

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD ON 9th FEBRUARY 2021 VIA ZOOM AT 7.30PM.

PRESENT: Cllrs. T Lewin (Chairman), Josephson, R Lewin, Miller, Moore and Wogan

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Waters and Williams

NOT PRESENT: Cllrs. Davies and Withers

IN ATTENDANCE: The Clerk and Asst Clerk. Sara Smart (Community Development Officer), Sue Young (Market Manager), Kate Taylor-Smith, Steven King and Robin Walden. Cllrs. Hill and Pritchitt as members of the public.

27/21 PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Kate Taylor-Smith spoke in support of the proposal to hold a farmers' market weekly in the village. It would sell only food, produced within a local radius, and have facilities for seed swapping and growing information. It would not compete with the existing monthly market. The proposal would be to use the VENUe games area. Cllrs R Lewin, Hill and Pritchitt expressed concerns over the use of the games area. Cllr Moore wondered if there was a risk to existing retailers in the village. (A more extended discussion took place later in the meeting).

28/21 APOLOGIES

Cllr Waters (personal reasons) and Cllr. Williams (technical reasons)

29/21 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS PERTAINING TO THE ITEMS BELOW

Name	Min. No.	Category of Interest	Reason
None			

30/21 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 17th NOVEMBER 2020

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17th November 2020 were proposed for acceptance by Cllr. Josephson seconded by Cllr. T Lewin and AGREED.

There were no objections to the deletion of the digital transcript of the meeting held on 17th November 2020.

31/21 CLARIFICATION OF ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

None

32/21 COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Cllr. T Lewin spoke regarding the 20's Plenty campaign. He reported that at the end of 2019, 104 streets in East Sussex were 20mph. He was continuing to support the campaign.

33/21 CLERKS REPORT ON MATTERS NOT REQUIRING A DECISION

1. Earth Protector goals – It had been resolved at the last meeting to see how an alignment between the Council's Environmental Policy and the Earth Protector principles could be accommodated. This was in hand.
2. Carbon footprint audit – It had been agreed that Quotes to pursue this would be obtained when the pandemic had 'stabilised'. Still pending.
3. Utility Usage – still pending due to the pandemic.
4. Free meals for children – It had been agreed at the last meeting to monitor the situation, but much of the ground is now being covered by the Community Fridge.

34/21 FINANCIAL REPORT to end month 10

This had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

35/21 FOREST ROW MARKET

A report from Sue Young had been previously circulated and was NOTED

36/21 VOLUNTARY MEDICAL CAR SERVICE

A report had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

37/21 HEARING AID SERVICE

A report had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

38/21 EV CHARGING UNIT

Charge Your Car had offered to upgrade our current system at no charge to ourselves. It would be investigated as to whether this included any additional installation costs.

39/21 COMMUNITY HELPLINE

A report had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

40/21 GAGES COMMUNITY LUNCHES

A report from Sandra Ayles had been previously circulated and was NOTED. Cllr. T Lewin thanked all those involved. The possibility of providing lunches on a Tuesday as well, was being looked into.

41/21 FROW FRIENDS IN THE AFTERNOON/ THURSDAY CLUB

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

42/21 REPAIR CAFÉ

A report from Sara Smart had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

43/21 FOREST ROW BUSINESS GROUP

A report from Sara Smart had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

44/21 YOUTH SERVICE

A report from Mel Mesher had been previously circulated and was NOTED.

45/21 SERVICE DEVELOPMENT

A report from the Community Development Officer and been previously circulated and was NOTED.

Cllr. T Lewin proposed that item 13 of the agenda be considered at this point of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Miller and AGREED

46/21 TO CONSIDER AND RESOLVE ON A PROPOSAL FOR LEARNING SUPPORT

There was discussion regarding this. Cllr Wogan raised several queries about staffing and covid-security, to which Sara Smart responded. Cllr. T Lewin proposed that a pilot scheme go ahead. This was seconded by Cllr. Miller and AGREED.

Cllr. T Lewin proposed that item 14 of the agenda be considered at this point of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr. Josephson and AGREED

47/21 TO CONSIDER AND RESOLVE ON A REQUEST FOR SUBSIDISED SUPPORT OF A MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT

There was much discussion regarding this matter. Cllr Wogan raised several queries about staffing and covid-security, to which Sara Smart responded. There were also queries about the qualifications of the organiser, and whether there had been any liaison with the health service. The Clerk reminded the meeting that the request was in respect of hiring the premises: this was not a proposal for a council service as such, and any input from staff members would be as private individuals in their own time.

Cllr. T Lewin proposed that the Council accept the request for a concessionary rate on the room hire for this purpose but would recommend that there was some liaison with the GP surgery. This was seconded by Cllr. R Lewin and AGREED.

48/21 MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION/DECISION

1. To consider and resolve on a request for a farmer's market – Cllr. Josephson proposed that Standing Orders be suspended. This was seconded by Cllr. Miller and AGREED. Robin Walden (owner of Seasons) was asked if had any problems with the proposal of a weekly food market. He confirmed that he did not and it would complement what they already did. Standing Orders were reinstated. There was much discussion on this matter. Cllrs. R Lewin and Wogan again stated that they felt the games area was not the right place to hold it and other sites should be looked into. Sue Young advised that it would need planning permission and she had had a meeting with Wealden District Council Markets and they were not sure that Forest Row could sustain another market. Cllr T Lewin proposed that the Committee agree in principle to the request to hold a weekly farmers' market, using the permission held under 'market rights'. This was seconded by Cllr. Miller and AGREED with 4 for, 1 against and 1 abstention. Cllr. T Lewin proposed that the foregoing permission shall be granted subject to agreement by Council on the location of such a market. This was seconded by Cllr. R Lewin and AGREED.
2. To resolve on the proposal for FRPC to become a 'dementia friendly' organisation – Cllr. T Lewin proposed that Forest Row Parish Council become a dementia friendly Council. This was seconded by Cllr. Miller and AGREED.

49/21 CORRESPONDENCE

Cllr. T Lewin advised that he had received a communication from the Woodland Trust regarding tree planting. He would bring this to a future Amenities and Services Committee meeting.

50/21 ITEMS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION BY THIS COMMITTEE OR FULL COUNCIL

Cllr. T Lewin asked that a reserve for Environmental Concerns be put in the budget. The Clerk advised that it was too late for 2021/22. but could be considered in future budgets.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman