

TICEHURST PARISH COUNCIL

The Village Hall, Lower High Street, Ticehurst, East Sussex, TN5 7BB
 Telephone 01580 754090 Email: clerk@ticehurstparishcouncil.co.uk
 Clerk: Francesca Nowne

MINUTES

Members of Ticehurst Parish Council were summoned to attend a Meeting of Ticehurst Parish Council on Tuesday 5th October 2021 – Ticehurst Village Institute at 7.30 p.m.

Planning applications for consideration and recommendations of planning committee to be reported to full council at 6.30pm Present: Cllrs Lloyd ©, Galpin, Ham,

RR/2021/2097/P Green Hedges, High Street, Flimwell, TN5 7PA	Demolish existing rear extension and erect new two storey rear extension. <i>Whilst the design of the extension was not very attractive and was felt to be in danger of being over bearing on the adjacent property, no complaints had been received. It was felt that a single storey would have been better placed on the site – however it was recommended to approve the application.</i>
RR/2021/2065/T 2 The Acorns, Eridge Lane, Stonegate, TN5 7EY	Oak (T1) Raise crown to approx 2.4m above ground. Oak (T2) Cut back 3 nr limbs growing towards dwelling. Raise crown over gate & boundary fence to approx 2.4m. <i>Reputable tree surgeon had been commissioned to carry out the works - the work is necessary due to the proximity of the trees to the properties on this site and work has also been carried out historically. Recommend approval. Cllr. Luckhurst declared an interest and took no part in proceedings.</i>
RR/2021/2018/P 1 Pond Cottage, High Street, Wallcrouch, TN5 7JN	CONSTRUCTION OF RESIDENTIAL GARAGE <i>Well screened from the road and no adverse impact on neighbours – recommend approval.</i>
RR/2021/1823/P Briars Croft, Station Road, Stonegate, TN5 7EN	Single storey extension and conservatory to side of house. <i>Cllr. Luckhurst declared a personal interest and took no part in proceedings. The extension proposal takes the building close to the boundary line but is single storey only. Previous works on the property have been carried out to an excellent standard. Materials to match the existing dwelling Additional comment was made about the provision of the chimney and wood burner as being rather incongruous in a conservatory. Recommendation for approval.</i>
RR/2021/1787/P Slaves Dream, Lower Hazelhurst, Ticehurst TN5 7LE	Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with new dwelling including new detached car port <i>Cllr. Lloyd declared a personal interest. Footprint does not extend too far from the original. It was felt that a condition specifying the height of the ridge was important as there is no immediate context in the plan. Good design. Presents as a single storey but makes use of roof space to provide upstairs space. Recommend for approval.</i>

*Cllr. Lloyd reported on developments for two other sites:
Strakes Farm Inspector has determined that a full application is necessary.*

***Bantham Farm** RDC have refused permission for the latest application but unfortunately notice contained both grant and not grant information before it was noticed and corrected. Officers are committed to keeping district councillors informed about any communication about this site.*

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 are welcome to stay and observe the rest of the meeting in accordance with Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s1.

2894.0 Adjournment for public questions and comments:

- A question was asked about the termination of night care at Newington Court which resulted in many residents having to leave their flats and move away from the village. It was explained that there had been no consultation with the parish council. It was understood that after refurbishment, accommodation would be offered to 'over 50's'. It was agreed that it was regrettable and would be taken up with the local MP and the chief executive at RDC.
- It was explained that the actions of affordable housing associations are not subject to any regulation or accountability process and the parish had met with the local MP about this matter.
- Adam from Safe Play brought several of the high risk issues identified on the recent September inspections. Cllr. Lloyd pointed out that the feet for the air walker were being provided and inspected by the manufacturers. Items of concern – the cradle swing at Farthing Hill, the swings at Flimwell, goal fixing in the multicourt, gate at Farthing Hill, one of the legs exhibiting some rot at Farthing Hill and the recently broken slide at Flimwell should be discussed under the playground section of the agenda. Clerk to circulate log on details to all members.

Report on social media points raised during the last month:

Cllr. Galpin reported that several comments about the closure of the night-time care at Newington Court had been posted, expressing regret at the loss of the facility in the village.

