

01/09/2023

## TICEHURST PARISH COUNCIL

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

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Clerk: Francesca Nowne

### PLANNING 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. Lloyd ©, Burley, Ham, Studholme, Luckhurst, Stephenson and Redknapp.

Reference	Location	Proposal
<a href="#">RR/2023/743/P</a>	Chestnuts, Bardown Road, Ticehurst TN5 7EJ	Granny annexe, including partial conversion of attached garage. <i>It was questioned why two bedrooms were needed Scale and size of the flat roofed proposal seem overly large. It was felt that it was very close to the boundary. There was a split vote and chair had to cast deciding vote. <b>Recommendation for refusal.</b></i>
<a href="#">RR/2023/724/P</a>	Bell Hotel, High Street, Ticehurst TN5 7AS	Alterations and additions to The Bell and adjacent Bakery to enable extended restaurant and new kitchen, 4no. new guest bedrooms and 6no. new lodges, and associated facilities. See below.
<a href="#">RR/2023/738/L</a>	Bell Hotel, High Street, Ticehurst TN5 7AS	Alterations and additions to The Bell and adjacent Bakery to enable extended restaurant and new kitchen, 4no. new guest bedrooms and 6no. new lodges, and associated facilities. <i>Manager of Bell attended the meeting. Planning applications takes into account the utilities and there is no request from RDC for additional parking. No change to the external street scene. He reassured the meeting that the lighting on the front of the building was a temporary structure as a piece of art and would be removed by 31.7.23. <b>Recommendation for approval.</b></i>
<a href="#">RR/2023/631/P</a>	Prospect Cottage, Dunsters Mill Lane, Three Leg Cross, TN5 7HL	Like-for-like replacement of: 16no. casement windows; 1 single external front door (front elevation); 1 single external back door (rear elevation). <i>It was felt that the proposed replacements will have no impact on the visual appearance of the property. <b>Recommendation for approval on basis of replacements being 'like-for-like'.</b></i>
<a href="#">RR/2023/632/L</a>	Prospect Cottage, Dunsters Mill Lane, Three Leg Cross, TN5 7HL	Like-for-like replacement of: 16no. casement windows; 1 single external front door (front elevation); 1 single external back door (rear elevation).

Councillors were summonsed to the Annual Meeting of Ticehurst Parish Council held on Tuesday 9th May 2021 at 7.30 p.m. (up to 30 minutes were allowed at the start of the meeting for public questions and comments on relevant matters on the following agenda). 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.

2/09/05/2023

**MINUTES**  
**ANNUAL MEETING OF TICEHURST PARISH COUNCIL**

**Present:** Cllrs. Burley, Ham, Killeen, Lloyd, Luckhurst, Redknap, Stephenson and Studholme.

**3218.0 Election of Chairman :** There was only one nomination for chairman which resulted in a unanimous vote for Cllr. Burley to take the chair for the coming year.

**3218.0 Election of Vice Chairman:** Cllrs. Killeen and Lloyd had been nominated for the position of Vice-Chairman. Nomination slips were distributed and Cllr. Lloyd was duly elected as Vice-Chair.

The chairman congratulated Cllr. Killeen and Cllr. Barnes on their election to represent Ticehurst at Rother District Council.

The chairman also thanked those who organised the Flimwell and Ticehurst Coronation events over the bank holiday weekend. Both were well organised and well attended.

**3219.0 Adjournment of meeting for Public Questions and Comments:**

Daniel, the manager at The Bell talked about the time scale for extending the pub. Some under-pinning of the bakery and bank is needed, although they will try to avoid too much noisy work during their busiest time of the year. The intention is to get the majority of the work done within the next twelve months. He spoke about their loyalty scheme to attempt to keep prices affordable and a varied menu with differently priced choices.

The manager was asked about parking around the pub. They are taking steps to direct customers to the car park at the rear. Members were asked about how long the car park extension work would take. It was explained that the quotations obtained were for working in dry weather and that the grant from Rother would run out if the work is not done this summer. Clerk to ascertain length of works.

**Reports from District and County Councillors:**

**COUNTY - Balfour Beatty** have taken over now - the pot hole situation is still appalling but it was reported that the new contractors are keen to start work.

**Accident at the top of Lymden Lane** on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May - sight lines to the east are obscured by the hedge. It was resolved to ask the owner to cut the hedge back. Clerk to ascertain ownership.

**Three Leg Cross** – Cllr. K Green contacted the leader for Highways at ESCC who was adamant that residents should not be encouraged to get involved in any works within the carriage-way.

**Singehurst Speed Limit** – ESCC feel it would be unreasonable to expect the developer to pay for the work to extend the 30 mph zone. Rydon have confirmed that they had not requested this and they are happy to move the signage. EKG to go back to ESCC and copy Rydon's in. Clerk to also re-iterate parish wishes to extend the 30 mph area.

Pickforde Lane has many pot holes. It was confirmed that it is owned by Rother - Clerk has sent pictures of the pot holes to RDC.

