



*Agenda 3rd October 2023,
Iden Parish Council*

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**Parish council members are summoned to the Meeting to be held on
3rd October 2023 at 7.30pm Iden Village Hall**

Signed

Date 28th September 2023

Members of the Public and Press are welcome and encouraged to attend

AGENDA

1. Apologies

2. Disclosure of Interests

To receive any disclosure by Members of personal and disclosable pecuniary interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the member regards the personal interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct. Members are reminded of the need to repeat their declaration immediately prior to the commencement of the item in question.

3. Minutes (available from <http://www.idenvillage.uk>)

To approve minutes of the parish council meeting held on 4th July 2023 (previously distributed) and to sign as a true record.

The meeting to adjourn for up to 25 minutes for

Report from the County Councillor and District Councillors

Public Question Time

This 10-minute period is available for the public to express a view or ask a question on relevant matters on the following agenda. Because of time constraints, only one question will be permitted per member of the public. Please advise the clerk if you have any other questions at the end of the meeting.

The meeting to reconvene.

Members of the public are welcome to stay and observe the rest of the meeting when they must remain silent.

4. Planning

(Information on applications is available from Rother District Council website)

4.1 Enforcements and Appeals

No further advice since the last meeting.

4.2 Planning Decisions by Rother District Council

RR/2023/760/P Park Farm: Erection of green house. Approved.

RR/2023/1006/P Barons Grange, Readers Lane: Retention of vacant agricultural mobile home for holiday let use. Approved.

4.3 Applications to be considered:

None.

4.4 Applications Responded to Under Delegation (1972, s.101)

None.

5. Finances – Parish Council

5.1 Bank Balances

Bank Balances:

31st July 2023 £24,620.60 (Treasurers Account £14,309.10 and Reserve Account £ 10,311.50),

31st August 2023 £23,656.75 (Treasurers Account £13,337.62 and Reserve Account £ 10,319.13),

30th September 2023 £31,439.94 tbc (Treasurers Account £21,111.17 and Reserve Account £ 10,328.77),

5.2 July, August and September Receipts

£7.00	July Bank Interest
£7.63	August Bank Interest
£9.64	September Bank Interest
£350.00	Continued plot reservation
£15.00	Coronation mug sale
£21.10	Appledore PC share of ink
£50.00	Hire of playing field
£8,000.00	Precept payment
£350.00	Plot reservation

5.3 July (Additional Payments), August and September Payments (including Charge card

£41.70	August salary allowance: Room £30 and car £11.70
£525.20	August Salary
£525.20	September Salary
£22.18	M Metcalfe for gate repair (vat £3.69)
£3.24	Refund M Philo for a share of laminate sheets
£90.00	Playsafety Limited: RoSPA play area safety inspection (vat £15)
£252.00	PKF Littlejohn LLP: External Audit (vat £42)
£32.28	Pett PC: share of clerk's mobile April to September
£4.88	ESALC: Being a good employer
Charge Card (6 September)	
£4.75	Tesco 17/8 ream of paper (vat £0.95)
£1.50	Stamps second class x 2
£25.48	Webbs: paintbrushes and creosote for Elms mead Bus Shelter

5.3 Payments to authorise:

£525.20 Clerk's October salary
£83.40 Clerk's September and October salary allowances: Room/car £41.70
£22.34 Refund for additional 5 litre bottle of creosote for Elmsmead bus shelter
shelter £14.99 (vat £2.50), Tesco file dividers £1.10 (vat 92p),

Charge card (October)
£59.99 Microsoft Office renewal

Nb. no RALC invoice received as yet nor any from Gibbs for grass cutting.

5.4 Completion of External Audit

To note that the external auditor has no concerns with the annual return but has noted that the dates advised regarding the public right to inspect the accounts were incorrect. The dates on the final notice published to the public were correct.

6. Community Asset – The Bell Inn

6.1 Report for community group looking into the possible acquisition of the Bell Inn- The Bell Inn Working Party

A community group held its first meeting on the 15th August. The Bell Inn was listed as a community asset on the 4th September. A group has to express an interest in acquiring the Bell Inn by the 16th October to start the moratorium on selling the pub otherwise the pub owner is free to sell the pub without further delay.

6.2 Parish Council to start the Moratorium period

Following communication with Rother District Council, **to agree to advise Rother District Council to consider Iden Parish Council as a possible purchaser for the community registered asset that is the Bell Inn, and as such to request that the moratorium period commence by the 15th October 2023.** There is no requirement that the parish council will actually acquire the pub.

6.3 Survey for the Bell Inn

The Bell Inn Working party group has requested that the Parish Council consider providing some financial assistance for a survey to be carried out. Estimated cost £1,500 plus vat. The group is hoping to obtain funding from the Plunkett Foundation once it has successfully joined the foundation.

To agree whether to provide funding towards a survey.

7. New burial ground

7.1 Cemetery tidy

The boundary between the new burial ground and churchyard has become overgrown with scrub. Memorial stones and plots are being lost. Various trees have reduced the light to the new burial ground and need raising to allow contractors and visitors to pass unhindered. The garden of contemplation needs a pile of dead branches removing. A fallen tree trunk between the churchyard and additional parking needs removing. The tree overhanging the additional parking need lifting. There is also a dead tree in the churchyard and a copper beech with a few dead limbs. A sapling growing in one of the graves is rapidly becoming a tree and needs to be removed to ensure the structure of the memorial.

To agree to contract Nigel Gibbs to carry out the work. £1,070.00 plus vat

7.2 Garden of Contemplation – Interment of Ashes

The garden is now free of any covenants and is an ideal location to create a specific location for the interment of ashes. A layout has been circulated and quotes obtained. To agree to contract a contract:

Contractor A £3,126 or larger slabs (possibly plus vat)

Contractor B £2,358 plus vat £471.60

8. Elmsmead Bus Shelter

To decide a date to hang the plaque. Tea in the village hall afterwards.

9. Finances – Pavilion

9.1 Bank Balances

Bank Balances on

31st July 2023 £2,724.13

31st August 2023 £2,811.13

30th September 2023 £2,848.13

9.2 July August and September Receipts

£60.00 Bodium Cricket Club

£50.00 Pavilion Hire

£60.00 Bodium Cricket Club

£60.00 Bodium Cricket Club

9.3 August and September payments

£23.00 EDF monthly Direct Debit each month

9.4 October Payments

£23.00 EDF monthly direct debit payment 15th of the month

Nb. Compensation for water disruption of £350.00 has been paid into the Castle water account. The Clerk requested the sum to be paid into the pavilion account on the 12th September. Hopefully the funds will be paid in shortly.

10. Iden Playing Fields and Pavilion

10.1 Pavilion Working Party Report

10.2 Guttering repair work

To consider repair to the guttering and fascia. The rear guttering needs work but there is an issue with the roof which will require the guttering and fascia to be removed.

To repair fascias on the remaining guttering and replace the guttering on the front with deep flow guttering

Contractor A – £ 3,850

Contractor B - £ 1,325

Contractor C - £ 1,110

To remove the moss from the roof to lighten the load on the roof

Contractor A - £1,500 pitched roof only

Contractor B – £1,675 rear roof and rear flat roof

The overhanging tree branches should also be cut back to reduce leaf fall, weight on the roof and clogging of the gutters. The Clerk has requested contractors to attend but no quotes were received.

11. Risk Assessment – Report on Parish Assets

Oak tree branch fell on the playing field.

12. Information for Councillors (for noting or inclusion on future agenda)

Police focus groups will be meeting online between 9th October to 1st December. Cllr to attend. The coffee morning had a visit from two PCSOs on the 3rd August.

ESALC AGM Tuesday 14th November, Uckfield Civic Centre includes a light lunch. Two cllrs to attend.

Road sign cleaning 9th October and then join the coffee morning in the village hall.

A reminder that councillors should be considering budgeting for the next financial year.

The play area inspection has been carried out and Councillor Say has tighten the bolts on the basket swing.

2nd November Residential Development Event 10am to 2pm Manor Barn Bexhill.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Next meeting Tuesday 7th November 2023, 7.30pm Iden Village Hall.