

RINGMER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday 15th March at 19:30
In the Parish Rooms, Lucy Stone Room

Present:				
Cllr Gordon Sims (Chairman) (GS)	Cllr Johnny Denis (JD)	Cllr John Kay (JK)	Cllr Gavin May (GM)	
Cllr Marcia Morgan (MM)	Cllr Sarah Phillips (SP)	Cllr David Terry (DT)	Cllr Richard Turner (RT)	
Cllr John Whitlock (JW)				
Also in attendance:	Julia Shelley			
Members of the public:	10 (plus one member of the public who arrived late/left early)			
Item	Agenda Item			Act
1.	To receive and accept apologies for absence Apologies were received from Cllr Tara Barber, Cllr Martin Crisp and Cllr Margaret Crompton.			
2.	Declarations of Members' Interests and Dispensation Requests RT declared an interest in planning applications LW/20/0485, LW/22/0104 as the applications may be called to Full Committee at Lewes District Council. GM declared a personal interest in planning application LW/22/0104. JD declared an interest in 9.1 Swimming Pool and 11.5 skatepark CIL funding.			
3.	To accept the Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 25th January 2022 RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on the 25 th of January 2022 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.			
4.	Public questions or comments: Up to 15 minutes (3 minutes per person) will be available for the public to make representations or questions. Please note that under Data protection regulations we ask members of the public to only state their name if they agree to their name being recorded. Issues raised: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request that Parish Council object to planning application LW/20/0485 as despite revision of condition (source of waste)the size of lagoon remains overlarge for site. Request that Parish Council re-instate close cutting of grass areas in Middleham Close in response to residents' requests. Action: Parish Council to review locations of wildflower grass and the suitability of the locations. Request that Parish Council object to planning application LW/22/0104. The plan Increases the urbanisation of the village and surrounds whilst failing to provide the locally needed housing stock e.g. affordable properties and those suitable for downsizing. Further noted by resident that LW/22/0104 denies the principles of the Ringmer Neighbourhood Plan. 			
5.	If the Committee wishes to exclude the public for a particular agenda item, the following resolution must be passed: 'That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.'			
6.	Reports received via email prior to the meeting were circulated to councillors			
6.1	East Sussex County Councillor			
6.2	Lewes District Councillor(s)			
6.3	To receive and accept any reports submitted JD(District) reported that Lewes District Council had passed the 2022 – 2023 budget with a focus on fairness. A Hardship Fund (£500,000) has been established. The Council Tax rebate of £150 will be applied immediately if payment is taken by direct debit otherwise individuals must apply for the rebate. The Parish Council acknowledged the report submitted by Maria Caulfield, MP.			

7.	<p>Co-Option of Councillor – To consider any expressions of interest in accordance with Parish Council’s Standing Orders</p> <p>No expressions of interest have been received.</p>	
8.	<p>Planning Matters: To consider responses to Planning Applications</p>	
8.1	<p>LW/20/0485 – Upper Lodge Farm, The Broyle, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5AP</p> <p>Amended scheme – Replacement of existing farmyard manure store with an upgraded facility, repair and upgrade of existing slurry lagoon and associated earth engineering works. NB. Slurry lagoon reduced in size.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision – Objects.</p> <p>Due to increased traffic movement within village, damage to road surfaces and that the lagoon is still unnecessarily large/disproportionate for the site.</p> <p>Please note RT abstained.</p>	
8.2	<p>LW/21/0935 – Caburn Field, Anchor Field, Ringmer, East Sussex</p> <p>Discharge of Condition 23 (design surface water flow) relating to planning approval LW/18/0808 (amended details to previous approval)</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision – No comment on application.</p> <p>RT reviewed the application on behalf of a resident.</p>	
8.3	<p>LW/21/0970 – Upper Broyle Farm, Broyle Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5AB</p> <p>Extension of agricultural building</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision – Supports this application.</p> <p>Please note GS abstained.</p>	
8.4	<p>LW/22/0009 – 2 Upper Broyle Farm Cottages, The Broyle, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5AL</p> <p>Creation of crossover to access a ‘B’ classified road and creation of new drive</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision – Supports this application.</p>	
8.5	<p>LW/22/0021 – 72 Harrisons Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5LJ</p> <p>Single storey side extension with crown roof</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision – No comment on application.</p>	
8.6	<p>LW/22/0023 – 10 Mill Path, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5JH</p> <p>First floor crown roof rear extension with 2no. rear windows and side facing dormer</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision – Supports this application.</p> <p>The Parish Council appreciates the retention of the building as a two bedroom property.</p>	
8.7	<p>LW/22/0024 – 9 Mill Path, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5JH</p> <p>First floor rear extension and side facing segmental dormer and 3no. rooflights on the side plane of the roof and 2no. rooflights to front plane of the roof</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision – Supports this application subject to 8.3 of the Ringmer Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	
8.8	<p>LW/22/0030 – 29 Mill Mead, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5JG</p> <p>Non-material amendment of application LW/21/0517 for the installation of 1no rear dormer instead of 2no rear dormers</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision – No comment on application.</p>	
8.9	<p>LW/22/0077 – The Stables, The Holdings, Old Uckfield Road, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5RY</p> <p>Single storey rear extension with pitched roof and creation of rear dormer</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision – Supports this application.</p>	
8.10	<p>LW/22/0078 – 31 Harvard Road, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5HH</p> <p>First floor side extension</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision – Supports this application subject to 8.3 of the Ringmer Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	
8.11	<p>LW/22/0104 – Land South of Lewes Road and Laughton Road, Chamberlaines Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex</p> <p>Outline planning application with all matters reserves for up to 68 residential units. During detailed discussion of the application Cllr. Kay declared that were this application successful, he would take it to Judicial Review.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Object Parish Council Decision – Objects.</p> <p>On the same grounds as before and that the community asset donation has been removed. Please note the vote was 5 councillors in favour, 2 councillors abstained and 2 councillors had previously declared an interest.</p>	

8.12	LW/22/0112 – Old Ship, Uckfield Road, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5RP Widening of opening in an existing internal wall RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision – Supports this application.	
8.13	LW/22/0161 11 Elphick Road, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5PR Single-storey rear extension. RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision – Supports this application.	
8.14	Planning Matters: Decisions	
	LW/21/0335 – Red Barn Farm, Harveys Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5AE – Approved	
	LW/21/0393 – Broyle Mill Farm, The Broyle, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5AR – Refused	
	LW/21/0565 – The Cheyney Field, Lewes Road, Ringmer, East Sussex – Approved	
	LW/21/0628 – 48 Ballard Drive, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5NU – Approved	
	LW/21/0757 - Pear Trees, Rushey Green, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5JB - Approved	
	LW/21/0891 – Mays Farm, Norlington Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5SG – Approved	
	LW/21/0919 – JWR Tyres, Oak Trees, The Broyle, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 6PH – Approved	
	LW/21/0955 – 11 Elphick Road, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5PR – Refused	
	LW/21/0961 – 3 Peartree Cottages, Lewes Road, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5EU – Approved	
	LW/21/0983 – Sunnybrae, Broyle Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5PQ – Approved	
	LW/22/0030 – 29 Mill Mead, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5JG - Approved	
9.	Governance Matters	
9.1	Swimming Pool – To receive an update on Pauline Young’s (ESCC) response to our expression of interest. JD confirmed that the expression of interest has been received from ESCC and the swimming pool group have two weeks to respond with further information and a more detailed business case. Residents can register their support via ringmercommunitypool@gmail.com.	
9.2	To receive an update on combining the Strategic Plan Working Group (SPWG) and the Communications Working Group (CWG). No update available. Carried forward.	
9.3	To receive an update on RPC Assets of Community Value. In discussion Anchor Inn, Fingerpost Field, Ringmer Swimming Pool, Anchor Field and Car Park. No update available. Carried forward.	
10.	Highways Matters To receive an update. No update received.	
11.	Open Spaces and Related Matters	
11.1	To receive an update on the Parish Council’s Assets Survey and bin audit. ACTION: All councillors to provide details of bin audit to GM. The Parish Council would like to record their thanks to Liz Owen for her help with this project.	ALL
11.2	To receive an update on the Bus Shelter at The Cock Inn. ESCC Highways inspected the site with JK and SP, however concerns about both disabled access and road crossing safety meant that plans for the bus shelter could not be progressed. ESCC Highways are looking at alternative options.	
11.3	Skatepark – To receive an update on asking LDC to gift Fingerpost Field. LDC are unwilling to gift Fingerpost Field to the Parish Council but will lease the land. A lease document will be supplied in the next 4-6 weeks.	
11.4	Skatepark – To receive an update from the two meetings with Bendcrete (21 st February and 7 th March 2022). GM reported that the technical pack for the planning application has been supplied along with a firm price. Consultation documents will be provided to neighbours. GM will review costs and prepare a CIL grant request. GM recorded his thanks to SP and GS for their help and support with the Skatepark project.	GM
11.5	Skatepark – To ratify a decision to submit an expression of interest for LDC CIL funding current round. The expectation is that a CIL grant of circa £75,000 will be requested. RESOLVED: The Parish Council agreed to ratify the decision.	

11.6	<p>Village Green Play Area – To receive an update from the on-site meeting with KOMPAN on Thursday 26th January 2022.</p> <p>At the KOMPLAN meeting it was agreed to improve the area under Captain Mainwearing as part of the refurbishment (additional cost). The work will commence during May 2022 and take approximately one month.</p> <p>ACTION: Communicate closure to community via newsletter, Facebook, posters at the playground and via primary school.</p>	OFFICE
11.7	<p>Grounds Maintenance and “In Bloom” application – to receive an update from meeting held on 7th February 2022.</p> <p>GM reported on a meeting with the contractor Tony Read, the plans for changing mowing criteria and increasing the number of cuts for Fingerpost Field will impact on the contract costs. The changes in contract will be taken to the Finance and Office Committee Meeting for discussion.</p> <p>ACTION: The Parish Council is aware of concerns about the locations and development of the wildflower swathes so will review the locations in line with the correspondence received. It was agreed that the approach should be measured listening to concerns and the plan negotiated and revised as necessary.</p> <p>In Bloom application. No update available.</p>	O&F
12.	Communications Matters:	
12.1	<p>To receive an update on RPC Newsletter</p> <p>This to be progressed based on template provided by Clerk.</p>	OFFICE
13.	<p>Finance Matters:</p> <p>JK requested confirmation that Light Source is the solar farm.</p> <p>GS confirmed that this is two years of annual community fund payment.</p> <p>It was agreed to delegate authority to the Finance and Office Committee for decisions on any CIL Applications and Grant Applications. The Finance and Office Committee will report back to the Full Parish Council.</p>	O&F
13.1	<p>To receive the latest Financial Reports</p> <p>Approved.</p>	
13.2	<p>To approve the latest bank reconciliation</p> <p>Approved.</p>	
13.3	<p>To approve the list of payments</p> <p>Approved.</p>	
13.4	<p>Update on Recovery Fund/Welcome Back Fund re. Precinct Shops</p> <p>GM reported that this project is proving hard to progress as suppliers appear unable to provide quotes before the fund closes at the end of March 2022.</p> <p>Action: Clerk to remove from April agenda.</p>	CLERK
13.5	<p>Update on location of the Parklet from the Welcome Back fund via LDC</p> <p>Unfortunately, the Parklet required hard standing for installation and no suitable location could be identified.</p>	
14.	<p>To discuss the LDC Consultation</p> <p>The Parish Council approved the action to write, in co-operation with Plumpton Parish Council, to Mr M Gove.</p>	GS
15.	<p>Staffing Matters</p> <p>The Chairman confirmed that Gail Metcalfe has tendered her resignation. The Responsible Financial Officer confirmed that she will stay in post whilst her help is required. It is suggested that two part-time posts (Clerk and Administrator) should be advertised and that the pay scales are reviewed.</p>	GS
16.	<p>The 2022 Hub Invitation – to decide if the Parish want to have a table</p> <p>RESOLVED: It was agreed to take a table at the event on July 2nd, 2022, 10 am– 1pm.</p> <p>Action: Councillors to volunteer for a session on the day.</p>	ALL
17.	<p>Update on water pipe leak at allotments</p> <p>The contractor has not yet completed the repair. It was agreed to seek another contractor if the work is not completed by Wednesday 23rd March 2022.</p>	OFFICE

18.	<p>Reports, Correspondence, Questions and Future Agenda Items</p> <p>To consider any correspondence received after this agenda has been published for noting or action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Request to confirm level of verge mowing with ESCC. It was agreed to continue with the standard number of cuts as the one metre mown swath has minimal impact on wildlife. b) The Parish Council has been offered land adjacent to the churchyard as a gift in a will. The land is to be held in trust for the Parish as community space. The land comes with a £10,000 reserve fund and a few conditions of use to ensure its tranquillity. It was agreed that the Chairman would write to the executors and express the Parish Council gratitude, review the conditions and accept the legacy. Access points need to be discussed. c) Item for next agenda: Additional signage or banners to highlight services at the shopping precinct. d) RT took the opportunity to highlight the local support for Ukraine being provided by local resident Kevin Miller, the local support has been wonderful. The Green Man is accepting donations. e) Request to use the green for wedding parking 10th September 2022. Action: Confirm that this is the weekend of the Village Fair and provide update to enquirer. 	<p>GS</p> <p>OFFICE</p>
19.	<p>Urgent items at the Chairman's discretion requiring decisions which cannot be held over until the next meeting</p> <p>None.</p>	
	<p>There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9pm.</p>	

THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS HAVE A RIGHT AND ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Date of Next Council Meeting **Tuesday 12th April 2022 at 19.30**
in the Parish Rooms, Lucy Stone Room