

WOOLBEDING WITH REDFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on

Wednesday 26th January. 2022.

At Redford Village Hall at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllr. A Hearle (Chairman)

Cllr. J. Burton

Cllr. P. Hansford

Mrs E. Robinson (clerk)

There were 3 members of the public present.

1. Welcome and Chairman's remarks

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. There had been an FOI request which had been replied to. He also suggested that the document retention policy should be altered to include recording of meetings by the Clerk with the recommendation that they are deleted after formal approval of the minutes. Cllr Floyd has said she will have to stand down temporarily until she has recovered from her operation.

2. Apologies

There were apologies from Cllrs Floyd and Talbot-Baker, Cllr Fowler (CDC), and Cllr O'Kelly (WSCC). David Elliott (NT) had not been in touch.

3 Public Question Time

There were none.

4. Declaration of Interests

There were none.

5. Local Reports

5.1 WSCC Kate O'Kelly

Her report is found below.

EV Charging point briefing

WSCC and Connected Kerb joint webinar for parish councils and community organisations. 27th Jan 10-11. Free to register.

Highways

The next round of Community Highway Schemes have been announced there were 48 applications – 25 successful. See the report for details of the successful and unsuccessful schemes.

<https://westsussex.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s29470/190122CommunityHighwaySchemes202021Update.pdf>

West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service

For my first WSCC activity of 2022 - I met with Sabrina Cohen-Hatton and her leadership team with Kirsty Lord the Lib Dem group leader and leader of the opposition at WSCC, we had a full briefing on their plans for the Fire Service.

The team are working on their new Community Risk Management Plan 2022 – 2026. It will be published in the Spring.

The plan includes

- Enhancing their retained (on-call) operating model
- Weekend protection, prevention and response improvements – better cover at weekends seamless 7-day rotas
- Improving protection, prevention and response performance in rural areas – more prevention visits in areas where they know response times are poor
- How WSFRS should deal with false alarms from automatic fire systems - not come out automatically if the premises are low risk – no people
- When they should review their Emergency Response Standards - Simplify
- How WSFRS proposes to undertake a review of their specialist appliance requirements to consider current and future risks to firefighter and public safety

The Fire and Rescue service team have offered parishes a speaker at annual parish events.

Covid

I am still giving booster vaccinations at Riverbank – they are now doing some sessions as a national booking centre.

Latest data – 996 new cases in Chichester District – 8118 new cases in West Sussex, for the 7 days up to 18th Jan. 1488 in hospital in SE region on 23rd Jan.

Test and Trace support scheme – extended to 31 March 22 – (this scheme pays eligible residents £500 to self isolate) www.chichester.gov.uk/helpwithfinances

Motion on 20mph and more flexible speed policy

I submitted a motion to persuade the Council to have a more flexible speed policy including introducing 20mph where appropriate – this was agreed by Full Council in December – there is going to be a review of the speed policy – I am hoping once agreed it is going to be easier for communities / residents to be able to make changes to the speed limits on their roads where they know best.

20 is plenty campaign group are setting up a West Sussex arm – they report seeing progress across all SE counties – if anyone wants to get involved or read more <https://www.20splenty.org/>

Health and Adults Social Care Committee

HASC met on 21st Jan – we scrutinised access to NHS dentistry in West Sussex – there is currently no access to NHS routine care – significant staffing challenges.

Vulnerable Support

West Sussex County Council - the Community Hub. This service is available to those who are struggling to access food, medicine and essential supplies. The team can be contacted on 03302227980 or at www.westsussex.gov.uk/covid19communityhub

My next drop – in Midhurst The Grange – 31st Jan – 10.30-12.30

The chairman said the item on 20 mph speed limits was interesting and something the council would be following.

5.2 CDC Judy Fowler

Her report is found below:

REPORT TO PARISH COUNCILS JANUARY 2022

Help with Finances during Cold Weather

Winter draws on. CDC have introduced the Warm Homes initiative for residents on low income living in a property with poor energy efficiency. This initiative can contribute towards the installation of an efficient heating system as well as loft and wall insulation. If you know of anyone who might benefit, please ask them to contact the delivery partners at <https://arunchichestercab.org.uk/contact-us/energy-2021> or call 01243 974063.

The above website can also advise on reducing energy consumption.

If you are worried about the imminent hike in energy prices and are on a low income, the Warm Home Discount could save £140 off your electric bill. You need to check with your electricity supplier to see if you are eligible. More information is available on <https://www.gov.uk/the-warm-home-discount-scheme-2021>.

CDC continues to support WSCC Community Hub scheme to assist with people who are struggling to access food, medicine and essential supplies. Contact the team on 033-0222-7980.

CDC has a finances web page for those struggling to pay rent/bills at this time of the year. www.chichester.gov.uk/helpwithfinances. There is also a free benefits calculator www.entitledto.co.uk/benefits-calculator.

Planning

Current planning applications are being reviewed, following CDC's publication of a 5 Year Housing Land Supply. See www.chichester.gov.uk/article/24661/housing-land-supply.

Waste Collection

Staff sickness absences have created problems with the service. If your bin is not collected when it is due, please leave at the collection point and it will be collected at the earliest opportunity.

The Novium

The museum began a nationally recognised exhibition of LEGO called Brick Wonders in December. It will run until June.

Markets

Cross Market & More, a market event in November, was very successful and 3 more will be announced in March, August and November, the August one to run alongside the Summer Street Party.