**Steelands – It was resolved to replace the missing dog bin.**

**ROTHER:**

**Hilbury Field** will start having refuse collections from next week.

**Slaves Dream** – Mark Bright has visited and reported back that nothing infringed planning conditions.

**Banky Field** - 6 or 7 houses remain badly affected by mould - Southern Homes have asked Thakeham to return to site to sort the problem.

Cllr. Lloyd asked about the result of the November meeting held to discuss the land above the houses. D. Cllrs. were asked to follow this up.

**Garden Waste Subscriptions** are due soon £55 for an annual fee.

**New council** is made up of 10 conservatives, 7 Independents, 7 Lib Dems, 8 labour, 3 green and one other. First meeting of the new council will be May 24<sup>th</sup> 2023.

**3220.0 Declarations of Interest:** by Councillors on any matters on the agenda, the nature of that interest and whether the Councillor considers that interest to be prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct and the Localism Act 2011 s.31– this should then be repeated prior to that agenda item. There were no declarations of interest.

**Signing of acceptance of office by all Councillors:** Forms were distributed for signing.

**Signing of acceptance of electronic copies of council papers by all Councillors present:**

Submission of register of interests forms by all Councillors – those forms that were signed at the meeting were sent to Rother the following day. Members who were not present should submit their completed forms to Rother within the next 28 days, together with expenses form for the election, even if that is a nil return.

**3221.0 Apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Cllrs. Heapy and Hodges. Their reasons for absence were recorded in the attendance register on acceptance by members. It was noted that the clerk did not have contact details for James Lee who was appointed to the council. Members said that they all received direct communication from Rother, so he will be aware of his appointment. Meeting details were on the web site and notice boards.

**3222.0 Feed back from Social Media and Web site:** Cllr. Studholme reported that the **dog bin Steelands Rise** has been removed. Clerk was authorized to replace it.

**Lighting at The Bell** – Complaints had become personal and Cllr. Studholme asked contributors to desist from inflammatory statements.

**Dog Fouling in Acres Rise** - Someone has reported that they have door bell camera coverage of owner and dog. Clerk requested that the informant contact her so that it can be dealt with appropriately.

**3223.0 Adoption of the minutes** of the meeting held on 4th April 2023. Cllr. Stephenson proposed and Cllr. Luckhurst seconded a motion that they be signed as an accurate record of that meeting.

**3224.0 Distribution of Current Council duties:**

**Training – late June early July - It was resolved to request training dates from Trevor Leggo to cover roles of Chair and Vice-Chair, roles and responsibilities of councillors and then a visioning exercise to create an action plan which will feed into updating the Neighbourhood Plan.**

**There are no official committees other than the Planning Committee and Finance Group.**

<b>Financial Advisory Group</b>	<b>Cllrs. Burley, Luckhurst and Lloyd.</b>	<b>To set the annual budget. Should meet every two months to monitor expenditure against budget. Recommendations should be put to the full Council for resolution.</b>
<b>Village Centre Project</b>	<b>Cllr. Killeen</b>	<b>Councillors are members of the Steering Group Committee and report back to the PC on a monthly basis Working with architects and project managers to design and deliver a scheme for the village centre.</b>
<b>Planning Committee</b>	<b>All councillors</b>	<b>Councillors meet every two to three weeks, often before a full PC meeting at 6.30 pm in the Village Institute to consider current plans.</b>
<b>Bewl Residents Group</b>	<b>Cllr. Lloyd</b>	<b>To liaise between Bewl Water and residents bringing any matters to full Council when necessary.</b>
<b>Skate Park</b>	<b>Cllr. Studholme Cllr. Hodges</b>	<b>To work with the clerk to obtain the best outcome as a Task and Finish Group.</b>
<b>Car Park</b>	<b>Cllr. Lloyd James Galpin</b>	<b>James Galpin's contact to do drainage survey – resolution. Meeting with Quin to discuss - white lines to be installed as soon as fencing is removed. Task and Finish Group.</b>
<b>Pavilions</b>	<b>Cllr. Studholme Cllr. Hodges James Galpin</b>	<b>Task and Finish Group – clerk to carry out administration work.</b>

**3225.0 Council Policies: Members considered their policies and altered slightly to reflect any changes to ensure that they are relevant to Council business. Policies were updated and electronically distributed prior to the meeting.**

**Standing Orders, Freedom of Information, Financial Regulations  
Register of interests Code of Conduct Complaints Procedure  
Disciplinary Policy Equal Opportunities statement Grant awarding policy  
Risk Management Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults  
Statement of intent as to community engagement (slight changes were made)  
Training Policy. Reserves Policy.  
All policy documents were signed by the chairman.**

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**3226.0 To adopt the power of Competence: Criteria to adopt:**

- 11 councillors were elected on 4<sup>th</sup> May, making up more than 80% of the full council.
- Clerk holds a BA (Hons) degree in community governance – the degree level of sector-specific qualifications.
- The council were therefore able to resolve that they meet the criteria to adopt the Power of Competence.

**3227.0 Vacancies within the council - Councillor for Stonegate and Ticehurst –** The Council has two vacancies for the Stonegate and Ticehurst Wards. Clerk to inform Rother, with a copy of the casual vacancies and wait for confirmation that an election has to be held or the council could co-opt two appropriate residents. Any candidates should be asked to submit a short CV to the clerk to circulate to members.

**3228.0 Report from the Village Square Committee: High Street surface and imprint update.** There was no update, as Ruby Brittle is off work until 31.5.23.

Dale Pore – surface of the village square – Cllrs. have not heard back (since November 2022) with regard to a list of appropriate top surfaces that could be applied to this area.

It was noted that the new road surface is deteriorating in the centre of the village within the new red tar and chip. It was suggested this appears to be where the white lines were removed post installation, as they should not have been on the surface at all. Clerk was asked to put ESCC on notice (Carl Taylor) that this defect should be addressed and the contractor contacted.

**3229.0 Corner Farm Tree works:** Householders are complaining that thin stems of holly are leaning into their gardens and are concerned about them falling in high winds. It was resolved to reduce the two oaks and cut the understorey to approximately 8ft to encourage effective screening but obfuscating concerns. The clerk was asked to get the work done as soon as possible.

**3230.0 Hilbury Field:** Reported alterations to consent granted. M Bright (RDC) has visited and reported no infringements of planning permission. The clerk advised members not to get involved as private litigation between parties is on-going. Cllr. Studholme to ask that private comments are not channelled through the PC face-book site.

**3231.0 Finance Report:** Financial statement – actual against budget and balanced reconciliation circulated to members.

End of year accounts have been prepared and were accepted and signed at the meeting. The clerk was instructed to arrange inspection by the Internal Auditor and to post notice of electors rights.

CIL money £94803.69 to go to CCLA - send to Kate (Singehurst contribution).

It was resolved to grant £500 (Flimwell) and £1500 (Ticehurst) towards the Coronation events held over the weekend.

Payee	Payment In	Payment Out
RDC Half new precept	75075.00	
Jetting and Drain		400.00
Rialtus – finance programme support		244.99
R Studholme		1275.00
Glasdon – bins		1164.52
BT		79.09
ESALC – membership		1089.40
Corex - Gs		15.98
J Brooker		330.00
Annual Assembly		535.91
Nest		209.35
RDC Rates Annexe		65.00
Wale – allotment	25.00	
Old Haberdashery – coronation	50.00	
Viking Direct		146.90
National Ass. AONB		119.00
Shaun Colvin – hedging		550.00
Glasdon – bin fixing post		82.39
Street Lights – half contract		1596.56
East Sussex – grass cuts additional		862.07
Tates		97.33
Countrymans – grass cutting		132.00
Europlants – hanging baskets		88.19
The Bell – Coronation	117.00	
Lloyds service charge		7.85
N Power		592.51
Green Finch – Coronation	200.00	
Mrs Tritton – Coronation	200.00	
M Stephenson – grass cut at crossroads		25.00
Cash and Carry – Loo		23.97
Rialtus Business		102.34
Honey Barrett		39.00
Castle Water		22.33
Biffa		138.96
The Bell – Coronation	149.20	

**3232.0 Planning Report:** Report on applications considered at 7 pm.

Cllr. Lloyd reported the comments made before the start of the meeting and it was agreed that those comments should be forwarded through the Rother planning portal.

**Delegated authority to continue working with the Northern Parishes Group.**

Cllr. Burley invited Cllr. Killeen to join the group to assist Rother in gathering evidence to support enforcement at sites where there is historical flaunting of planning regulations. There has been some success at Bantham Farm within Ticehurst. It was agreed that Cllrs. Burley and Lloyd should continue to contribute towards the work of the group and invited D. Cllr. Killeen to join.

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**Bowl Water Planning:** Cllr. Lloyd spoke to Rother planning officer assigned to the application, but she felt that Rother they had no objections. Cllr. John Barnes agreed to ask Jeff Pyrah to put Bowl into the new strategic plan. Irritation was expressed at Rother's reluctance to support the 80,000 people objecting to the scheme.

**3233.0 Playground and recreation ground reports:**

**Ticehurst:** Tree cleared that had fallen into the grounds from Orchard House. Clerk was instructed to order bark chips for the recreation grounds when the ground is dry.

**Stonegate:** Cllr. Burley reported that he has raked the bark chips over. Cllr. Luckhurst reported that Elspeth Hill is willing to carry out the monthly visual inspections. The offer was gratefully accepted.

**Farthing Hill;** No report.

**Flimwell:** Cllr. Redknap reported that the termination of the contract for litter picking has caused upset but council insurance policy requires qualified staff to cover public liability.

**Skate Park:** Clerk reported that she has contacted the association of Play Inspectors who will visit the site and compile a report on the design, the safety and the installation quality to establish what is needed to make it safe. It was resolved not to send the drafted letter to Caloo.

**Petanque Pitch:** Cllr. Lloyd met with the contractors and a scheme of works was agreed to improve the area around the pitch. A quotation will be forth coming.

**3234.0 Items for the June Agenda:** No discussion – topics only.

**3235.0 Date of the next meeting:** 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023 – Flimwell is about to buy a screen - once that is done it was resolved that some PC meetings should be held there and in Stonegate if a screen is not needed.

Signed.....Chairman

Dated.....6.6.23.....

7/09/05/2023