

Minutes: Monday 12th February 2018 at the Rye Harbour Village Hall, 7:15 pm

Present: Councillors: R Davis, J Horsman, A Moore, D Smedley, Mrs J Stanford, H Sutton, S Tollett, P Turner (Chairman) S Turner and N Warren.

In attendance: Mrs A Evett (Clerk,) ESCC Cllr Glazier and RDC Cllrs. Mrs Hart and Osborne.

18/016 Item 1 the Chairman invited comments or questions from members of the public on matters relating to the business of the Council. Mr Clarke of Winchelsea asked about the quotes for work at Cricket Field Allotments.

18/017 Item 2 to receive reports and ask questions of the County and District Councillors. Cllr Glazier reported that the proposed budget for ESCC is £371m (including £17m of savings.) This represents a 5.99% increase in council tax, 3% of which is for social care. The proposal includes changes to grass cutting, ceasing to operate mobile libraries and the closing of two household waste and recycling sites. If the proposals aren't agreed then savings will need to be found elsewhere. He updated on Greyfriars Flat, Winchelsea; a planning application is expected by June.

Cllr Osborne reported on a meeting with Inspector Russell and how important it is that rural crime is reported. Cllr Mrs Hart had submitted her report in advance of the meeting. She took questions on public conveniences and the potential savings for the District, council tax and council tax relief.

18/018 Item 3 Apologies for absence. Apologies received from Cllrs. Ms Austen, Mrs Lyward and Mrs Merricks.

18/019 Item 4 Disclosures of Interests. There were none.

18/020 Item 5 It was resolved to approve and sign the minutes of the 8th January 2018.

Matters requiring a decision by the Council

18/021 Item 6 Open Spaces Working Group. *Cllr Warren declared a personal interest in the Icklesham pavilion item.* The draft minutes were noted and **it was resolved** to approve all recommendations as follows:

- 1) The Great British Spring Clean – programme approved
- 2) Goal posts at Pound Field – defer until Grounds Improvement inspections are completed
- 3) Icklesham Pavilion – investigate preparation of licenses and seek fee quotes
- 4) Request to run a business at Rye Harbour car park – more information requested and a council policy to be drafted
- 5) Fingerpost at broad Street – ask to previous contractor to replace the finger, re-paint and use raised letters
- 6) Footway lighting in Winchelsea – make repairs to faulty light at the Old Malthouse.

18/022 Item 7 Allotments Committee. The draft minutes were noted and **it was resolved** to approve the quote from M Saunters for works at the Cricket Field at a cost of £2,150 to be funded from *2301 allotment maintenance* but to allow the work to be completed after the end of February at the clerk's discretion subject to weather conditions.

18/023 Item 8 Staffing Committee. The draft minutes were noted and **it was resolved** to approve all recommendations as follows:

- a) That the current committee structure remains but is modified so that the Open Spaces Working Group becomes a committee
- b) That Councillor Turner's report is amended and circulated
- c) The Council resolves to work towards the Local Council Award Scheme Foundation Award
- d) That a working group is held with all councillors to agree the status and terms of reference of all committees
- e) That standing orders and financial regulations are amended in line with the above.

18/024 Item 9 Rye Harbour Utilities. The report from the Deputy Clerk was noted and **it was resolved** to approve the recommendation that the Council takes out a 12 month contract for energy with British Gas, or the company with the most economical quote on the day, and that the Council changes its water supplier to Affinity for Business. Thanks were given to the Deputy Clerk for her work.

18/025 Item 10 Purchase of a Cisterniser for Rye Harbour Toilets. **It was resolved** to purchase and install a water saving device up to a maximum cost of £250 (excluding VAT) subject to Cllr Davis' advice.

18/026 Item 11 Annual Risk Assessment. **It was resolved** to approve the risk assessment using Strata Safety Solutions at a cost of £725 plus VAT funded from *2213 annual risk assessment* noting that this is £25 over budget.

18/027 Item 12 ESCC Household waste recycling site consultation. This was noted and **it was resolved** that residents and councillors should be encouraged to respond to the consultation.

18/028 Item 13 Grant request from Sussex Wildlife Trust. It was resolved to approve the grant request of £450 to be funded from *1225 donations*.

18/029 Item 14 Request to attend a future council meeting. The request was noted.

18/030 Item 15 Public Works Loan Board. The report from the Deputy Clerk was noted and **it was resolved to approve a fixed annuity loan of £19,000** as follows:

- a) The Clerk is authorised to apply for a single PWLB Fixed Annuity Loan of £19,000 in place of two separate loans over 20 years at 2.44% at a cost of £1206.24 per annum. This represents £0.98 per annum of the Parish element on Band D council tax
- b) The Deputy Clerk and Chairman are authorised to sign the Application for Borrowing Approval Form
- c) The Chairman and (Deputy) Clerk are authorised to sign a PWLB loan application form if (b) is approved by SALC.

18/031 Item 16 Financial Matters. It was resolved to approve:

- a. **Receipts and payments** report for January 2018.
- b. **Items for payment** in February 2018. A list of payments were authorised totalling £11,985.28 represented by bank transfers T/525 to T/541 sequentially totalling £10,003.73, plus three direct debits totalling £1,751.55 and one standing order totalling £230. The Clerk noticed that a payment for T Hailey of £600 (£500 exc. VAT) was missing; the Clerk was authorised to add this to the payments list as bank transfer T542 and the total payments amount for February was therefore amended to £12,585.28. January 2018 receipts totalled £2,317.42.

18/032 Item 17 Annual Parish Meeting 2018. The arrangements so far were noted and it was agreed to have an update on the Icklesham Parish Community Land Trust and nominations for community service; councillors to submit names to the Clerk asap.

Matters for Information or Noting

18/033 Item 18 The letter from Natural England dated 9th January 2018 was noted as was their attendance at the forthcoming APM.

18/034 Item 19 The Planning Committee minutes of 8th and 22nd January 2018 were noted.

18/035 Item 20 Programme of Works for January. The report was noted and the Clerk was asked to investigate the missing sign at Rye Harbour and organise the General Data Protection training.

18/036 Item 21 Correspondence – all noted as listed in the agenda plus a late received email of thanks for our donation from the Winchelsea Beach Community Association.

18/037 Item 22 Reports of Councillors and Officers on Outside Bodies and Attending Events.
There were none.

18/038 Item 23 Future meetings or events. The Annual Parish Meeting is on Monday 5th January, 7pm Winchelsea Beach Community Hall.

18/039 Item 24 Date and venue for next meeting. The next full council meeting was confirmed as Monday 12th March 2018 at the Icklesham Memorial Hall commencing at 7:15pm.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed:

Dated: