

1/01/06/2021

TICEHURST PARISH COUNCIL

The Village Hall, Lower High Street, Ticehurst, East Sussex, TN5 7BB

Telephone 07850359997 Email: clerk@ticehurstparishcouncil.co.uk

Clerk: Francesca Nowne

MINUTES 7.00 pm

Members of Ticehurst Parish Council were summoned to attend a Meeting of Ticehurst Parish Council on Tuesday 1st June 2021 – Stonegate Village Hall at 7.00 p.m.

Up to thirty minutes were allowed at the start of the meeting for public questions and comments on relevant matters on the agenda in accordance with Standing Order 1 d. The Chairman reminded the public that they had a right and were welcome to stay and observe the rest of the meeting in accordance with Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s1.

Present: Cllr. Lloyd ©, Cllrs. Galpin, Ham, Lansdowne, Luckhurst, Redknap and Young. In attendance D. Cllrs. M Barnes and G Browne.

2843.0 Adjournment for public questions and comments:

Five members of the public were present:

- **The main topic of disquiet from the public was about the noise, smell and disruption to village centre homes from the fast-food vehicles that park on an almost daily basis on the Church Street/High Street junction.**
- **Cllrs. explained the measures taken to date to dissuade the owners of the businesses to park elsewhere.**
- **Reports to the police have resulted in them observing, but determining that they pose no danger to pedestrians or the police.**
- **RDC Environmental services have carried out noise monitoring observations and concluded that they do create an unacceptable level of noise, but to date nothing has been done about this.**
- **Individual councillors and the clerk have asked them to re-locate, to be met with an absolute refusal.**
- **Bollards can only be installed 450 mm from the edge of the kerb which would still allow two wheels to be on the pavement - a license has been applied for, but ESCC will not allow for metal bollards matching those in Church Street. Plans for the village centre might have to include yellow lines at the junction which may assist.**
- **RDC have road orders in e.g. Robertsbridge preventing fast food vehicles from parking in the High Street, but are not issuing any new orders - D. Cllr. Mary Barnes asked residents to write to her so that she can investigate this at Bexhill.**
- **Clerk suggested that the most effective way of preventing parking on the junction is currently to park a car in this position to prevent them taking up the space.**

A question was asked about when a 20 mph limit would be introduced in the village centre as pedestrians were being put at risk on a daily basis. The chairman assured those present, that this has been requested for many years. Measures taken have been to:

- **Make the application to ESCC – this was made but refused.**
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- Statutory regulations require that for the area to be limited, it must be demonstrated that speeds can be lessened to at least 30 mph with traffic calming measures.
- Permission has now been granted for speed activated devices to be positioned on the approach to the village to achieve the objective above.
- Data collation of current speeds will need to be compared to speeds measured after the devices are in place to enable ESCC to review their position.
- It was felt that ESCC were not helpful and that other villages who had 20 mph limits in place were either in neighbouring Kent areas or had major traffic calming measures introduced as part of planning permissions granted.
- Cllr. J Barnes had indicated 20 months ago that it would be a simple process which has not been the case, but continues to be one of the major ambitions of the council and has the support of the local M.P. and the support of the new C. Cllr. will be requested.

The public reported that they felt speeding traffic had increased, especially when there were fewer cars parked in the village centre.

2844.0 District and County Councillors:

D. Cllr. M Barnes reported that council are gradually returning to the chamber.

Planning remains non-political.

D. Cllr. G Browne reported that he had rung M Bright (Enforcement Officer) at RDC as he had been perplexed at the lack of information for Ticehurst on the latest enforcement update circulated to councillors:

- Downash and Birchenwood cases have hearings booked for 29th June 2021.
- Strakes Farm - matter has gone to appeal and another application for another building has been submitted.
- Seacoxers land – owner had ‘no comment’ interview at RDC and Mr Bright is considering the case for prosecution.
- Three Leg Cross land – is awaiting an application
- Bantham Farm is still a matter for enforcement.

D. Cllrs. were thanked for their input and committed to:

- M Barnes taking up the fastfood van issue and
- G Browne keeping members updated on enforcement issues that currently trouble the parish.

2845.0 Declarations of Interest: A declaration of personal interest under the terms of the Council’s Code of Conduct and Localism Act 2011 s.31 was raised by Cllr. Luckhurst for applications RR/2021/1089/NA and RR/2021/678/P Royal Oak Garage.

2846.0 Apologies for absence: Apologies were recorded in accordance with LGA 1972 s.85. from Cllrs. Burley, Crawley, Killeen, Flory and LeBouedec and their reasons for absence were accepted by members. It was resolved for the acting Chair to speak to Cllr. Flory about non-attendance and ascertain his ability to attend meetings under the 6 month consecutive meeting criteria.

2847.0 Adoption of the Minutes: Cllr. Galpin proposed and Cllr. Ham seconded a motion that the notes of the previous meeting were a correct record of those proceedings and they were then signed by the Chairman.

2848.0 Village Centre :

Cllr. Young reported that the result of the safety audit are awaited from i-transport.

- Speed activated devices have been delivered – awaiting installation guide.
- Pole installation points installed - one needs to be moved
- Signage design and communications team are working on better and more pleasing village centre signage.

- Greedy Goat - This matter was postponed as Cllr. LeBouedec was not able to attend the meeting – the council has become aware that tables and chairs on the pavement had received complaints and a retrospective application to RDC for permission had been refused. Vandalism of their A-Board in the village had also been reported to the council and to the police.

- Bell Field – car park extension proposal. Cllr. Lloyd put forward a motion to councillors that if the Ticehurst Bell Field Co Ltd put forward the land and a sum of money, that the PC (coupled with the Bell who have agreed in principle) provide the additional funding necessary to extend the car park along the southern boundary to the western end of the field. This should provide up to 40 more car parking spaces. Partnering with the Bell and Ticehurst Parish Council would enable works to go ahead this year. It was resolved to commit to this project and it was suggested that as the final figure for additional drainage (and any other embellishments) had not been finalised costs should be split on a percentage basis.

(42% 42% &16% plus the land). Coppards to provide additional drainage costs.

2849.0 Bollards on High Street Ticehurst: Cllr. Lansdowne reported that two bollards outside 'Fields' shop had been knocked down on a particularly narrow bit of pavement. The matter has been reported by Cllr. Young to ESCC Highways.

2850.0 Playground Inspections: Playground inspection reports had been circulated:

Bark chippings have been delivered to all three playgrounds.

Flimwell - bark chippings need spreading - Cllr. Redknapp to arrange – new bin has been ordered and will be installed as soon as it arrives.

Farthing Hill – no issues reported

Ticehurst – bench has been installed near the playground - bark chippings raked out.

Two Ash trees near the playground need dismantling.

It is hoped that a date for the installation of the Petanque pitch will be available soon.

Stonegate –. Bark chips have been raked out - Cllr. Luckhurst felt that some more might be needed - to monitor.

2851.0 Vaccination Centre: Cllr. Killeen had circulated a report to members. More than 30,000 people had now received vaccinations at Ticehurst. Cllr. Young reported that a revised process has been introduced to ensure that patients for different vaccines are differentiated, they are also directed into different vaccinating areas. Any one over the age of 18 can now book for their first vaccine. Concerns about the Indian variant had resulted in a bigger and faster uptake of the vaccination programme.

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The clerk had circulated a tally of the costs of the programme borne by the Parish Council and the income it had received to negate that cost. Monies, initially used to facilitate the opening of the centre had been reimbursed and will be directed to the original intention of providing new skate park facilities once the area is not needed for overflow car parking. It was noted that two of the new external lights have been damaged by vehicles reversing into them.

2852.0 Finance Report:

Financial Advisory Group Report was circulated to members.

On-line banking: All finance group now have card readers and pins.

CCTV coverage of the Bell Field Car Park - Update from Cllr.Lloyd

Report of expenditure against budget report circulated, together with year end 31.3.21 papers to all councillors on 24.5.21

Reconciled Bank reconciliation circulated 24.5.21.

