

RINGMER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday 17th January 2023 at 19.30
In the Parish Rooms, Lucy Stone Room

Present:			
Cllr Margaret Crompton (MC)	Cllr Johnny Denis (JD)	Cllr John Kay (JK)	Cllr Gavin May (GM)
Cllr Marcia Morgan (MM)	Cllr Sarah Phillips (SP)	Cllr Gordon Sims (GS)	Cllr David Terry (DT)
Cllr Richard Turner (RT)	Cllr John Whitlock (JW)		
Attendance:	Annie Hazzard (AH) - Clerk Gail Metcalfe (GPM) - Administrator		
Members of the public:	8		

Agenda Items

1.	To receive and accept apologies for absence Apologies were received from Cllrs Tara Barber (TB), Matt Crisp (MC) and David Duke (DD).	
2.	Declarations of Interest: Disclosure by Councillors of their personal interests in regard to matters on the agenda, and whether the councillor regards their interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct. RT declared an interest in planning application LW/22/0840 and left the room when this was discussed at items 5. and 16.7.	
3.	Dispensation requests None received.	
4.	To accept the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 13th December 2022 RESOLVED: To accept and sign the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 13 th December 2022.	
5.	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. A member of the public asked Cllrs to refuse the planning application LW/22/0840 at item 16.7 on environmental grounds and capitalism.	
6.	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.' Not needed.	
7.	Reports from Clerk, MP, District and County Councillors, and PCSO (Up to 15 mins) Clerk Maria Caulfield, MP East Sussex County Councillor Lewes District Councillor PCSO The above reports were duly noted. JK stated his thanks for the Clerk's report and said it was very useful for keeping track of matters.	
8.	Finance Matters:	
8.1	To receive the latest Financial Reports - received.	
8.2	To approve the latest bank reconciliation - approved and signed.	
8.3	To approve the list of payments - approved and signed.	
8.4	To agree the Ringmer Parish Precept for the financial year 2023/24 After some discussion, and various proposals, it was agreed by a vote of 4 against, 5 for and one abstention to request the precept for the full amount of the budget set at £157,084.00. RESOLVED: To request the full precept amount of £157,084.	CLERK

8.5	<p>CIL Priorities and Strategic Plan Working Group - To receive an update on forming this group. GS explained that he had held an initial meeting on 12th January 2023 with Cllrs David Duke, Gavin May, Sarah Phillips and the Clerk. Two headings had been decided on being Aesthetics and Sustainability. He invited those interested to join the next meeting on Thursday 23rd February 2023.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to confirm meeting date and time to Cllrs.</p>	CLERK
8.6	<p>Financial Regulations - To review and approve the amendments.</p> <p>The amendments were agreed with a rewording requested at point 4.1 to: The Clerk, in conjunction with Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the council and Chairman of the appropriate committee, for any items over £1,000.00 and below £5,000.00 exclusive of VAT.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To approve the amendments and to reword point 4.1 as above.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to amend and upload new Financial Regulations.</p>	CLERK
9.	Governance Matters:	
9.1	<p>Swimming Pool - To receive an update.</p> <p>JD confirmed that there were no further updates.</p>	
9.2	<p>RPC Assets of Community Value – See Clerk’s report.</p> <p>The following successful nominations were noted: Barcombe Mills Car Park Fingerpost Field Village Hall</p> <p>ACTION: Office to continue to work through the list.</p>	OFFICE
10.	<p>Highways Matters:</p> <p>i. To report back on the Maria Caulfield meeting held on 12th January 2023. SP reported that it had been expressed to Maria Caulfield that any road improvement requests made were always met with a negative response. JD suggested informing West Sussex County Council and Rupert Club of ESCC of any requests. SP said Maria Caulfield would be looking into this and reporting back.</p> <p>ii. To report back on the SLR meeting held on 16th January 2023. SP reported that the meeting had been as usual with our long list of requested actions being rejected as not being at “intervention level”. She confirmed that the next meeting is booked in for 12th June 2023.</p> <p>ACTION: Agenda item for February meeting: Do we want to ask for ownership of Anchor Field Car Park from Lewes District Council.</p>	OFFICE
11.	Open Spaces and Related Matters:	
11.1	<p>Snow and Ice Clearing - To discuss and decide if a new grit bin outside Foundry Healthcare is wanted. See Clerk’s Report for details.</p> <p>RESOLVED: Not to provide a new grit bin outside Foundry Healthcare.</p>	
11.2	<p>Skatepark - To receive an update.</p> <p>JW confirmed that the archaeological report was being finalised but that it would not be in time for the February committee and would go to the March Committee.</p>	
11.3	<p>Bus Shelter outside Pump Cottage - To receive an update.</p> <p>ACTION: Office to check with East Sussex County Council that this would be possible before any further steps taken on this.</p>	OFFICE
11.4	<p>Fields House - To receive an update.</p> <p>GS confirmed that the process of transfer was with the Solicitors.</p> <p>ACTION: JW to provide the specification of the footpath.</p>	JW
11.5	<p>Anchor Field - Proposal for open space once hoarding has been removed.</p> <p>GS confirmed that the hoarding has been removed.</p> <p>ACTION: Office to ask residents what they would like to see in this space.</p>	OFFICE
11.6	<p>Play Area Working Group - To review and approve the Terms of Reference.</p> <p>It was agreed to change the name of this Working Group to Play Area and Outdoor Social Spaces Working Group with the key responsibility wording changed to: The Play Area and Outdoor Social Spaces Working Group is responsible for informing and recommending to the Council issues regarding the management, maintenance, and upkeep of the existing and future play areas owned by the Council ie. playing fields and play areas and its equipment. Membership to be changed to 3 appointed Members of the Parish Council.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to amend per above and to upload.</p>	CLERK

11.7	<p>Streetlights in Springett Avenue - To receive an update and decide way forward. See Clerk's report.</p> <p>GS confirmed that these two lights had been turned off. All were in agreement to remove the lights. JD stated that it may be harder to turn them off permanently as a decision to install them had been made at some point. GS stated that there were numerous other lights in that location.</p> <p>ACTION: Chairman to investigate options and present these to Council.</p>	GS
12.	Communications Matters:	
12.1	<p>Noticeboard at the Shopping Precinct - To receive an update.</p> <p>In DD's absence, GS confirmed that access to this noticeboard had been obtained.</p> <p>ACTION: DD to clean and sort out.</p>	DD
12.2	<p>Noticeboard outside Fingerpost Field playground - To receive an update.</p> <p>GS confirmed this was now our noticeboard.</p> <p>ACTION: DD to sort out.</p>	DD
13.	<p>Water Resources South East Consultation – To discuss.</p> <p>ACTION: Office to invite public views via our online platforms, indicating the deadline for our response is 20th February 2023.</p>	OFFICE
14.	<p>NPPF Consultation – To discuss Michael Gove's letter of 22nd December 2022.</p> <p>JK noted that overall this was good news especially at points 4, 5 and 7. It was noted that the deadline for this was 2nd March 2023 and that it could, therefore, be deferred.</p> <p>ACTION: Agenda item deferred to February Full Council meeting.</p>	OFFICE
15.	<p>Citizens Advice - To discuss ideas addressing the needs in Ringmer. Please see Clerk's Report. It was agreed that we could offer our meeting room.</p> <p>ACTION: Clerk to offer our meeting room to them and for them to see if suitable.</p>	CLERK
16.	Planning Matters - To consider responses to Planning Applications:	
16.1	<p>LW/22/0741 - 37 Mill Mead, Ringmer, BN8 5JG</p> <p>Erection of single storey side extension, roof extension to side and front porch (by 03/02/2023).</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - No objection.</p>	
16.2	<p>LW/22/0787 - Barcombe Treatment Works, Barcombe Mills, Barcombe Mills Road, Barcombe, East Sussex, BN8 5BU</p> <p>The installation of water supply infrastructure consisting of 2 no. new kiosks and a pump house with backwash tank for South East Water Ltd (by 12/01/2023, extension requested).</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - Supports.</p>	
16.3	<p>LW/22/0823 – Wish Farm, Moor Lane, Ringmer, BN8 5UP</p> <p>Variation of condition 1 (approved plans) relating to approval LW/19/0770 - To enable minor material amendments to 1 Gravel access track, 2 Permeable surface driveway, 3 Courtyard - combination of hard surfaces and soft landscape, 4 Meadow grass and planting with perimeter hedgerows, 5 Refuse and bicycle store, 6 Porch extension altered to form part of living room, 7 Main entrance positioned centrally on principal elevation, 8 Existing perimeter wall extended to complete corner, 9 Roof eaves overhang added, 10 Lowered ground floor level within building, 11 Additional windows and roof lights, 12 Roof Material, 13 Additional roof flue (by 06/02/2023).</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - No objection.</p>	
16.4	<p>LW/22/0831 – Lower Barn Farmhouse, Lewes Road, Ringmer, BN8 5NB</p> <p>Single storey side extension to existing garage with lobby for connection to existing dairy out building, to provide accommodation in the form of a self-contained Annex for family members part annually and as a Holiday Let part annually and to be considered as ancillary to the main house for Mr G Ottewell. (by 25/01/2023).</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - No objection.</p>	
16.5	<p>LW/22/0834 – Raystede, The Broyle, Ringmer, BN8 5AJ</p> <p>Proposed terrapin enclosure and education pavilion and associated works (by 26/01/2023).</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - Supports.</p>	
16.6	<p>LW/22/0838 – The Stables, The Holdings, Old Uckfield Road, Ringmer, BN8 5RY</p> <p>Two storey rear extension and roof extension (by 31/01/2023).</p> <p>RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision – No comment as plans were not available online.</p> <p>ACTION: Office to request an extension.</p>	OFFICE

16.7	LW/22/0840 – Bridge Farm, Barcombe Mills Road, Barcombe, BN8 5BX Erection of one workshop comprising 4 modular units with associated car parking on the established rural employment site (by 07/02/2023). The Chair of Barcombe Parish Council spoke against this saying it was industrialising a beauty spot and was too large in scale. The applicant spoke of none of the consultees having objected and that this would provide a space for employment RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - Supports.	
16.8	LW/22/0849 - Clayhill House, Uckfield Road, Ringmer, BN8 5RU (Full Planning Applicant) & LW/22/0850 (Listed Building Consent) Extension and alterations to Grade II Listed Building and outbuildings to create 5no dwellings and ancillary accommodation, upgrade field access entrance, creation of driveway, landscaping and associated works (by 01/02/2023). RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - Objects on the grounds of lack of parking, over-development and car dependency with additional access onto A26 being required.	
17.	Planning Matters - All Decisions:	
	LW/22/0282 - Land to the South of the Broyle, Ringmer - Refused LW/22/0662 - Land to the front of 1 Little Paddock, Ringmer, BN8 5PU - Refused LW/22/0689 - 11 Green Close, Ringmer, BN8 5LG - Approved LW/22/0692 - Bluebell Cottage, Laughton Road, Ringmer, BN8 5NH - Approved LW/22/0729/CD - Land Adjacent 3 Mill Close Road, Ringmer - Approved LW/22/0761 - 1 Queens Drive, Ringmer, BN8 5FU – Approved These were noted.	
18.	Planning Application Committee Meetings - To nominate a representative for 01.02.23 Hearing APP/P1425/22/3308331 Averys Nurseries and to nominate an overall deputy for JW. JW confirmed that he can now attend the hearing on 1 st February 2023. It was decided that a Vice Chair should be appointed in May 2023 but at the moment a deputy be decided on a case by case basis and as required. ACTION: Office to note agenda item of appointing a Vice Chair for planning after the May 2023 elections.	OFFICE
19.	Reports, Correspondence, Questions and Future Agenda Items To consider any correspondence received after this agenda has been published for noting or action. GS reported that all claims against the Council had now been dropped which was met with applause.	
20.	Urgent items at the Chairman's discretion requiring decisions which cannot be held over until the next meeting It was agreed that the Council will be a Rule 6 Party for the forthcoming Gleasons and Thakeham Homes appeals. ACTION: Agenda item for next meeting: Should a barrister be appointed to represent the Council at planning appeals. JK reported that the approved plans at Caburn Field allowed drainage to be diverted into Mill Road Gardens and these were now all flooded. He said the Council needed to issue a statement of support to residents. JK and GM reported sewage backing up around Rushey Green/Gote Lane during the recent spell of heavy rain. ACTION: Clerk to invite Southern Water to a meeting to discuss the situation. JK reported that the area of land surrounding the telecommunications mast near the allotments is being used as an industrial area with various debris now surrounding the mast. ACTION: Office to report to Link Officer, Claire Tester. GM reported not having seen a planning application for a mobile home at Gote Farm.	OFFICE CLERK OFFICE
	The meeting closed at 21.30.	

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

Date of Next Council Meeting in the Parish Rooms, Lucy Stone Room:

Tuesday 21st February 2023 at 19.30

Signed:		Chairman
Date:		