

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FOREST ROW PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 15th JANUARY 2019 AT 7.30PM IN THE ROSE ROOM OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

PRESENT: Cllrs. Josephson (Chairman), Davies, Hill, Hindler, R Lewin, T Lewin, Melson, Miller, Summers & Wogan.

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. Farrar, McKinney, Pritchitt and Williams. District Cllr. Holloway & Cllr. Galley. Cllr. Melson had given her apologies that she would join the meeting late.

NOT PRESENT:

IN ATTENDANCE: The Clerk, Asst Clerk, County Cllr. Whetstone and Juliet Townsend of Ashdown Gallery.

In the Cllr. Josephson's initial absence, Cllr. R Lewin chaired the meeting.

C154/19 PUBLIC QUESTIONS:

Juliet Townsend from the Ashdown Gallery spoke about an initiative proposed by Adam Harman-Clarke from The Hopyard and herself. As Forest Row had at least 3 internationally renowned sculptors, it was being suggested that a 'sculpture walk' be set up. Sculptures would be installed around the village and a walk would then be advertised. This would be for 6 weeks initially, but some pieces may remain for 1 year. This was being backed by Cate Blanchett and her partner who live locally. There would be no cost to the Council, but they would like their support.

Cllr. Josephson advised that this could be brought back to Council next time for a decision on backing this venture.

C155/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllrs. Farrar, McKinney and Pritchitt due to family commitments. Cllr. Williams due to work. District Cllr. Holloway due to ill health. Cllr. Galley due to a prior commitment.

C156/19 RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- The Minutes of the meeting held on 11th December 2018 had been previously circulated. These were proposed for approval by Cllr. Wogan. Seconded by Cllr T Lewin. AGREED
- The minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2019 had been previously circulated. These were proposed for approval by Cllr. Wogan. Seconded by Cllr. Hill and AGREED.
- There were no objections to the deletion of the digital recordings of the meetings held on 11th December 2018 and 8th January 2019.

C157/19 TO DECLARE ANY INTERESTS OR REQUEST DISPENSATION PERTAINING TO THE ITEMS BELOW

| Name | Min. No. | Category of Interest | Reason |
|--------------|----------|----------------------|--|
| Cllr. Wogan | C158/19 | Personal | Trustee of the Sports Ground Association |
| Cllr T Lewin | C158/19 | Personal | Car Hire Club administrator & member. Shareholder in Forest Row Energy Co-op |

C158/19 TO NOTE CLERK'S REPORT ON MATTERS NOT REQUIRING A DECISION

- FRSGA Lease. Clarification of certain legal issues was awaited from East Sussex County Council legal department. This was being chased up.
- The Waste Recycling Centre. Confirmation of grant is still awaited from 'Locality' before any progression can be made.
- Forest Row Energy Co-operative. The formal share certificate of associate membership is awaited. The Council is entitled to a day's free consultancy on energy matters and Members are asked if there are any particular issues they would like explored.
- Gatwick Master Plan- A response in terms discussed at the last meeting was drafted by Cllr. R Lewin and filed in the Council's name.
- The Clerk advised that he had passed CiLCA in September. He was congratulated on this achievement.

NOTED

C159/19 CLARIFICATION OF ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING

None

C160/19 TO NOTE & APPROVE LIST OF DELEGATED DECISIONS

Previously circulated.

APPROVED AND NOTED

Cllr. Hindler joined the meeting at 7.42.

Cllr. R Lewin proposed that the report from County Councillor was taken next. This was seconded by Cllr. Hindler and AGREED.

C161/19 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Cllr. Whetstone advised that County had held a meeting regarding their budget. The figures were as advised previously. Although the County Councillors had made appropriate preparations, the financial situation was still very difficult.

Cllr. Josephson joined the meeting at 7.45 and took the Chair.

C162/19 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

The Chairman apologised for her late arrival.

Cllr. Hill requested that there be a recorded vote for the following 2 items.

C163/19 TO ADOPT THE DRAFT BUDGET FOR 2019/2020

The Clerk explained that there had been one alteration to the Reserves budget, but this made no difference to the overall figures. He recommended for adoption the higher of the two figures set out in his advice note.

Cllr. Miller joined the meeting at 7.57.

Cllr. T Lewin proposed that the draft budget be adopted. This was seconded by Cllr. Hindler and AGREED. Cllrs. Davies, Hill, Hindler, Josephson, R Lewin, T Lewin, Miller, Summers and Wogan voted for the proposal.

C164/19 TO SET THE PARISH PRECEPT FOR 2019/2020

Cllr. R Lewin proposed that the Parish precept be set at £ 360,000 for 2019/2020. This was seconded by Cllr. Hill and AGREED.

Cllrs. Davies, Hill, Hindler, Josephson, R Lewin, T Lewin, Miller, Summers and Wogan voted for the proposal.

Cllr. Moore joined the meeting at 8.07.

C165/19 TO CONSIDER FOR ADOPTION THE NEW CYCLE HIRE SCHEME PROPOSAL

Cllr. T Lewin explained the current cycle scheme software operator would be taking over the cycle hire. The Parish Council would charge an annual rental for the site of the cycle racks, but bikes would be supplied and maintained by the Company. The scheme had been discussed at the Localism & Community Services Committee.

Cllr. T Lewin proposed that this plan be adopted by Council as outlined. This was seconded by Cllr. Davies and AGREED with 1 against.

C166/19 TO CONSIDER FOR ADOPTION THE REPAIR CAFÉ RISK ASSESSMENT

This had been previously circulated. Cllr. R Lewin proposed this be adopted. This was seconded by Cllr. Moore and AGREED.

C167/19 TO RESOLVE ON WHETHER THE VoTG SHOULD BE SPELLED WITH AN 'E' OR WITHOUT

This had been a matter of debate.

Cllr. Hill proposed that Venue be spelled with an 'e'. This was seconded by Cllr. R Lewin and AGREED with 8 for and 1 against.

Cllr. Hindler proposed that there be graphic differentiation between on the 'e' in Venue. This was seconded by Cllr. Miller and AGREED with 7 for, 2 against and 1 abstention.

C168/19 TO CONSIDER A DATE FOR THE PRESENTATION BY THE AIR AMBULANCE

Cllr. Josephson advised that the remaining funds of the Forest Row Relief in Sickness & General Benefits Trust would be donated to the Air Ambulance.

Cllr. Josephson proposed that the chair and the Clerk liaise and suggest dates. This was seconded by Cllr. Hill and AGREED.

C169/19 TO NOTE A PROTOCOL FOR MEMBERS AGENDA REQUESTS

The Clerk drew attention to the provision of Standing Order no.10.

NOTED

C170/19 FOREST ROW FESTIVAL

A decision has been taken that the Forest Row Festival will be held again this year, although nothing has yet been established regarding its format. The core group would like a Council representative on the main steering Committee from the outset.

Cllr. T Lewin volunteered to be on the Committee and bring reports back to Full Council. The Clerk to deputise when necessary. The Clerk was asked to write to the Festival Committee to note its interest.

Cllr. Melson joined the meeting at 8.40.

Cllr. Hill suggested that the Festival should be included on every Committee.

NOTED

C171/19 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Cllr. Whetstone had given his report earlier in the meeting.

C172/19 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Moore advised that Wealden District Council's new crematorium was now open.

Cllr. Moore advised that the local MP, Nus Ghani would be holding an informal public surgery in Java and Jazz on 26th January at 5pm.

The Clerk read out a report submitted by District Cllr. Galley – Biffa had won the domestic waste contract.

C173/19 TO RECEIVE AND ADOPT REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

- FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE – Cllr. R Lewin advised that it had been agreed to hold a meeting to discuss Council activities – both current and future. Also, Heads of Terms had been agreed for renewing the Council's leases. NOTED
- PROPERTY & ASSETS COMMITTEE– No report. NOTED
- AMENITIES & SERVICES COMMITTEE – No report. NOTED
- LOCALISM & COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE – Cllr. T Lewin advised that there would be a Car Club Scheme meeting later this week. Also, the Council was considering its membership of Wealdlink. NOTED
- PLANNING COMMITTEE –. No report. NOTED

C174/19 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr. Hill advised the following from the Ashdown Forest Liaison Group.:

- There had been an increase in fly tipping
- There had been sheep worrying and sheep killed
- Regular deer culling was taking place

Cllr. Davies reported that she had attended a Patient Support meeting at Ashdown surgery last September but had not heard anything since. The clerk was asked to write a letter from the Parish Council to the Surgery asking why there no further meetings had been held or why Cllr. Davies had not been invited. NOTED

C175/19 COMMUNITY WARDEN

The Clerk reported (on behalf of the Community Warden). Chris Harrison was now being hired out for shifts in Crowborough, Rotherfield and Withyham. This would be monitored.

C176/19 NOTICES None received

C177/19 CONSULTATIONS None

C178/19 CORRESPONDENCE

None

C179/19 ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION BY FULL COUNCIL OR REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE

Cllr. Summers asked that the Youth Services report be discussed.

Cllr. Wogan asked that the Spring Clean be put on the next Amenities & Services committee agenda.

Cllr. T Lewin asked that parking in the village be discussed.

Cllr. Josephson asked for a vote of thanks to be recorded for the Clerk and Asst Clerk for all their hard work in keeping the finances running smoothly, and preparing the budget papers.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

SIGNED:

DATE.....(Chairman)