It was resolved to adopt the end of year AGAR figures as signed off by RBS Ltd – proposed by Cllr. Luckhurst and seconded by Cllr. Lloyd - notice of public rights to be posted.

Rate rebate for 4 years for car park has been received. (£4000)

Rate rebate for 2021/22 for the public loos will also be forthcoming from RDC (£773).

Castle Water are due to reimburse monies for Stonegate allotment that were overpaid.

Rebate of costs to 31.3.21 on hire of temporary lavatories has been received from insurers (£9000)– these are being removed on 21.6.21.

2853.0 Planning Report: Planning applications considered:

RR/2021/473/P

DEL Downash Farm, Rosemary Lane, Flimwell, Ticehurst TN5 7PS
Siting of 6 replacement domestic heating fuel tanks (Retrospective).

[Click here to view application](#)

No objections – reasonable screening is proposed.

RR/2021/678/P

DEL Royal Oak Garage, Vosa Testing Station London Road, Flimwell,
Ticehurst TN5 7PJ

Erection of an MOT Repair Building

[Click here to view application](#)

Cllr. Luckhurst repeated her personal interest. The area to be used had already been cleared. It was noted that there were no elevation plans contained within the application, so the height of the proposed building compared to other properties adjacent could not be scrutinised. Recommendation for approval.

RR/2021/481/L

Date of List: 11-05-21

DEL 4 High Street, Butlers Cottage, Flimwell, Ticehurst TN5 7PB
Replacement of 4 windows to Front Elevation.

[Click here to view application](#)

It was felt that the proposed new windows were to be installed inside the property, retaining the original external features – no objections

RR/2021/1089/NA TUNBRIDGE WELLS CONSULTATION

DEL Royal Oak Garage, London Road, Flimwell, Wadhurst, Kent,
Tunbridge Wells Consultation TN5 7PJ
Erection of a storage building.

[Click here to view application](#)

Cllr. Luckhurst reiterated her personal interest. It was noted that the ownership boundary line indicated on the application was incorrect. Recommendation for approval on the basis that any spoil is not added to the enormous piles behind the site that impinge on the surrounding area within the AONB. Recommendation for conditional approval.

Corner Farm - there have been some complaints about developers sales team and covenants on the gardens, as well as issues about the car park on the north-western part of the site.

Singehurst - Cllr. M Barnes reported that officer recommendation remains to refuse on the basis that there is no affordable provision on site. Cllrs. expressed irritation at the stance and pointed out that officers were ignoring the position of the parish council within the Neighbour Plan and had recommended that no affordable houses were expected at Hilbury which had outline permission for 30 properties as opposed to 10 at Singehurst. It was resolved that once the date of the planning committee meeting was announced, representations would be made by Ticehurst Parish Council.

Cllr. M Barnes reported that she continued to monitor the issue of waste being delivered to **Bardown Farm** – there have been reports of an increase in lorry deliveries to the site.

2854.0 Vacancy for councillor at Flimwell: RDC have informed the council that a co-option can go ahead for the vacancy - details of one candidate have been circulated and it is understood that another resident has also indicated a willingness to stand.

2855.0 Banky Field – Clerk reported that planning officer Mark Cathcart supported the position that the parish have taken that the land is not in a state that could be taken over under the original 106 agreement. When last on site he had been informed that the landscaping had not been completed. He will arrange for a follow up meeting on site.
Management Plan for the ditch - Lund Fund application has been submitted.

2856.0 Finger Posts: Funding for 50% of cost of two posts have been received (£667). It was resolved that the Cottenden and the Wards Lane posts should be refurbished during the current financial year and the clerk was instructed to apply for 50% match funding from ESCC to facilitate these works. Clerk was asked to obtain a quotation for refurbishing the Flimwell cross-roads metal post.

2821.0 Items for the July Agenda: Co-option of a Flimwell Councillor

2822.0 Date of the next meeting: 6th July 2021 It is likely that the next meeting will be held in Flimwell before the summer recess

Signed.....Chairman

Dated.....

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