



Trotton with Chithurst Parish Council

www.parish-council.com/trottonwithchithurst

Parish clerk: Neil Ryder: Steps, Trotton, GU31 5EP

**Parish council members are summoned to the meeting to be held on Wed, 9th November 2016
at the Southdowns Manor, Trotton commencing at 20.00hrs.**

Members of the Public and Press are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Neil Ryder, clerk 2nd November 2016

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence

2. Disclosure of Interests

To receive any disclosure by Members of personal interests in matters on the agenda.

3. Public questions

The next ten minutes are available for the public to express a view or ask a question on relevant matters on the following agenda. The public are welcome to stay and observe the rest of the meeting

4. Reports from district and county councillors.

5. Minutes from the council meeting held on 13th July 2016.

To be agreed and signed. [Copies on website library page]

6. Proposal to pay for Trotton churchyard grass-cutting

a. See agenda notes below

7. Finance update (Neil / Carola)

- a. Review of budget, balances and expected payments - see attachments and agenda notes below
- b. Agree budget and precept for next year - see attachments and agenda notes below

8. Noticeboards / sign posts

- a. Proposed purchase of new noticeboard at Fairy Cross (Carola)
- b. Possible removal of Disused signpost poles at Mill Lane / Terwick Lane junction (Rosie)

9. Planning updates

- a. TAG Farnborough consultation (Neil): see attached response to consultation
- b. Maple Ridge (Keith): to discuss the new fast-track planning procedure for brownfield sites. If Maple Ridge garden centre is closed, it could be classified as a brownfield site and the council might want to consider taking more responsibility for its development via 1) a neighbourhood plan or 2) a community housing proposal.
- c. Any other planning matters (Dave)

10. Other updates

- a. Defibrillator training (Carola)
- b. Website (Neil / Nobby)

11. Information for councillors that are considered urgent or to be included on future agenda.

12. Dates of meetings in 2017:

- a. Next meeting: 8pm on Wednesday 8th January 2017, venue to be confirmed.
- b. To agree meetings for rest of 2017: 2nd Wed of odd-numbered months

See notes to agenda overleaf

Notes to agenda for council meeting on 9 November 2016

Agenda Item

6 Proposal to pay for Trotton churchyard grass-cutting

The council has previously agreed that it would be prudent to make some allowance for the time when Neil Ryder is no longer able or willing to fulfil the rôle of clerk for free. He has therefore been looking into charity trusts – where the council could pay into a trust, rather than directly to the clerk, but he would choose the charity/ies supported by the Trust. However, this is an expensive structure for the relatively small amount of money involved.

Neil is now proposing a simpler idea: that the council should pay £500 (the previous clerk's salary) per year towards grass-cutting / maintenance in Trotton churchyard. The church would be made aware that the allowance would be stopped if the council had to pay a clerk, but it would be a welcome allowance in the meantime, as the benefice is struggling to cover the costs of the two churches within our parish.

Two members have also asked if we could make a direct donation to the fund for Chithurst church roof. SALC advises that there are legal restrictions against this but there are other ways that the council could legally support the Rogate united benefice (which includes both Trotton and Chithurst churches).

7 Finance update

a. 2016-17: Updated budget and payments for the year so far are attached, with notes covering the main issues and a copy of the latest bank statement. However, to elaborate on some of the notes on the budget sheet:

- note 2/10: printer scanner – the council did not have a printer / scanner and Neil Ryder's was inadequate to the task! He has replaced his but will claim the cost from the council only if he succeeds in reclaiming the cost from the government transparency fund.

- note 4: previous budget allowed £90 for SSALC finance and legal course but NR would prefer the broader online course from SLCC which costs £99

- note 8: we have already paid £300 for the setup of the new website and the annual fee of £300 (both £250 once we reclaim the VAT) but we propose to leave an extra £200 for additional features if required (see notes to item 10)

- note 9: grass-cutting at Trotton church – see notes to agenda item 6 above

b. 2017-18: An initial proposed budget is attached, and this suggests that the precept be kept at its current level of £3,000. These can be approved at this meeting or in the January meeting.

10b Website

Nobby and Neil have agreed the core outline of the website with 2commune and placed the order on 21 Oct. They warned us of a 2-3 weeks waiting time, so they should start work any time now and we should be able to start adding content a week or two after that. We therefore hope to have a "beta" site for members to comment on before our next meeting.