2895.0 District and County Councillor Reports:

Cllr. M Barnes reported that Planning Officer J Pyrah had set up a meeting as part of the evidence collation for the Local Plan. All NP parish councils were to be asked to send a representative. Ticehurst had not received an invite. Councillors were concerned that more sites were being identified to meet government targets and Ticehurst had already responded to a consultation about hamlets and settlements with little or no infrastructure. *Subsequent to the meeting, D. Cllrs. were informed that parish council representation was not required.*

2/05/10/2021

3/05/10/2021

Singehurst – Cllr. Barnes reported that the planning officer and planning advisor for the site appeared to be reaching a viability agreement on the site, and it was likely that it will not be on the planning agenda for 14th October 2021. *Subsequent to the meeting, the published agenda did not include the Singehurst application.*

C.Cllr. E Kirby-Green had circulated a report to members. The main points were:

- Drainage – the leaking BT cover outside Westbourne High Street was now on a list of works that need to be done.
- Resurfacing of the High Street had exacerbated drainage issues and that ESCC were aware of the works that need doing but have not yet approved commissioning the job.
- Planning – Capita - It was reported that approximately £270,000 is being spent on remote planning officers to determine delegated applications in Rother. The allocation of which jobs are sent out for determination on a remote basis is causing issues due to lack of site visits. It was resolved that the Council should bring this matter up with Huw Merriman MP and Malcolm Johnson at Rother.

2896.0 Declarations of Interest: Declarations of interest under the terms of the Council's Code of Conduct and Localism Act 2011 s.31.

Cllrs. Lloyd and Luckhurst declared personal interests in some planning considerations and had repeated that interest prior to that part of the agenda.

2897.0 Apologies for absence: Apologies to be recorded in accordance with LGA 1972 s.85. Cllrs. Crawley, Burley and D.Cllr. Browne had sent their apologies and these were accepted by councillors.

2898.0 Adoption of the Minutes: 7th September 2021 draft minutes had been circulated to all members. Cllr. Young proposed and Cllr. Galpin seconded a motion that they be adopted as a correct record of those proceedings and authorised the chairman to sign them.

2899.0 Co-option of Cllr. to represent Ticehurst: Cllr. Lloyd reported that Daniel Studholme had expressed an interest in standing as a Ticehurst councillor. He was currently away and would attend the November meeting.

2900.0 Village Centre : Cllrs. Young reported on various matters:

- A letter from Rupert Clubb to Huw Merriman was read out stating that ESCC were now minded to accept an informal crossing in Ticehurst village centre. This was felt to be a very positive move.
- Cllr. Young to circulate letter and independent safety audit to all councillors. The independent safety audit has been received and a PC resolution to move to the next stage of detailed engineering design. It was resolved that this might be better done with a dedicated meeting so that all members can fully consider the scheme. She offered to visit any councillor individually. It was resolved to try to hold a meeting before the last week in October.
- To achieve short-term parking in the Square, evidence of village consultation is needed and the Village Centre group would work out how best to achieve a fair and representative consultation process.
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4/05/10/2021

- New license has been applied for device at Marlpit Gardens - it was resolved to purchase an android phone to facilitate the gathering of data from the speed devices.
- Clerk had responded to an invitation from ESCC about areas of concern with regard to parked vehicles - (northern end of Church Street and requesting limited parking within the village square).
- Clerk to set up another meeting between the owner of the Bell and Cllr. Galpin with regard to the works and contribution to extending the Bell Field Car Park. *This has been diarised for 21st October 2021.*
- Cllr. Le Bouedec suggested creating a passing bay in the church verge in Church Street – clerk to speak to the Church Warden.

2901.0 Playground Inspections: To receive Playground reports from Cllrs. – written reports to be distributed prior to the meeting.

The points raised by Safe Play were considered by members:

It was resolved that the slide at Flimwell and the basket swing at Farthing Hill should be decommissioned. *Clerk has subsequently been in touch with the manufacturers of each piece of equipment and asked for replacement cost, together with photos of the faults.*

Flimwell - Cllrs. Ham and Redknap had circulated a report - the rubbish bins are not being emptied - clerk to source key for the new bin. Operator signage to be installed.

Farthing Hill - The items for immediate attention to be ordered and repaired. Operator signage to be installed.

Ticehurst – New bin to be ordered to replace broken one, new handles ordered for springer and new feet for the air walker ordered for installation. Complete safety report on the gym equipment sent to Fresh Air Fitness – operator signage for Multi-court and gym area to be installed.

