

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON 30th JANUARY 2024 IN THE GARDEN ROOM OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7.30PM.

PRESENT: Cllrs. Lewin (Chair), Christie, Cocks, Eichner, Jaffay, la Djoï, Rainbow & Volkers

APOLOGIES: None

NOT PRESENT: Cllr. Scott

IN ATTENDANCE: The Clerk & Asst Clerk. 1 Member of public

10/24 PUBLIC QUESTIONS:

None

11/24 APOLOGIES

None

Cllr. Lewin read out a short poem.

12/24 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS PERTAINING TO THE ITEMS BELOW

Name	Min. No.	Category of Interest	Reason
None			

13/24 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 31st OCTOBER 2023

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 31st October 2023 were proposed for acceptance by Cllr. Lewin, seconded by Cllr Jaffay and **AGREED**

14/24 CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Cllr. Lewin said how sorry he was to hear that Sandra Sameiro had resigned and that she had done an excellent job for the five years she had been employed by the Council. He had signed the Parish Council up for the 'Weald to Waves' initiative.

15/24 CLERKS REPORT ON MATTERS NOT REQUIRING A DECISION

This had been previously circulated and was **AGREED**.

Thermal camera – Cllr. Lewin proposed that this would be lent to parishioners for up to 3 nights free of charge, with a returnable deposit of £ 20. This was seconded by Cllr. Volkers and **AGREED**.

Cllr. Lewin proposed that Item 9.3 – Subsidised counselling Service be discussed at this point. This was seconded by Cllr. Cocks and **AGREED**.

16/24 TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL FOR A SUBSIDISED COUNSELLING SERVICE

The member of the public, who identified herself as a representative of the Anderida practice, gave some input from her own experience. After discussion, Cllr. Lewin proposed that this initiative go ahead with the proposal with Cllrs. Eichner & Volkers finalising a few details. This at a cost of up to £1000 for a 6 month trial.

This was seconded by Cllr. Eichner and **AGREED**.

Cllr. Lewin raised an issue about the funding of the Repair Café and it was decided to refer this to Finance & Policy Committee.

17/24 TRIAGE OF OUTSTANDING ITEMS FROM THE 'ISSUES & IDEAS' LIST

Cllr. Lewin had prepared a 'matrix' of priorities. Cllrs Volkers & Jaffay felt there should be a more formal process of prioritisation. This was discussed. Cllrs. Christie, Jaffay & Volkers would meet and discuss the next steps. The explanation of this process would be brought to the next Community Services meeting.

18/24 GAGES COMMUNITY LUNCHES

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

19/24 THURSDAY CLUB

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

20/24 LIBRARY VOLUNTEER SERVICE

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

21/24 MARKET

There had been no report since December. This would start again in March.

22/24 YOUTH SERVICE

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

23/24 REPORTS/DECISIONS ON PROJECTS IN DEVELOPMENT

1. The 'Shed' Project – Cllr. Lewin reported that he had attended meetings, and it was thought that £3,500/£4,000 would be needed for surveys etc to get to the planning permission stage. A grant was being awarded from Second Life of £1,000.
2. Road safety/reduced speed limit – Following County Cllr. Taylor's report, the cost of speed awareness signs would be pursued.
3. Subsidised counselling service – this had already been discussed.
4. Environmental support – Cllr. Rainbow would investigate what equipment 'Friends of the River Medway' required and what support the Council could give.
5. Cooperation with East Sussex County Council IT4U project – Cllr. Eichner proposed that the Parish Council ask East Sussex County Council for funding for Forest Row to become a member of the IT4U one-on-one scheme. This was seconded by Cllr. Lewin and AGREED.
6. Forest Row Festival – Cllr. la Djoï reported that the Village Green had been booked for June 14-16th, with access to the VENUE. There was a further meeting at the beginning of February.

24/24 ITEMS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY THIS COMMITTEE OR FULL COUNCIL

Cllr. Christie asked for training in Conflict resolution/mediation be investigated. Also tool kit for street parties/awnings/buntings.

Cllr. Volkrs asked that a community education project be looked into how Local Government works and how to access services etc.

Cllr. Jaffay suggested that there be a branch of Community Outreach for people to drop in and be given advice.

Cllr. Rainbow suggested the Council speak with children to see what they would like to see in the village. Also for consideration: a 'library of tools', and was the name of the Council going to be changed?

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman

