



PARISH COUNCIL OF SANDHURST, KENT

Please reply to Julie Horan, Parish Clerk, Old School, Back Road, Sandhurst, Kent TN18 5JS 01580-850273

Approved Minutes Parish Council Meeting 12 December 2023

In Attendance:

Cllr M Phillipson (Chairwoman) (MP)	Mrs J Horan (Clerk & Proper Officer) (JH)
Cllr C Robinson (CR)	Cllr E. Neville
Cllr D Rogers (DR)	Cllr G. Bland
Cllr P Phillipson (PP)	Cllr S. Holden
	Members of Public - 0

1.	Apologies
	Cllr Griggs (Vice Chairman) (MG), Cllr A Kerry (AK), Cllr O'Neil (KO)
2.	Declarations of Interest
	Councillors were reminded that they must inform the Monitoring Officer of any changes to their Notification of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. None
3.	Approval of Minutes
	<p>To resolve that the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10 October 2023 are a true record of the meetings. The only issue relating to the minutes that can be discussed is their accuracy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CR proposed; MP seconded - Agreed by those present that the minutes were a true record of the meeting. <p>To resolve that the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13 November 2023 are a true record of the meetings. The only issue relating to the minutes that can be discussed is their accuracy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PP proposed; CR seconded - Agreed by those present that the minutes were a true record of the meeting.
4.	Councillor Intervention
	Cllr Bland: The Local Plan is going before council tomorrow, the plan has been revised from 15 years to 10 years, and Twobury Village, a new settlement between Paddock Wood, Capel and Tonbridge has been dropped from the agenda as there were all kinds of issues with green belt, flooding, communications, roads etc. The other item being

	<p>discussed at full council tomorrow is the council's purchase of the Royal Victoria Centre (RVC). The RVC hasn't had much attention from the previous owner and is in need of some loving care. RVC will have a professional management company to oversee it, there will be an all-party oversight committee making sure that things happen properly.</p> <p>Cllr Neville: Providing we get a minimum of 25 agrees, tomorrow, for the Local Plan, in January there will be a six week consultation period, comments can also be made about the Medical Centre and 70 new houses in Hawkhurst and the Inspector will take those comments on board.</p> <p>RVP, so far a few new leases have been taken out which is very promising, and the units are filling up.</p> <p>Cllr Holden: An ongoing issue in Kent is that road closures have increased across the county from 4,000 to 12,000 in the last four years. There are 5,500 miles of road in the county and each mile of road is being closed more than twice a year on average, which is ridiculous situation, as a result an Inspectorate has been created to look at this to try and improve the situation.</p> <p>The issue of the budget has been on the minds of County Councillors, this started at an 88 million pound deficit and has been brought down to around 26 million pounds. We still haven't got the governments settlement which may help. 67% of the budget is taken up by Adult Social Care and children and young people, particularly in special educational needs (SEN) and home to school transport.</p> <p>The County Council are proposing that the eight windmills that the County Council owns are sold, Cllr Holden disagrees with this and doesn't think it will succeed as cannot see anyone wanting to buy them.</p>
5.	Website Redesign
	An offline version of the website is currently being worked on and JH has a meeting with the web designer within the next few weeks.
6.	Matter Arising
	The Allotment Tenancy Agreement has been reviewed by MP and there are no changes required at the moment.
7.	Finance & Accounts
	<p><u>Accounts</u></p> <p>To approve accounts retrospectively for payments from 01 November 2023 to 30 November 2023.</p> <p>To receive details of receipts in from 01 November 2023 to 30 November 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CR Proposed ; DR Seconded and those present approved the payments & receipts from 01 November 2023 to 30 November 2023 - all present agreed. <p>To note the bank reconciliation at 30 November 2023 - Carried forward to the next meeting</p> <p>Forecast: This was reviewed at the Precept meeting.</p> <p>The budget and Precept for 2024/25 was agreed at the Precept meeting.</p> <p>Pension contributions from 1st April to 31st August, which were not paid as there was no pension set up 2023 are to be paid. JH to review the amount of contributions that need to be made to bring up to date with CR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MP Proposed that back payments are made ; CR Seconded - All present agreed. <p>NALC pay scales 2023/24 were reviewed.</p> <p>Electricity will be paid for at the rate that the New Swan and Baptist church are currently paying for the electricity used by the heated defibrillator cases per kilo watt hour.</p>

8.	Old Orchard Play Area
	Carried forward to next meeting
9.	Playing Fields
	Carried forward to next meeting
10.	Old School Hall
	Damp has been identified along the length of the front wall of the OSH. The PC agreed this needs dealing with before repairs are carried out to the floor. DR to get quotes to eliminate damp in new year One quote has been received for the repainting of the outside of the OSH, DR waiting for further quotes.
11.	Bollards Upper Green
	Carried forward to next meeting.
12.	Barrier Car Park
	Update next meeting.
13.	Building Work
	Quotes have been requested from a number of local builders, still awaiting quotes.
14.	See Saw Playing Field
	A quote has been received for the repair of the see saw for £709.00 to supply and fit replacement spring. JH to contact company who provided the quote to obtain further quote for the cost of replacing both springs.
15.	Neighbourhood Plan
	Carried forward to next meeting.
16.	Rialtas Accounting Software
	A discussion took place about extending the contract for Rialtas which gives the Clerk/RFO priority dates for end of year close out and preferential rates to carry this work out. The council agreed that as there were no plans to change from Rialtas it made sense to extend the contract.
17.	Millers Meadow
	DR to contact Southern Water regarding the drainage around Millers Meadow and the village in general.
18.	Water Checks Pavilion/OSH
	Legal requirements for Legionella checks were discussed at length. DR to contact local companies regarding regular logged checks for Legionella.
19.	Planning Applications
	None
20.	Speedwatch
	CR reported: Over the last week there were two speedwatch sessions, on both occasions the police were in attendance. A few cars that were above the speed limit were pulled

	over and the drivers spoken to. The police also conducted their own speedwatch session. It was very heartening to have the support of the local police.
21.	Correspondence to the Clerk
	Email from Ken Hopkins informing the Parish Council temperature data loggers have been placed in the Downton Cottages and Tanyard defibrillator cases so that he can get an accurate picture of the temperatures inside the cases.
22.	Public Intervention
	No members of the public attended the meeting.
16.	Date of Next Meetings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 09 January 2024 • 13 February 2024 • 12 March 2024

Julie Horan

Clerk to Sandhurst Parish Council

CC: For Information

County Cllr Seán Holden
Borough Cllr Godfrey Bland
Borough Cllr Ellen Neville

Signed:.....

Dated:.....