllr. T Lewin proposed that a thermal camera be purchased at a cost of approx. £ 226.00. This was seconded by Cllr. Eichner and AGREED.

17/23 CORRESPONDENCE

None.

18/23 ITEMS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY THIS COMMITTEE OR FULL COUNCIL

Cllr. T Lewin suggested that the idea of a 'Park Run' be looked into to raise funds for the science equipment necessary to test the waters of the River Medway..

The meeting closed at 8:20 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman