Pyecombe Parish Council

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Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held at Wayfield Park Farm Shop on Tuesday 29th June 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 A. Bennett.

Minutes

44.21 Apologies for absence were received from Mid Sussex District Councillors C. Trumble and R. Jackson.

45.21 No interests were declared.

46.21 To approve the Minutes of the Annual meeting of the Parish Council Meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27th April 2021. Minutes were approved by Council and signed by the Chairman.

47.21 Mid Sussex District Council update by District Councillor A. Bennett (previously circulated):
Flytipping

Following questions from Newtimber Parish Meeting about large fly tips with evidence identifying the perpetrators having been collected and then not prosecuted, I have been discussing MSDC's fly tipping policy with officers and the Cabinet Member for Environment and Service Delivery. The policy in recent years has been to focus the budget on clearing fly tips speedily and as a result no officers had the correct permits to issue Fixed Penalty Notices and no prosecutions have been progressed. The Cabinet Member has confirmed to me that they have decided to ensure that a small number of officers are warranted to take enforcement action when the opportunity presents itself. There will be a full update to councillors in the coming weeks, and I will keep you informed as I find out more.

Levelling Up Fund

MSDC have bid for £14m of the Government's 'Levelling Up Fund'. Applications closed last week, and the successful bids will be announced in September. The bid focuses upon Burgess Hill and has three elements:

- Money to help get the town centre regeneration going
- Further funding for sustainable transport
- Further investment in digital infrastructure

Council Tax Support

MSDC and WSCC have agreed to provide an extra Council Tax discount of up to £150 in 2021/22 for those most in need. People who are experiencing financial difficulties can contact Mid Sussex District Council directly for support by calling 01444 477564 or emailing: revenue@midsussex.gov.uk

48.21 West Sussex County Councillor J. Dennis updated on the following:

- Covid numbers in West Sussex have risen dramatically although hospitalisation figures remain low.
- Council raised the issues being experienced with parked or broken-down vehicles in the parish. These have been reported to both the local policing team and Operation Crackdown and are still in situ. Cllr Dennis will investigate.

Mid Sussex District Councillor A. Bennett left the meeting at this point

- TRO situation within the parish has been raised at cabinet level.
- Council highlighted the problems being experienced with potholes within the district. Cllr Dennis is looking into ways to deal with this item. Moving forwards contractors may be charged for not ensuring the job has been completed satisfactorily and within a given timescale.
- Ash Tree die back project remains ongoing within the district with trees being removed in order of priority by WSCC contractors. This item will remain ongoing.
- Clerk raised concerns from a resident regarding the recent cutback of verges. Cllr Dennis highlighted the need for council to review a grass cutting plan. This item will be carried forward for discussion.

West Sussex County Councillor J. Dennis left the meeting at this point.

49.21 Update on Community Works programme.

- Jubilee tree planting project has been shelved due to ecological restrictions.
- Bulb planting project within the parish will be run as part of the jubilee celebrations.
- Following a recent site visit with Highways England it has been agreed in principle they have no objections to the works proposed on land adjacent to the M&S Store. Confirmation of this decision is required in writing prior to the funding application with SDNP.

50.21 To resolve the following planning applications:
SDNP/21/03129/HOUS Hillside, Pyecombe Street, Pyecombe, West Sussex, BN45 7EE. Demolition of conservatory and erection of a single storey rear extension, front porch, and pitch roof to existing garage. Council confirmed it has no objections to the application.

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51.21 Financial Matters
51.1.21 Council reviewed the system of internal control and prepared the Annual Governance Statement.
51.2.21 Payments raised since last meeting:
£ 376.57 WSCC Invoice 8001530835
£ 101.25 D. Langston Administration Expenses
£ 296.14 WSCC invoice 8001535345
£ 44.14 B&H SWET Ltd Invoice 58266
£ 154.00 D. Langston Administration Expenses
£ 376.57 WSCC Invoice 8001536957
51.3.21 Council approved the accounting statements for year ending 31st March 2021 and these were signed by the Chairman.

52.21 Date of next meeting confirmed as 14th September 2021.