

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FACILITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 5th NOVEMBER 2024
IN THE GARDEN ROOM OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7.30PM**

PRESENT: Cllrs. Eichner, Gilbert, Matthews, Rainbow, Summers & Waters

APOLOGIES: Cllr Scott

NOT PRESENT: Cllr. Cocks

IN ATTENDANCE: The Clerk, deputy clerk, 3 members of the public and Cllr. Taylor-Smith

189/24 Cllr Gilbert proposed himself as Chair of Facilities Committee. This was seconded by Cllr. Summers and AGREED

Cllr Summers stated that she would step down as Vice-Chair of the Committee

190/24 Cllr. Waters proposed that Cllr. Matthews be elected Vice Chair of Facilities Committee. This was seconded by Cllr. Eichner and AGREED.

191/24 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

A member of public commented that the Queens bench had been placed on Rush Green instead of Foresters Green as agreed at a previous Facilities Committee meeting. It was explained that this was a temporary measure until plans had been agreed for improvements on Foresters Green. The member of public suggested that it should be re-located to outside the Community Centre.

He asked what the progress of the bus shelter refurbishment was – it was advised that Edouard Hugo was making the shingles and still intended to undertake the repairs. Cllr. Waters volunteered to help with the installation of the shingles, once they were all made.

It was noted that the bus shelter at Post Horn Lane also needed repairs.

192/24 APOLOGIES

Cllr Scott (work)

193/24 RECORDS OF THE MEETING OF THE FACILITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 10th SEPTEMBER 2024

Cllr Eichner proposed that the minutes of the meeting of the 10th September be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Waters and AGREED.

194/24 Cllr. Gilbert proposed that item 5 of the agenda – ‘Festival Corner’ be dealt with at this point in the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Eichner and AGREED.

A member of the Village Club committee spoke about the ‘Festival Corner’ proposal. He explained that they were discussing where this could be placed and what it would look like. A donation from Forest Row Festival had been promised. He also asked if in the meantime a direction sign to the Club could be placed on the Station Road fence: he was advised to submit a proposal compliant with the existing signage policy.

195/24 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS PERTAINING TO THE ITEMS BELOW

Name	Min. No.	Category of Interest	Reason
None			

196/24 CLERKS REPORT ON MATTERS NOT REQUIRING A DECISION

1. Gilham Bank grant application – decision awaited from Lund fund– NOTED
2. Pothole Repairs – Ashdown Road completed and tarmac adjacent to Lantern House will be undertaken in next few weeks – NOTED
3. A22 verge parking – ‘No parking’ signs being investigated. NOTED
4. The children’s grave at the cemetery – almost ready for installation. NOTED

5. Crittall window installation – the application for grant funding from Wealden District Council is still pending – NOTED
6. New swings at the playpark – accessible swings have been installed. Quotes had been obtained for a new path on Rush Green to access the playpark & swings. There was discussion on the siting of the new path. Cllr. Waters offered to meet the contractor on site to discuss if there were any alternatives to the siting. Cllr. Gilbert proposed that the work go ahead subject to Cllr. Waters meeting the chosen contractor to see if any alternative propositions with a ceiling of £ 14,750 + VAT. This was seconded by Cllr. Eichner and AGREED with 1 abstention.
7. Streetlight repairs – A list of required streetlight repairs was circulated. It was suggested that Cllr. Summers should contact Ken Bonner of Streetlights direct to discuss the availability of heritage columns. NOTED
8. Trees in Park Crescent – survey being obtained – NOTED.

197/24 PROGRESS REPORTS (with decisions as required)

1. Community Centre refurbishment group – previous reports of required works to be forwarded to the Group
2. Gleeson land project –An ecological report had been obtained & circulated previously to all Members. A meeting of the group was arranged for 11th November at 4pm to discuss this and next steps. NOTED
3. Games area basketball hoop – Cllr. Gilbert proposed that a combined goal and hoop be purchased. This was seconded by Cllr. Summers and AGREED.
4. Cemetery consultation – Cllr. Matthews, along with the Clerk, had produced information for distribution into the Community ahead of the consultation in January by AiRS. This would be promoted on the website and social media. NOTED
5. Festival Corner group – this had been dealt with earlier in the meeting.
6. Village Green plan – More quotes for a topographical survey would be obtained. NOTED
7. Community Orchard – This was discussed and Cllr. Eichner proposed that this be taken to Full Council for discussion. This was seconded by Cllr. Summers and AGREED.

198/24 FINANCIAL ISSUES

1. Current financial report – This had been previously circulated and was NOTED
2. Facilities budget for 2025-26 – This was discussed. The subject of the street cleaning and litter project would be discussed at the next Full Council meeting. Cllr. Waters proposed that the draft budget as presented be adopted. This was seconded by Cllr. Eichner and AGREED.

199/24 ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION BY COMMITTEE OR FULL COUNCIL

Cllr. Summers asked that the issue of the upkeep of the twittens in the village be investigated.
Cllr. Gilbert asked that the subject of dog bins be discussed.

The meeting closed at 9.55pm.

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