Pyecombe Parish Council

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Minutes of the virtual meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday 15th September 2020 at 7:00pm.

Present – Cllr D. Wilson – Chairman, Cllr C. Bere and Cllr T. Cullen.
Clerk and RFO – Mrs D. Langston.
Mid Sussex District Councillor A. Bennett and C. Trumble.
West Sussex County Councillor J. Dennis.
Two Members of the public.

Minutes

31.20 Apologies for Absence. Apologies were received from Cllr G. Bishop, Cllr M. Saich and Mid Sussex District Councillor R. Jackson.

32.20 Declaration of interest by Councillors on any item on the agenda. No interests were declared.

33.20 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on14th July 2020. Minutes were approved by Council and signed by the Chairman.

34.20 Mid Sussex District Council – update by District Councillor Colin Trumble items covered:

- Haywards Heath College is now open, although works are continuing on sports fields.
- COVID-19 update priority has been given to highest rate areas. Mobile testing units have been used throughout the district. Testing centres are available at sites in both Tangmere and Gatwick.
- Following SDNP enforcement issues it was confirmed that aggregate located at Pondtail Wood has been removed. It is envisaged that an additional planning application will be submitted.
- Issues with the SDNP planning process are being experienced by local parishes. A virtual meeting between local parishes is being held to discuss this item on 30th September 2020.
- MSDC Councillors have revisited budget for next year this item will continue to be reviewed.
- White Paper on Planning consultation submissions have to be in by to Andrew Marsh at MSDC by 29th October 2020. Hanson report mentioned MSDC and the housing issues being experienced. Also referred to the Mayfield development and the infrastructure issues this would raise.

Cllr Alison Bennett also updated on problems being experienced with COVID-19 testing. Local MP Andrew Griffith has asked that local residents contact him if they are struggling to get a test through the government website.

- Councils have asked whether MSDC will be consulting directly with parishes on the proposed changes to MSDC planning. As parishes are aware of the proposals they should be discussed and any comments submitted directly to MSDC.

- Ward bands are to be reviewed this is to ensure the correct ratio of residents to councillors.
- MSDC Applause Awards close on 18th September. Nominations can still be submitted.
- Unpleasant graffiti has been raised in Hassocks. Appears to be far right group if any is experienced it must be reported to the police who have to keep tabs.

35.20 West Sussex County Councillor – update by County Councillor Joy Dennis updated on:

- COVID-19 cases. Figures in West Sussex are rising and have increased significantly in the recent weeks. Mid Sussex area cases are also increasing. Highest number of cases currently reported in Worthing with a slight increase in the number of cases in care homes. With the reopening of the AMEX Stadium the testing site has now been moved to Tangmere, Chichester. NHS facilities currently have capacity and are coping well.
- Schools in West Sussex have the highest number of pupils in attendance. This figure includes children with special needs who have required additional transport requirements. Government laptop scheme has been implemented to ensure disadvantaged children have access to online classes.
- Additional funding has been obtained from the government which will cover additional works to pot holes and will enable resurfacing to be undertaken.
- Solar Together Sussex initiative to offer discounted solar panel installation to local residents.
- Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme available to boost local broadband speeds. Eligible rural premises can claim up to £4,000 each towards the cost of installation for gigabit-capable broadband when part of a group of premises.
- Business perspective looking at economic business plan for West Sussex which will include Gatwick.
- A2300 and Burgess Hill growth meetings continue.

36.20 To discuss continuing issues with power and water supplies within the parish. Issues are still being experienced within the parish on both power and water supplies. Cllr Wilson has spoken to UK Power regarding the continuing problems. Cllr Dennis and Cllr Trumble will look into this item on behalf of the parish.

Cllr Dennis, Cllr Bennett and Cllr Trumble all left the meeting at this point.

37.20 To discuss the Inter Parish Group response to the White Paper on Planning. With the recent White paper 'Planning for the Future' which is a 12-week consultation running from 6 August to 29 October 2020 and in addition, the government published linked consultation "Changes to the current planning system" which runs 6 August to 1 October 2020 council resolves to support the comments and actions raised by the Inter Parish Group. Clerk will liaise with Cllr Ernest regarding this support.

38.20 To discuss a programme of parish works.

- Quote received for the renovation of the second Pyecombe sign which includes the erection of an additional flower bed. Clerk will obtain further quotes and circulate to Council.
- Meeting planned with contractors regarding the installation of planters along the grass verges adjacent to the BP Garage and the bridge located at the bottom of Pyecombe Street.
- MSDC have been asked to provide a quote for an additional bin collection service raising this to twice weekly. Clerk will circulate this information to Council.

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39.20 Financial Matters:
39.1.20 Council resolved to adopt the latest Financial Regulations previously circulated.
39.2.20 Council agreed acceptance of the NALC pay award previously circulated. Clerk will confirm to WSCC.
39.3.20 Confirmation of payments raised since last meeting:
£367.91 WSCC Invoice 8001473501
£288.01 WSCC Invoice 8001473554
£ 72.00 Kitman Ltd Invoice 10037
£367.91 WSCC Invoice 8001479211
£ 65.15 EDF Energy Invoice 8226399

40.20 To confirm date of next meeting as 10th November 2020.