

RINGMER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday 25th January at 19:30
In the Parish Rooms, Lucy Stone Room

Present:			
Cllr Gordon Sims (Chairman) (GS)	Cllr Tara Barber (TB)	Cllr Margaret Crompton (MC)	Cllr Johnny Denis (JD)
Cllr John Kay (JK)	Cllr Gavin May (GM)	Cllr Marcia Morgan (MM)	Cllr David Terry (DT)
Cllr Richard Turner (RT)	Cllr John Whitlock (JW)		
Also in attendance:	Abbe Charlesworth (AC) - Clerk Carol Hodgson (CH) - Acting Clerk Gail Metcalfe (GPM) - Assistant Clerk		
Members of the public:	6		
Item	Agenda Item	Act	
1.	To receive and accept apologies for absence Apologies and reasons for absence (illness) were received from Cllr Matthew Crisp (MC) and Cllr Sarah Phillips (SP). Emily O'Brien (EOB) also sent in her apologies.		
2.	Declarations of Members' Interests and Dispensation Requests GM and DT declared an interest as members of CLT but informed they had been awarded dispensation by the Council. GM also declared an interest in item 7.1. RT declared an interest as a Lewes District member and would not be commenting on items 7.1 and 7.2. The Chairman allowed GM to make a statement about disbanding the Ringmer Sport and Recreation Association Trust.		
3.	To accept the Minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 11th January 2022 The minutes could not be accepted as we are waiting on the draft planning response from JK for LW/21/0986.	JK	
4.	Public questions or comments This item shall last no more than 15 minutes or at Chairman's discretion during which time members of the public may put questions to the Council or draw attention to relevant matters relating to the business on the agenda. No contribution shall last more than 3 minutes. Two members of the public made comments about their objections to the Croudace application at item 7.1. One said that Croudace cannot be trusted and are offering recreational facilities which are not needed. Another member stated that the whole planning system was broken as the Parish Council are asked to consider individual applications as opposed to looking at them as a group. He asked that Cllrs bear in mind the Neighbourhood Plan when they vote.		
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.' There was no requirement to exercise this resolution.		
6.	Reports received via email prior to the meeting were circulated to councillors a) East Sussex County Councillor b) Lewes District Councillor(s) c) To receive and accept any reports submitted JD reported concerns with the survey at Earwig Corner. This would be referred to in item 9.	OFFICE	

7.	Planning matters To consider responses to Planning applications	JW
7.1	LW/21/0937 Land at Broyle Gate Farm, Lewes Road, Ringmer, East Sussex Outline planning application for up to 100 residential dwellings (40% affordable) and the provision of community facilities to include an artificial turf football pitch, tennis courts, cricket nets, outdoor gym, play area, skate park, parking area and public open space (all matters reserved except for access) As JK spoke on this even though he is a member of R.A.G.E, the Chairman decided that GM could also put his view across foregoing his previous declaration of interest. After some discussion this was voted on with 6 in favour of objecting, 3 supporting and 1 abstaining RESOLVED: Parish Council decision: Object On the grounds that: Not compliant with the Neighbourhood Plan Closes the settlement gap Impact on National Park Questions over Earwig Corner	
7.2	LW/21/1005 Bridge Farm, Barcombe Mills Road, Barcombe, East Sussex BnN8 5BX Erection of one workshop comprising 6 modular units with associated car parking on the established rural employment site This was voted on with 8 in support and 2 abstaining. RESOLVED: Parish Council decision: Support	
7.3	T9/T10 Christie Ave, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5JT (X2 horse Chestnut) – Prune back to previous points (Approx 20% of crown reduction) RESOLVED: Parish Council decision: No comment.	
7.4	Planning Matters: Approvals LW/21/0732 The First, Lewes Road, Ringmer, East Sussex LW/21/0857 Lendor, Broyle Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex LW/21/0884 3 Broyle Mill, Ringmer, East Sussex. BN8 5GB TW/21/0086/TPO 20 Oakmede Way, Ringmer, BN8 5JL TW/21/0083/TPO 8 Christie Ave, Ringmer, BN8 5JT Noted.	
8.	Governance Matters	
8.1	To receive an update on the joint letter to Michael Gove from Parish Councils to stop speculative planning applications. No update.	
8.2	Swimming Pool – To receive Update TB informed that Pauline Young of East Sussex County Council has until 28 th February 2022 to respond to our expression of interest.	
8.3	To receive an update on current position of Strategic Plan Working Group (SPWG), following JW email to Councillors A proposal was made to combine the SPWG and CWG (item 11.2). This was seconded and voted on with 9 being in favour and 1 against. It was suggested that SP head this up along with MM and JW. Cllrs to agree and organise.	MM/SP/JW
8.4	Discuss response to Maria Caulfield – Use of Parish offices for a Youth Centre in the evenings The Clerk said that it was Cheyney Trust who wanted to set up a Youth Centre and that their preferred venue was the Scout Hut.	
8.5	To receive an update on RPC Assets of Community Value. In discussion Anchor Inn, Finger Post Field, Ringmer Swimming Pool and Anchor Field and Car Park. The Clerk said she is looking into this because our last application was made in December 2019 but this is not reflected in LDC's list of our assets.	CLERK
8.6	To inform: Clerk to attend Clerk's Forum 8 th Feb 2022 Noted.	

9.	<p>Highways Matters</p> <p>a) To receive an update on holding a Strengthening Local Relationships (SLR) meeting held on 11th January 2022 and follow up thereafter</p> <p>It was reported that the Highways Steward from Highways who was due to visit Gote Lane has now left. The Chairman confirmed that this report is being chased.</p> <p>The Clerk said she had written to Transport Development Control at East Sussex County Council on 19th January 2022 about this. JD requested a copy of this. Action: Office to email a copy of the letter to JD again.</p>	OFFICE
10.	<p>Open Spaces and Related Matters</p>	
10.1	<p>To receive an update on the Parish Council's Assets Survey</p>	
10.2	<p>To receive an update on the Parish Council's bin audit</p> <p>Items 10.1 and 10.2 were taken together. The Chairman confirmed that we were now in receipt of the list dividing the village into areas. Unfortunately, there are more areas than Cllrs (20) and he suggested we call upon some volunteers to help with this. He asked that this be organised before the next meeting (8th March 2022).</p>	SP
10.3	<p>To receive an update on the Bus Shelter at The Cock Inn</p> <p>It was proposed to accept the offer from County Council that they provide the concrete base and pay for closure of the road. This will mean going with their bus shelter rather than the one previously agreed on (G&A Mins, 01/07/2021, point 13.1, £4,200.00 + VAT). JK assured that any extra cost would be minimal. This was seconded and voted on with all being in favour. Clerk to update the Traffic Controller.</p>	CLERK
10.4	<p>To discuss and agree allotment allocation</p> <p>GMP explained that a plot has become available and that a current plot holder had requested to take this on whilst keeping his old plot until Easter. After some discussion it was decided that the new plot should be offered to the next person on the waiting list.</p>	OFFICE
10.5	<p>Skatepark – To receive an update on asking LDC gifting Fingerpost Field</p> <p>No update at time of meeting.</p>	
10.6	<p>Skatepark – Update on confirmation of costs of equipment and installation</p> <p>No update.</p>	
10.7	<p>Skatepark – To discuss and agree submitting planning application (timeline end of January 2022)</p> <p>No update.</p>	
10.8	<p>Skatepark – Update on date for next meeting with contractor</p> <p>No update.</p>	
10.9	<p>To receive an update on the Village Green Play area Renewals and Replacements</p> <p>The Clerk and Chairman have an on-site meeting with KOMPAN on Thursday 26th January 2022.</p>	
10.10	<p>Grounds Maintenance – Next year's grass cutting, to receive an update on re-arranged meeting</p> <p>A meeting has been arranged for 7th February 2022 with the Wildflower Project and RPC contractor. The Clerk and GM to attend. The Clerk reported that they will also be looking at the In Bloom application at this meeting.</p>	CLERK/GS
11.	<p>Communications Matters:</p>	
11.1	<p>To receive an update on RPC Newsletter</p> <p>It was suggested that RPC buy a page a month in the Ringmer Church and Village News for Parish updates for the yearly sum of £250.00. The other option was an inhouse newsletter and two quotes were provided for this. This was put to a vote with the majority supporting an inhouse newsletter and it was decided to go with the cheapest quote for double-sided A4 folded paper (Quarry Printing, £172.00). The Chairman said the aim is to get the newsletter out in February and to distribute it ourselves.</p>	OFFICE
11.2	<p>To receive an update on setting up a Communications Working Group</p> <p>See item 8.3 above.</p>	
12.	<p>Finance Matters</p>	
12.1	<p>To receive any grant applications/donation requests</p> <p>The Clerk and JW to meet with a possible donator on Thursday 27th January 2022 to discuss the land being offered to the Parish Council.</p>	CLERK/JW

12.2	To receive an update on CIL funding 2022 GM said that the Football Club wanted to express on record their thanks for the Parish's help with funding. GM to meet with the Clerk to complete the possible Skatepark CIL funding application due by 21 st February 2022.	CLERK/GM
12.3	Recovery Fund/Welcome Back Fund re. Precinct Shops GM said he was struggling on this in terms of time and lack of enthusiasm on the part of fellow shopkeepers with only two interested parties. JD offered his assistance and GM confirmed he would send him what information he had.	GM/JD
12.4	To receive an update on the current position of Ringmer Parish Special Projects Scheme with an update on the "paper" and the application process JK and GM have previously received applications and given advice. They confirmed they were happy to do this again. It was agreed to take this to the Office & Finance Committee with an additional meeting being required once applications have been received. Action: Set date for an extra O&F meeting once applications have been received.	CLERK
12.5	To discuss and agree location (RPC Land. List to follow) for the Parklet from Welcome Back Fund via LDC After some discussion it was unanimously agreed that the best place for this would be on Anchor Field, as close to the GP as possible.	CLERK
13.	Reports, Correspondence, Questions and Future Agenda Items To consider any correspondence received after this agenda has been published for noting or action RT reported that he had visited the new development site at Newhaven last week and that he was glad to see brown field sites being used. He also said that developers can promise anything in their application but it does not mean they will deliver on it.	
14.	Urgent items at the Chairman's discretion requiring decisions which cannot be held over until the next meeting The Clerk reported that a request for a memorial bench had been received and that the Ringmer family wished to replace the vandalised bench facing the pond at the Cricket Club end. It was proposed and seconded to agree to this. All were in favour.	OFFICE
14.1	The Clerk said that a request to hold a picnic on the Village Green for 40 pax had been received. The Chairman said to agree this in principle subject to dates/times.	CLERK
15.	To resolve 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.'	
	There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21.05	

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

Date of Next Council Meeting **Tuesday 8th March 2022 at 19.30**

in the Parish Rooms, Lucy Stone Room