The CDC Farmers Market returns on 21 January in East Street. In February the market will return to the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month.

Business Support

CDC has been awarded £5 million to support businesses affected by Covid. There are 3 new Government schemes:

Hospitality & Leisure grant based on the premises' rateable value,

Additional Restrictions grant to support those who may not be eligible for the above grant

Covid-19 Additional Relief Fund which is a new business rates relief scheme.

Please check the website www.chichester.gov.uk/businessratesannouncements to see if you are eligible and apply.

CDC has a dedicated Economic Development Team to support businesses across the district. Find out more about their work at www.chichester.gov.uk/businesssupportandadvice.

6. Minutes

The chairman explained that the original draft minutes had been challenged and some amendments had been made following a review of the recording but unfortunately these amendments didn't make it into the final minutes. This was now been corrected and the clerk apologised for the error. The amended minutes of the meeting of 15th September were then approved and signed

Proposer: Cllr. Burton

Seconder: Cllr Hearle

The minutes of the meeting of 17th November were approved and signed.

Proposer Cllr. Burton

Seconder Cllr. Hansford

7. Finance

7.1 Banking

Cllr. Talbot-Baker had circulated the cash book to the council.

The finances are in a satisfactory state.

7.2 Cheques

Two cheques were signed by one person.

Cheque No 00819 Clerk's Salary £240

00820 Village Hall £ 25

As there weren't two signatories at the meeting the clerk will ask the RFO to arrange for a second signature on her return. The amounts were approved.

Proposer: Cllr Hearle Seconder Cllr Hansford

8. Insurance

A letter from BHIB, the current insurers, had been received inviting the council to get other quotes. It was agreed to wait until the renewal notice is received.

9. Planning

- St. Cuthmans

There was nothing further to report.

- Pigeon Hill Farm

The listing process is in progress and has been picked up by Historic England.

Cllr. Hearle said that it is a very rare and fine example of a medieval farmhouse.

Apparently, the prospective owner is very anxious to do the right thing.

Cllr Hansford asked if the council had been asked to comment on the latest planning application for the King Edward site. The clerk reported that she wasn't sure the application had been put in yet.

10. Highways

- Operation Watershed

The chairman had been in touch with Mike Dare about the various problems.

The culvert underneath Linch Road seems to be clear at the moment.

The 'wiggles' down Brambling Lane will be the subject of an Operation Watershed.

Highways will need to assess the work needed before an application can be made to Landbuild. The chairman said that the main problem seems to be lack of maintenance of gullies which do not get cleared.

Cllr. Hansford pointed out that the water running across Linch Road at the bottom of the Marsh Hill is getting bad again. This was the subject of an Operation Watershed application several years ago.

Cllr Hearle urged everyone to report highways problems on Love Sussex.

He said that the sink hole in Stedham Lane has now been repaired. He said it is a big frustration that gullies are not kept clear.

11. Deer Management

Cllr. Talbot-Baker had reported that in December she had found an injured deer beside the road. She had phoned the National Trust to ask for someone to kill it humanely which used to be the procedure. She was told that this was no longer possible and in addition there was to be no more deer culling. This is a concern as the deer population will increase and it is likely that there will be more accidents involving deer. The National Trust had told her to contact the police which didn't seem appropriate. She then contacted the RSPCA who said they would come but as they are in Gosport it would take some time. The result was that someone killed the deer with a large stick. Cllr. Hearle had contacted the British Deer Society and been told that there should be a deer management plan in place. He is going to write to David Elliott to find out what the National Trust plan is.

Proposer Cllr Hearle

Seconder Cllr Hansford

12. Speaker for APM

James Renwick has kindly agreed to talk about modern farming, re-wilding etc.

13. Litter Collection Event

It was agreed that this should be held on 5th March from 9.30 - 11.30. The Council will pay for coffee and cakes for participants at the monthly market. It is hoped that children will be involved but they will only collect away from the road. The CDC will provide the necessary equipment and collect the bags afterwards.

Proposer: Cllr. Hansford Seconded: Cllr Hearle

14. Queens Jubilee

This is a 4 day celebration from 2/5th June. After discussion with the National Trust, it has been agreed that a beacon on Older Hill is not suitable given the fire risk. It is therefore proposed to hold a lunch on Sunday 5th at the village hall. The council want this to be as inclusive as possible. The village hall committee had discussed this at length. The suggestion of a hog roast was turned down and it is hoped that the catering can be supplied by residents and the council will contribute between £500 and £1000. There will be a licensed bar.

The event will be publicised as much as possible and it is possible there will be a separate committee to organise the lunch. The council is anxious to include children's activities and the possibility of having music was discussed. The National Trust will be approached as they are the sponsors of the jubilee.

Cllr. Hansford said he was happy to coordinate and firm up a budget for approval. He will follow up with the National Trust and discuss possible parking solutions.

15. Defibrillator

London Hearts will offer a grant of £300. The clerk will find out more about costs. The problem of the lack of mobile phone signal was discussed as the system to unlock the defibrillator when needed involves texting a number to receive the code to unlock it. It is hoped it will be installed on the village hall.

16. Training Days

There is nothing suitable at present.

17. Correspondence

There was none

18. Any Other Business

There was none.

19. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is on 23rd March and this is the Annual Parish Meeting.

The meeting ended at 7.45 p.m.

Signed Date
.....