

Icklesham Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held via video conference on

Monday 9th November 2020 at 7:15pm

Present: Councillors: Ms J Austen, Mrs Merricks, D Smedley, S Tollett, P Turner (Chairman), N Warren, Mrs Stanford, Mrs Lyward, H Sutton, T Moore,

In attendance: Miss C Dyer (Clerk) Mrs J Cannings (Deputy Clerk), ESCC Cllr. Glazier, Rother Cllrs Bird, Drayson, Meir and Norton. No members of the public were present.

20/82 Item 1. The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming the new Clerk, Claire Dyer, to her first meeting and reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. He invited comments or questions from members of the public on matters relating to the business of the Council. No members of the public were present.

20/83 Item 2. To receive reports and ask questions of the County Councillor Keith Glazier and Rother District Councillors concerning County Council and Rother District Council matters (10 minutes.)

Cllr Keith Glazier reported ESCC's Covid-19 lockdown arrangements. Shielding is expected to be much lower with support mainly being provision of medication. ESCC is currently working with the Government on track and trace. Information can be found on ESCC or Rother's website. Cllr Glazier had been contacted again by a resident regarding sewage and pumping at Winchelsea Beach. His contact at Southern Water has left so had no update to date. It was reported that lorries are in situ but not pumping although the lights are there. Cllr Glazier would raise the matter with our MP. He advised that the roadworks in both Rye and Fairlight had now been completed and referred to the scheduled resurfacing works next year on Sea Road, Winchelsea Beach. He urged people to report pot holes quickly. In response to reports of an unpleasant and invasive sewage smell, Cllr Glazier would contact the County Engineer.

Cllr Norton provided an update on Rother projects including arranging for all homeless sleepers to be under cover for the duration of the Covid-19 crisis, an update on the affordable housing project with the first phase near Battle due to start next year, the declaration of a climate emergency last year with an aim of being carbon neutral by 2030 and in support of the commitment to this the appointment of a new Environmental Development Officer. He went on to advise that an external planning review was being carried out and finally that there had been a recent senior management restructure at Rother.

Cllr Mier advised that there had been a senior management restructure at Rother resulting in two Executive Directors being replaced by one Chief Executive Officer. He also advised that civil parking enforcement had now been in place for a while. The Local plan was underway and comments are welcome at any stage.

Cllr Bird paid tribute to Dr Tony Leonard, who had given 28 years of service, and who had left his role as Executive Director for Services for Rother District Council following a restructure.

The closure of the public toilets at Winchelsea Beach was raised. Cllr Mier would take the query back to Rother and report back.

20/84 Item 3. Apologies for absence.

a. To receive and record apologies for absence. Apologies had been received from Cllr Bradley.

b. To consider any requests for approval of reasons for absence, if any.
Members are also asked to complete and sign the circulated sheet (circulated electronically.)

20/85 Item 4. Disclosure of Interests - to receive any disclosure by members of personal interest required under the Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any written requests made by members for dispensation to allow them to participate in, and vote on, an agenda item for which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest. Members are reminded a) to repeat their declaration immediately prior to commencement of the item in question and b) complete the declaration of interests form.

Cllr Smedley declared a personal interest as an allotment holder in relation to item 17.

20/86 Item 5. It was resolved to approve and sign the Minutes of the meeting of 14th September 2020.

Matters Requiring a Decision by the Council

20/87 Item 6. Ratification of Clerk's post. It was resolved to ratify the new Clerk's appointment.

20/88 Item 7. Mentoring arrangements for new Clerk. It was resolved to proceed with mentoring arrangements for the new Clerk.

20/89 Item 8. Harbour Field – Residents complaint. It was resolved that a meeting be arranged between Rye Bay Football club, Cllrs Smedley and Cllr Mrs Stanford to discuss reported issues.

20/90 Item 9. Harbour Field - Request from Rye Bay FC to store goals outside pavilion. It was resolved that the request be discussed during the meeting resolved against agenda item 8.

20/91 Item 10. Icklesham Recreation Ground – Report and quotation for consideration. It was resolved that 2 further quotations would be sought for the remedial works.

20/92 Item 11. RHCP Donations – Procedures for collection and banking. It was resolved that of the two alternatives provided the coin machine would be preferable. Cllr Warren and Cllr Mrs Stanford abstained from voting. It was resolved that until a new machine could be purchased one staff member and one Councillor will attend to empty the boxes and count and verify the monies at the Court Hall before being banked by the Clerk.

20/93 Item 12. Traffic calming update. The Deputy Clerk advised that a new team had been assigned to the project and some alterations had been required since the proposal had first been put together. ESCC advise that a further update would be provided as soon as possible.

20/94 Item 13. New flagpole lease from EA. It was resolved to accept the terms of the new lease.

20/95 Item 14. Jubilee Entrance update – The Deputy Clerk advised that the official easement from Rother DC has been drafted but not yet finalised. It was resolved that an application for scheduled ancient monument consent to install the gate and posts would be made by the Deputy Clerk.

20/96 Item 15. Urban grass cutting. It was resolved to proceed with option 2 (4 extra cuts) for 2021.

20/97 Item 16. Rye Harbour Toilets – It was resolved to proceed with the winter opening and additional cleaning costs. Deputy Clerk to investigate whether any charges were levied whilst the toilets were closed due to Covid-19. It was requested that the Clerk obtain the cleaning schedule from Rother District Council.

20/98 Item 17. Offer from the National Trust to take over allotment site at Winchelsea. Cllr Smedley declared a personal interest as an allotment holder. Cllr Smedley advised that the National Trust have been in contact with the allotment holders proposing that they take over the management of the allotments. It was resolved not to proceed with the proposal from National Trust for the Council to take over the site.

20/99 Item 18. Quality Council Status It was noted that Council would be without Quality Status from April 2021.

20/100 Item 19. To note the **Planning Committee** minutes since the last meeting, already circulated and available on the website. This item to be carried forward to next meeting.

20/101 Item 20 Financial Matters. It was resolved to approve the following:

- a. **Receipts and payments** (actual vs budget report) for the month ending 31st October 2020 - enclosed.
- b. Items paid (to note) and **items for payment** to date in November 2020 – enclosed.
- c. To approve the recommendation of the staffing committee at its 28th September 2020 meeting to purchase 3 copies of Arnold-Baker's Local Council Administration at a quoted price of £119 per copy, when the new version is published in December 2020.
- d. To note that a grant cheque to Ore Community Library for £200.00 issued in August has been returned undeliverable by Royal Mail. Deputy Clerk to arrange payment directly.
- e. To approve the purchase of a wreath for the Mary Stanford memorial service.

Matters for Information or Noting

20/102 Item 21 Programme of Works – up until End October – Noted. Deputy Clerk to organise replacement security padlock for Harbour Field. New defibrillator at Winchelsea Beach to be added to programme of works, this item is included in the current budget. To look at remedial work on pot holes in Smeatons Lane.

20/103 Item 22. Correspondence – Letter from Mr John Rodley thanking Council for the RBL donation was noted.

Clerk reported that Rother District Council had emailed to advise that no requests for an election had been received to fill the casual vacancy. It was resolved to advertise to co-opt to the vacancy.

20/104 Item 23. Reports of Councillors and Officers on Outside Bodies and Attending Events. Cllr Warren advised that he and the Chairman had been unable to attend the SSALC zoom meeting in relation to the Government's planning consultation due to attendance being oversubscribed. Cllr Warren advised that funding was now in place to allow a 9 month commitment to the running of the new youth club next year with the hopes of extending this. Cllr Warren noted that the club was not only for Icklesham but the whole Parish.

20/105 Item 24. Future meetings or events. Cllr Turner and Cllr Smedley advised that they will be attending the SSALC AGM on 9th December. The Clerk proposed arranging an Open Spaces meeting shortly as there were various items outstanding relevant for consideration by the Committee.

20/106 Item 25. Date and venue for next meeting. Monday 11th January 2021 7:15pm