



Sedlescombe Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
on Tuesday 18th October 2022 at 19:00 Sedlescombe Village Hall, CR2

Council Meeting Minutes

Cllrs Present:

Pauline Glew (PG), Beverley Coupar (BC); Roy Chapman (RC). D Caney (DC), Parish and District Cllr. Jonathan Vine-Hall (Chairman of the Parish Council) (JVH).

Mrs Jackie Scarff (JS) (Clerk/RFO)

District and County Cllr C Maynard (part time, left 20:28)

3 members of the public

Item	Agenda Item (C22.)	
46	To receive and accept Apologies (LGA 1972 s85 (3)) Apologies were received and accepted from N Moore (NM) for personal reasons.	
47	To receive an introduction from a prospective parish councillor. JVH explained the process and that the members discussion is a closed session as it involves an individual. L Latreille (LL) introduced herself and explained why she would like to become a parish councillor. Members had the opportunity to ask questions. LL had the opportunity to ask questions. Members of the public and LL were asked to leave the room so that the cllrs could discuss the application confidentially.	
48	To consider the Co Option of a new parish councillor JVH proposed that LL was co opted, seconded by PG and all in favour. To witness the signing of acceptance of office if co-opted. Resolved that the declaration of office could be signed at a later date. LL joined the meeting as a cllr.	
49	To receive questions from members on reports from the District and County Councillors JVH thanked CM for his report. There were no questions.	
50	Interests in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Parish Council code of conduct. To receive councillors' declarations of interest regarding matters on the agenda and consider any written requests for dispensation as a result. Any changes to register of interests should be notified to the clerk. JVH declared that his declaration of interests would be updated and sent to the clerk.	
51	Public participation session re matters on the Agenda at the Chairman's discretion. The meeting was closed to allow members of the public to speak. A member of the public commented that other parish council meetings have time allocated for any questions to be asked. How does a member of Sedlescombe Parish ask a question related to a subject not on the agenda? When will the Parish council website re design be finished so that members of the public can access information? The clerk was asked to respond and explained that most Parish Councils limit questions to items on the agenda as the public participation section has a limited time allocation in the standing orders to ensure that the meeting does not go on past the allocated time for the meeting. Questions can be sent in to the clerk at any time by writing, emailing or emailing a councillor and asking them to ask a question. The council is open to questions at any time not just during meetings. The website currently has agendas and minutes loaded on it which can be found through the dropdown menus. The clerk explained that the website has had to be rebuilt due to the previous website failing due to the software being out of date. JVH added that the agendas and minutes are posted on the noticeboard. A member of the public asked whether questions emailed in to the clerk would be discussed at the next meeting? The clerk replied that if the question can be answered then she will reply and answer the question. The member of the public asked if questions could be discussed at a council meeting, then if asked she can put it on the agenda for the next meeting.	
52	To consider for approval the minutes of the full council meeting 19th July 2022.	

	Resolved the minutes were approved and a true record and duly signed by the chairman.	
53	<p>If the committee wishes to exclude the public for a particular agenda item, the following resolution must be passed:</p> <p>'That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.'</p> <p>There was no requirement to pass this resolution.</p>	
54	<p>Highway Matters</p> <p>To receive an update and agree any actions required.</p> <p>DC explained that the council is awaiting the highways report. The engineers have prepared the plan and is being checked. It is expected at the beginning of November. Costings should be in the report. Speedwatch is up and running with several new members.</p> <p>The clerk highlighted that the county council have asked whether they should continue to cut the verges or whether the council would rather self deliver.</p> <p>Resolved that the arrangements continue with the county council cutting the verges.</p> <p>The Black Cat Radar needs to have the latest data downloaded. It may be necessary for some further training.</p>	
55	<p>To consider the option to opt out of the SAAA central external auditor appointment arrangements.</p> <p>The clerk explained the options and recommended that the council did not opt out.</p> <p>Resolved that the council will not opt out of the central external auditor appointment arrangements.</p>	
56	<p>To discuss an email received regarding planting trees in Red Barn Field and agree any actions required.</p> <p>PG explained that the PC have received a letter proposing to plant an avenue of trees through Red Barn Field (RBF) to mark a roman road that runs through. PG explained that RBF is a meadow with numerous wildflowers growing in it. There are lots of trees surrounding the meadow. The council have previously turned down a request to plant 200 trees in RBF. DC suggested that the roman road could be marked in some other way and there could be a map showing where it lies on the notice board. PG proposed that the council do not go ahead and plant an avenue of trees. All agreed</p> <p>RC was asked to source a tree to plant on the Green to celebrate the Jubilee.</p> <p>Resolved that the proposed planting of trees in RBF will not take place.</p>	
57	<p>To receive quotes for insurance for the forthcoming year and agree any actions required.</p> <p>The clerk explained that the current insurers have quoted to renew. She had contacted two other insurers, one was outstanding and the other had declined to quote as they could not be competitive. The clerk proposed that the council accept the quote from BHIB unless Came and Company quote a more competitive price in the next 2 days.</p> <p>Resolved that the final decision between the two quotes be delegated to the clerk.</p>	
58	<p>To receive for review with a recommendation for adoption the following policies</p> <p>Sedlescombe Parish Councils Complaints Procedure.</p> <p>Lone Working</p> <p>Resolved that the policies be adopted as presented.</p>	
59	<p>To discuss and agree any priorities to be given to the PCSO's</p> <p>DC suggested that the construction worker parking in Brede Lane. The police have been to visit but as soon as they leave the parking returns. RC agreed to raise the issue at the next police meeting.</p>	
60	<p>To present the current outstanding resolutions and agree any actions required.</p> <p>The Pole on the Village Green. BT Openreach have changed their contracting partner which means the surveys need to be done again. They will let the clerk know when this has been done and when the work will commence.</p> <p>S E Water pipe laying across Riverside Recreation Ground. The PC land agent is speaking to SE Water and will be doing a site visit to establish what the plans are to finish the job and make good the land. The legal paperwork will need to be done next.</p>	

	<p>EVT The resurfacing work is due to take place 31st October. The clerk recommended that leaflets were posted through the letter boxes of all the houses at EVT. PG had offered to deliver the leaflets. Resolved that the lines should be for 5-a-side football.</p> <p>The New Website. As discussed earlier, the progress is slow and the clerk is prioritising so that the statutory documents are on the website.</p>	
61	<p>To hear an update from the Sports Executive Committee and agree any actions required.</p> <p>DC reported that members of the football club attended the meeting and summarised the discussions. Details are in the committee meeting minutes.</p> <p>JVH declared an interest as the Chairman of the committee when the subject of funding requests through the RDC CIL funding was discussed.</p>	
62	<p>To discuss re homing the village geese and agree any actions required.</p> <p>The landlord of the pub has notified the council that the freeholders are planning to renovate the listed buildings behind the pub which would mean they were no longer able to look after the geese. JVH has had a conversation with a resident who lives on The Street who may be willing to look after them.</p> <p>20:27 both members of the public left.</p> <p>20:28 C Maynard left.</p>	
63	<p>To agree for councillor to join the staffing committee.</p> <p>JVH explained that SS had been on the committee which means there is a space for a cllrs to join JVH and PG on the staffing committee. LL offered to join, all cllrs agreed.</p>	
63	<p>Finance and Audit</p> <p>To receive the monthly statement of accounts to 30th September 2022</p> <p>The statement of accounts was sent out in advance, and it was noted that the total balance of accounts was £142,323.41 as at 30th September 2022</p> <p>To receive the bank reconciliation to 30th September 2022</p> <p>The bank reconciliation was received in advance, and it was noted that the cashbook balance at Unity Trust Bank £18,466.26</p> <p>To consider for approval invoices paid as they became due before the October Meeting.</p> <p>Resolved that the invoices are agreed.</p> <p>To consider for approval invoices received.</p> <p>Resolved that the invoices presented be paid, with the exception of the advance invoices for the painting of the pavilion. The clerk was asked to contact the contractor and agree that the Council would agree a schedule of payments whilst the work is taking place but any supplies bought in advance would be paid on a production of a receipt. In addition the expenses from Cllr Glew handed to the clerk be included in the months payments.</p>	
59	<p>Reports, Correspondence, Questions and Future agenda items not requiring decisions.</p> <p>a) Red Barn Field – no further news.</p> <p>b) Monthly Meeting with the PCSOs – the next meeting is 9th November, if anyone has any issues please let Roy know in advance.</p> <p>c) Sedlescombe Jobs Network – No news.</p> <p>d) Jubilee – the RDC grant has been received.</p> <p>e) Audit – The closure of the audit had been circulated to the cllrs. It was noted that there were no comments from the auditors and everything was fine.</p> <p>f) JVH reported that the fibre to home project was not installed as expected in August but it will be in November. Notification of the required road closures have come through.</p> <p>g) BC reported that the playground has been opened and has been busy throughout the summer. There has been a lot of litter as a result. The new bins will be installed and there needs to be an additional bin installed by the zip wire. RC agreed to fix the new bins in the playground.</p>	
63	<p>Date of next meeting.</p> <p>To note the date of the next Finance Committee meeting is Tuesday 22nd November 2022 at 7pm CR2</p> <p>To note the date of the next Full Council meeting is Tuesday 20th December 2022 at 7pm CR2.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 20:50</p>	