



# Iden Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 at 7.30pm at Iden Village Hall

Present: Cllrs R. Griffin (Chairman), M. Miller and G. Say

In attendance: County Cllr K. Glazier, District Cllr P. Osborne and the Clerk M. Philo

Members of the Public: 12

Item No.		
1	<b>Apologies</b>	Cllrs Wood, Allard and District Cllr Hart who was attending the Conservative Conference
2	<b>Disclosure of Interest on Agenda Items</b>	None.
3	<b>Minutes</b>	<b>Following amendment, it was resolved to agree the minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> September as a true record.</b>
		<b>The meeting was adjourned at 7.32pm</b>
	<b>County and District Councillors' Reports</b>	
	<b>County Council Budget 2020 -2021</b>	Central government had confirmed an additional cash sum of £1 billion nationally to county councils for the next financial year. County councils would again be allowed to increase council tax by 2% to be ring fenced for adult social care costs. East Sussex County Council will also increase its share of council tax by 2.99%. As a result, less cuts will be required. The band D household will see its council tax increase by £27 for county council expenditure.
	<b>County Council Moves Forward to Becoming Carbon Neutral</b>	The county council had voted to become more carbon neutral and were looking at only using renewal energy including finding alternative investments to fossil fuels in the pension scheme portfolio.
	<b>Public Question Highways Patching Temporary Signs</b>	A request was made that the patching signs should have been removed by now. Councillor Glazier would ask the highway steward to remove them.
	<b>District Council to Consider the Effect on the Climate in Decision Making</b>	Following an Emergency Motion Rother had declared a 'climate emergency' and pledged to do what was within its powers to make it carbon neutral by 2030. A steering group which included councillors Hart and Osborne had been tasked to report back in six months with an action plan to address the emergency. Councillor Osborne had considered the refurbishment of Camber Car parks and ascertained that the Type 1 material is coming from Lydd.
	<b>Public Questions</b>	
	<b>Hedges opposite Mi Cottage</b>	The footpath was down to a foot in width and impossible to walk along. The clerk had contacted the relevant property owners' local relatives and asked

		them to advise the owners that the footpath was now blocked by their hedge growth. The difficulty is that the owners are living abroad.
		<b>The meeting was reconvened at 7.45pm</b>
4	<b>Planning</b>	Town and Country Planning Acts 1990 sch1 and 2010
4.1	<b>Enforcements</b>	None
4.2	<b>R.D.C Planning Decisions</b>	RR/2019/987/P and RR/2019/988/L - Ades Cottage, Playden Lane: Install handrails either side of steps to front door. Approved conditionally.
4.3	<b>Applications Received</b>	<b>RR/2019/1845/P Lock Cottage, Iden Lock: renewal of permission RR/2014/2174/P (and previously approved under RR/2009/2459/P) for the retention of the Bird Observatory Hut for a further 5 years. It was resolved to support.</b>
		<b>RR/2019/2137/T- Orchard Field, Grove Lane: T1Oak fell It was resolved to comment that as no independent opinion is provided, Iden Parish Council is unable to provide any view.</b>
		<b>RR/2019/2152/T Walnut Cottage, Main Street: Remove branches, cut and remove the roots of ivy growth. It was resolved to support.</b>
5	<b>Finances</b>	I.P.C. Financial Regulations
5.1	<b>Financial Report</b>	As at 31st September Current Account £22,998.03 Reserve account £9,910.02. The second quarter figures were supplied to councillors. Expenditure for the second quarter totalled £6,591.91(net of vat) which had included about 75% of the grass cutting costs for the year £ 2,225.00 and £1,351.43 for the pavilion building insurance. Additional income from the new burial ground continued this quarter. Total receipts for the quarter were £8,617.66 and included reimbursement for the pavilion insurance fee. The grant approval letter from Rother District Council included a condition that monies would only be paid by them after the project was completed. As Iden PC did not have the funds, the district council accountant was considering stage payments of the grant to the parish council..
5.3	<b>Receipts for Previous Month</b>	£ 100.00 Headstone £ 0.42 September bank interest
5.4	<b>Payments</b>	<b>It was resolved to approve the following payments-</b> £ 452.05 Clerk's monthly salary £ 41.70 Clerk's allowances £ 9.33 Pett Parish Council: monthly mobile phone cost <b>Charge card</b> £ 95.37 Hopes Grove Nursery: hedging plants for war memorial – already been paid for September £ 19.00 Jempsons: Flowers for S White £ 59.99 Microsoft Office: annual charge – had not gone through with September payment and so was due in November.
6	<b>Dwindling Community Participation</b>	In response from a resident suggesting that the council take a lead on achieving greater engagement, the council suggested a survey and letter to all residents however, it was noted that residents would also have to participate. All Saints Church and Iden Village Hall were looking to fill voluntary roles.

7	<b>Play Area</b>	The 50% grant letter from Rother District Council, advised of several conditions. The requirement that the council pays all costs upfront could not be complied with due to insufficient funds. The council had put forward a stage payment system as suggested by RDC but due to the short time between the payments it was very difficult to achieve this. No response had been received yet and was holding up the work. Cllr Osborne was asked to assist as the window of good weather was closing.
8	<b>Rother Rural Trust</b>	The trust offers small grants to individuals in need in Rother. Public was requested to contact the Clerk or councillors with any suggestions. <b>It was also resolved to donate £200 to Rother Rural Trust.</b>
9	<b>Playing Fields and Pavilion</b>	The Pavilion Association had confirmed that they would install a padlock on the disabled toilets for the winter period while the building had no activities going on. The association had also confirmed that they would drain the water pipes for the winter period whilst the building was unoccupied however, as the pavilion may be used to store the new play equipment during its installation, they would hold off drainage until a final installation date for the equipment was certain..
10	<b>Risk Assessment</b>	
	<b>Playing Field Trees</b>	There had been no damage to trees during the last storms. Should any of the hedging trees removed from the memorial garden survive these would be replanted in the playing fields.
	<b>Churchyard Trees and Overhead Cables</b>	The Clerk had spoken to Power Network again about the trees growing up through the cables, but no work had been carried out to date.
	<b>Bench outside Iden Stores</b>	This had been sanded and oiled
	<b>War Memorial Garden</b>	Thanks, were expressed to new couple who had volunteered to look after the garden. They had improved the soil with manure and planted the replacement smaller hedging plants and added cyclamens round the memorial itself. They had also taken away the post and chains at the front to refurbish them.
11	<b>Information for Cllrs</b>	
	<b>Model Standing Orders</b>	These will be on the agenda for November
	<b>Policing consultation</b>	The Police Chief Constable had requested a member of the council to attend a meeting at the Mermaid Inn on the 21 <sup>st</sup> October to discuss policing. Councillors Griffin and Miller will attend.
12	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.30pm at Iden Village Hall. The meeting closed at 8.15pm.