



MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held on Monday, 9th March, 2022 commencing at 18:00hrs in St George’s, Trotton
[see agenda / meeting papers attached to this event on our website]

Present: Chris Cullen, Dave Dawtrey, Kathryn MacKellar, Neil Ryder, Anne Stephens

Also attending: Veronica Carter, Barry Cooper, Tim Palmer

Apologies: Carola Brown, Colleen Homan, Kate O’Kelly (district & county councillor)

1. **Disclosure of Interests:** None
2. **Public questions:** Members of the public were invited to contribute at the appropriate point in the agenda
3. **Reports from district and county councillor**
KOK’s report was read out and is attached as an appendix to these minutes.
4. **Minutes from the council meeting held on 26th January 2021 and matters arising.**

Reference	Who	Action	By when
20210113-9c	NR / DD	Provide trees for Chithurst graveyard	WIP
20210310-9c	DD	Repair tel box door-closer and remove windows	WIP
20210712-9b	CH	Inspect “Definitive map” and docs and report back to members	WIP
20210908-8b	AS / AT	Meet to discuss programme of community events in St George’s	See item 8
20211115-8a	DD/CH	Meet new owner of Goldrings Warren to discuss permissive footpaths	Await owner
20211115-9e	AS / NR	Meet Southdowns Manor re Queen’s jubilee event + NR explore other PC plans	See item 8
20220126-5b	NR	Pay domain hosting bill	Done
20220126-5d	CC/NR	Review insurance arrangements	See item 5
20220126-7b	CH	Contact verge landowner re seepage	WIP
20220126-7d	NR	Confirm riverside forum with Tim Palmer	See item 6g
20220126-8a	AS/NR	Confirm First Friday arrangements with 3 Horseshoes	Done
20220126-8b	NR	Liaise with Eco Rother Action re jubilee grant projects	Done
20220126-8b	AS/NR	Liaise with Rogate PC re platinum jubilee plans	Done – see item 8

5. **Finance see meeting papers**
 - a. NR had circulated updates on the current year position and noted that the outcome at the financial year end (31 March) was expected to be a surplus of under £100, excluding the £31k income from Operation Watershed, (see item 7f), which would be paid back out as soon as the work was completed. CC noted that the PC had been notified by the SDNPA that it would shortly receive some £4,000+ of unexpected Community Infrastructure Levy funding related to development at Wickwood, Chithurst. This could only be used for new infrastructure developments in the parish but he and NR would need to research the restrictions more carefully and would report back at the next meeting.
 - b. A payment of £123.07 to NR for expenses was approved
 - c. Insurance: CC / NR had begun a review of the insurance policy with a view to renewing or replacing it with another 3-year contract. Members agreed that NR should consult the Hodgson family about treating the bench on the wildflower meadow as a donation, to cover it under the PC’s insurance. [Post-meeting note: this was approved by Di Hodgson].
6. **Planning / environment / highways**
 - a. Planning application: SDNP/22/00681/LDE – The Barn, Chithurst Lane: application to reclassify part of property as garden – deadline 29 March. Members had no objection but NR agreed to check with the next-door neighbour before responding [Post-meeting note: the neighbour had no objection, so response submitted]
 - d. SDNPA meeting: CC and NR had registered to attend a meeting on 16th March to hear about the government response to the Glover Landscape Review (on National Parks) and would report back.
 - e. Public rights of way: Members noted that the 2026 deadline for registering new rights of way had been abolished.
 - f. Fernbank, Terwick Lane: The planning applications was still in progress. CH was not present at the meeting to give an update on the ongoing ownership enquiries or on the complaints about water seeping on corner of Terwick Lane.

- g. River Rother maintenance: Tim Palmer of Wembridge House, Chithurst had agreed to act as the liaison between a group of riparian owners in the parish and similar groups in neighbouring parishes as well as the Environment Agency. TP was already in touch with the Stedham group (who initiated the groups), and reported that he the sluice at Stedham Mill had failed, which would result in a drop of the river level upstream, although this was not expected to be a problem. TP was still learning about the illegal discharges at Harting and about other matters. VC (on behalf of the Eco Rother Group said she was looking for a small amount of funding to monitor the river and agreed to provide a formal request to the PC for this.
- h. Climate crisis: KM had circulated notes and slides on the recent meeting. VC asked for information about the PC's ownership of the strip of land in front of the flats in Mill Lane West, as this might be suitable for an electric vehicle charging point. [Post-meeting note: NR has sent this to VC]
- i. Tree preservation survey: This had been suggested by the Eco-Rother Group following the recent felling of a line of mature trees close to the A272 in Rogate parish. NR agreed to ask Rogate to let him know the outcome of enquiries about this.

7. Events:

- a. Alternative events to make up for loss of fete: AS reported that the churchwardens at St George's had arranged a fund-raising dinner at Southdowns Manor on 11th May. This was to be an invitation-only, not a community-based event, so members did not feel they needed to plan more events for church funds.
- b. First Friday plans: AS agreed to arrange the April event at Aylings and to discuss a possible event at the Elsted Inn for May.
- c. Queen's platinum jubilee (3rd – 5th June 2022): Members agreed to co-operate with Rogate PC arrangements rather than to plan separate events. AS and KM agreed to join the organising committee and report back. It was also agreed that the June First Friday should be held in the marquee at Rogate. Members also agreed to NR's proposal to buy 10 jubilee lamp-post signs from the Royal British Legion for £50 (plus delivery).
- d. Defib training: VC agreed to check costs for a proposed training session.

