Pyecombe Parish Council

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Minutes of the virtual meeting of the Parish Council on Tuesday 9th March 2021 at 7:00pm.

Present – Cllr D. Wilson – Chairman, Cllr G. Bishop, Cllr T. Cullen and Cllr D. French.
Clerk and RFO – Mrs D. Langston.
West Sussex County Councillor J. Dennis
Mid Sussex District Councillors C. Trumble, A. Bennett and R. Jackson
Councillor G. Marsh Mid Sussex District Council representative on SDNP Planning
Mr C. Maidment

Minutes

17.21 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Saich.

18.21 No interests were declared.

19.21 To approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th February 2021. Minutes were approved by Council and signed by the Chairman.

20.21 Update from Councillor Gary Marsh, Mid Sussex District Council representative on SDNP Planning. Cllr Marsh confirmed WSCC Officers were not making site visits due to COVID-19 restrictions. Cllr Dennis will investigate this item and liaise with Cllr Marsh. A serious lack of equalisation of highways visitation within SDNP parishes has been recognised Cllr Marsh will continue to update on this matter. Cllr Marsh highlighted on the 'traffic light' system being used in MSDC. Council highlighted a recent request for an extension to allow for submission of comments which has not yet received a response.

Councillor G. Marsh left the meeting at this point.

21.21 Presentation by Christopher Maidment regarding the Queen's platinum jubilee. As part of the platinum jubilee a project is currently being run by Crown Estates entitled The Queens Green Canopy. As part of this project the proposal is to plant a sustainable and ecologically sound 'E' on Wolstenbury Hill. The proposal is for a site 160 yards wide by 200 yards long which would be clearly visible to all, including those on the flight path into Gatwick. Mr Maidment is hoping that the project would be funded by individuals and would like Council to be supportive of the project. Council unanimously agreed to support the project.

22.21 Mid Sussex District Council update by District Councillors as follows:

- Budget
- Local School Places
- Small Electricals Recycling
- Planning appeal outcome at Fulking
- Cllr Trumble has written to UK Power Networks regarding ongoing issues with power outages and will continue to liaise with Council on this matter.

Mr C. Maidment left the meeting at this point.

23.21 West Sussex County Councillor J. Dennis updated her previously circulated reported:

- Local Elections
- Education
- Business Bounce Back Loans
- Quarantine Hotels and Vaccinations
- Government Road Map
- Community Hub
- Libraries, Record Office & Ceremonies
- Care homes & Hospital Capacity
- 2021 Census any residents needing assistance to complete the form can contact their local libraries who will complete the information on their behalf.
- Closure of Nationwide branches in both Hurstpierpoint and Hassocks. Lack of public consultation highlighted by WSCC. Cllr Dennis will continue to update Council.
- Gigabit Scheme

All Mid Sussex District Councillors and West Sussex County Councillor J. Dennis left at this point.

24.21 To discuss continuing issues with power and water supplies within the parish. Continuing issues being experienced by local residents. As highlighted Cllr Trumble has written to UK Power Networks regarding ongoing issues with power outages and will continue to liaise with Council on this matter.

25.21 Operation Watershed project is still being discussed with WSCC Officers. Concerns were raised by Highways England at the proximity of any proposed works to the wall adjacent to the A23. A WSCC Technical Officer is now reviewing the scheme with a view to providing updated information and a technical scope which can be used for quotations.

26.21 Update on Community Works programme. Highways England have confirmed in principle they have no objections to the works proposed on land adjacent to the M&S Store. A site meeting is required once COVID restrictions ease.

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27.21 To resolve the following planning applications:
SDNP/21/00883/TCA Hillside, Pyecombe Street, Pyecombe. Remove pine tree. Council resolved it had no objections to the application.

SDNP/20/05848/TCA Hillside, Pyecombe Street, Pyecombe. Removal of a flowering cherry tree which is in the public right of way bordering my property. The tree has grown to such an extent that it has severely damaged my fence panel which is now in danger of falling down. Council emailed SDNP requesting an extension for comments which has not been acknowledged. Decision has been issued showing SDNP Raise No Objection.

28.21 Financial & Administration Update:
Balance Sheet previously circulated to all Councillors.
Council reviewed the WSALC and SSALC renewal quote of £95.23. In view of recent events Council resolved not to renew membership this year a subscription for SLCC will be taken out for Clerk at a cost of £65.66.
Confirmation of payments raised since last meeting:
£ 65.28 EDF Energy Invoice 8965518
£ 66.97 D Langston Expenses
£378.14 WSCC Invoice 8001512146
£378.14 WSCC Invoice 8001518243
£ 48.63 B&H SWET Ltd Invoice 58127
£543.31 MSDC Invoice 4100806165
Consideration given to marking the Queens Platinum Jubilee by planting bulbs throughout the village. Council will review the sites and bring additional ideas to the next meeting.

29.21 To confirm date of next meeting as 11th May 2021.