Stonegate – Operator signage to be installed.

Cricket Pavilion – electrical PAT test and inspection failure – contractor has been instructed to carry out the works, and liaise with the cricket club. Electrician to be asked to feed a line through to defibrillator position ready for new cases.

Claim for Damages PC to send to insurers to advise on whether there is any liability.

Update on **skate park** area – quotation has been updated and awaiting installation date.

2902.0 Finance Report:

Financial Advisory Group Report was circulated to members.

Expenditure since last parish council meeting listed below:

External audit was passed without any comment for improvement. Notices duly posted.

CASTLE WATER LTD 516115	5
CASTLE WATER LTD 516117	3.39
HONEY BARRETT LIMI	39
WETTON CLEANING	1274.66
I-TRANSPORT LLP	613.2
GLASDON UK LTD	24.74

SERVICE CHARGES REF	21.45
FOREST TREE SURGEO	2163.38
VIKING	199.06
TATE FENCING LTD	96.08
ROTHER DISTRICT CO	1545.05
JAMES HALLETT	175
BUSINESS STREAM	199.61
E.ON	329.32
STUDHOLME ELECTRIC	180
NEST	186.27
NATIONWIDE WASTE	19.49
J BROOKER	730
F NOWNE	143.88
EUROPLANTS LTD	357.96
COUNTRYMANS CONTRA	1309.46
A LLOYDREIMBURSEMENT	113.04
BT GROUP PLC	72.36

Report of expenditure against budget report circulated to members.

Reconciled Bank reconciliation circulated to members.

Cost of repairing external lighting at recreation ground – insurance claim instigated.

Allocation of funding for tree works around the parish – quotation for tree work at the allotments and recreation ground in Ticehurst to be obtained.

2903.0 Planning Report: Planning applications considered at the planning meeting 6.30 pm – applications listed prior to the PC agenda.

- **Enforcement Proceedings - Birchenwood occupancy matter** was due to be heard in Hastings Magistrates Court on 29.6.21 – adjourned to 28th September 2021 as defendant did not appear in court.
- **Reports on any other enforcement issues** - It was reported that the Bantham Farm application was refused.

2904.0 MP Visit. MP Huw Merriman visited Ticehurst 24th September 2021 in the afternoon and met Cllr. Burley, Cllr. Lloyd, D Cllr. J Barnes and the clerk. Concerns were expressed about the effect of the Homes England subsidies were having on the provision of affordable housing and the lack of regulation of the affordable housing providers. He expressed his support for the informal crossing in Ticehurst. He was asked to inquire at Rother, whether the parish could take a lease on the scout hut and land. Cllr. Le Bouedec informed the meeting that he understood that the scouts had renewed their lease.

2905.0 Banky Field Update - Clerk circulated notes on meeting 15th June 2021.

- **Management Plan for the ditch has been received** - Lund Fund application has been partially successful - clerk to meet with J Brooker about employing local workforce to remove the rubbish from the stream and hire skips for removal.

Clerk put forward proposal for the clearing of the ditch which was accepted by members.

2906.0 A21 Meeting: Clerk attended the meeting and circulated notes:

Major issues raised were

- Poor sequencing of the lights, causing large queues to the west and east.
- The removal of the bus stop on the western side of the lights prevents cars crossing over when the bus stops.
- Need for vaccination signage (turn left only signs) at the entrance to WEC.
- A proposed reduction in speed to 40 at the lights is proposed for 2022 through Flimwell.
- Right hand lane for traffic to the east (going north) is often used to overtake queuing traffic heading up the A21.

2907.0 Defibrillator for Stonegate: Cllr. Luckhurst proposed that all defibrillators be serviced and that at Stonegate and Flimwell, new external debibsafe2 cabinets are installed. These would need to be fitted by an electrician - the defibrillators would then be maintained at a constant temperature, ensuring that the defibrillator batteries are in optimum working order. Members resolved to accept the proposal.

2908.0 Items for the November Agenda:

- Skate park installation
- Repairs to external lavatories update
- Village Centre resolution
- Bell Field Car Park extension update
- Playground repairs update

2909.0 Date of the next meeting: 2nd November 2021

Signed.....Chairman

Dated.....