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

9. Date of next meetings:

- a. 6th May: Annual parish meeting @ Elsted Inn (if First Friday agreed)
- b. 11th May Parish Council AGM and meeting (venue TBD)

Action points:

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20211115-8a	DD/CH	Meet new owner of Goldrings Warren to discuss permissive footpaths	Await owner
20220126-5d	CC/NR	Review insurance arrangements	Renew by 28/04/2022
20220126-7b	CH	Contact verge landowner re seepage	WIP
20220309-5a	CC/NR	Research restrictions on uses of CIL funding	04/05/2022 (for next meeting)
20220309-5c	NR	Consult Hodgson family re treating bench as donation	Done
20220309-6a	NR	Check with neighbour and submit comment on SDNP/22/00681/LDE	Done
20220309-6b	CC/NR	Report back on SDNPA meeting re Glover review	04/05/2022 (for next meeting)
20220309-6e	VC/TP	Provide formal application to PC to fund river monitoring	04/05/2022 (for next meeting)
20220309-6f	NR	Send VC precise information re land on Mill Lane West	Done
20220309-6f	NR	Ask Rogate PC for follow-up on tree felling	04/05/2022 (for next meeting)
20220309-7b	AS	Arrange First Friday events for April and May	ASAP
20220309-7c	AS/KM	Join organising committee for Rogate-based jubilee events	ASAP
20220309-7c	NR	Purchase jubilee lamp-post signs	Done
20220309-7d	VC	Check costs for defib training	04/05/2022 (for next meeting)

Attached (web site only): District and county councillor notes

1. Ukraine

Both Councils are now flying Ukrainian flags. At WSCC there was cross party agreement to write to the Ukrainian ambassador offering our support and the to the Prime Minister calling on him to align our policy on sanctuary for Ukrainian refugees with Europe. We have asked CDC to do the same.

Local charity – Children on the Edge are appealing for cash donations – they have 2 decades of working in Eastern Europe – Donations will mean charities in Moldova and Romania can buy locally what is needed.

https://www.childrenontheedge.org/?gclid=EAlaIqobChMI_478oLi39gIVIGDmChOYUAVdEAAAYASAAEgKvufD_BwE

Disaster emergency committee

https://www.dec.org.uk/?gclid=EAlaIqobChMI6PiB4bi39gIV9GDmCh2UmgLQEAAYASAAEgloN_D_BwE

The Ukrainian institute – London information on how to help

<https://ui.org.ua/en/>

2. Midhurst Greenway

Very good turnout at the Grange for the exhibition. I have had a meeting with WSCC officers leading on the scheme this week. I am hopeful we can persuade them to change the proposed surface to one more suited to the rural setting, also they were open to reducing the width where possible. We also discussed not including replacing the bridge with a larger one until it needs replacement – this would be a better use of resources and would reduce the cost of the scheme considerably.

The most challenging area to date has been to look at the South route round the pond rather than the North – previously insurmountable safety concerns were raised by the team – we asked them to look again at this in view of the strength of feeling in the community - particularly whether we could consider a 20mph / traffic calming option in South Street to be added into the scheme - this might make it possible to direct the route South of the pond. The officers will be reviewing all the views from the consultation then they will arrange a meet up with key stakeholders again.

3. Highways

TRO – change of policy – new rolling programme – for communities to make simple changes to the highway – signs and lines. Document attached for full detail.

4. Health and Adults Social Care Committee

HASC met this week– we scrutinised the plan to change the status of the Neonatal unit at St Richards to a special care baby unit - premature babies between 27 weeks and 32 weeks will no longer be looked after at St Richards but be transferred to QA and then back to St Richards when appropriate. We agreed the recommendations – best practice means a unit like the one at St Richards should look after 25 babies a year in this category – they are only seeing 9 currently. Best outcomes in this very specialised area are achieved at a tertiary centre. We asked about transport and facilities for parents at QA and were reassured.

5. Budget day at WSCC

Full Council scheduled for 18th Feb was postponed until 28th Feb because of storm Eunice.

Headlines – the Executive proposed a 2.99% rise in the County Council Tax. 1% specifically for adult social care – costs still spiralling.

The LD group suggested amending the budget however these were refused.

- More occupational health provision in the community to support independence at home
- More support for carers – appointing officers to help with financial advice for carers
- An additional mental health team embedded in schools.
- Childrens mental health - more provision – specifically on eating disorders – 50% increase in demand during Covid
- Climate – looking at a capital fund for communities to apply to for climate community initiatives.

6. Budget day at CDC

This week we agreed the budget including a £5 increase in council tax. We put two amendments in – one for a landscape officer to help with enforcement in new developments – working with developers and the council to improve the environmental protections. Also a new officer in the economic development team looking at supporting businesses specialising in sustainable activities – the officer will for grants – work with small businesses to scale up activities such as retrofitting homes. There was cross party agreement for our amendments so both these initiatives will go ahead.

My next drop-in March 28th Milland Stores 10.30-12.30