



# *Iden Parish Council*

**Minutes of the Meeting held on  
1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 7.30pm, Iden Village Hall.**

## **Notices**

The chairman thanked Mrs V. Gordon for allowing the Bell Inn car park to be used for the distribution of bottled water from South East during the water disruption following Storm Eunice. Iden Stores was also thanked for distributing the first delivery of water.

## **Present**

Councillors R Griffin (Chairman), P. Allard, M. Miller, G Say and J. Wood.

In attendance: County Councillor K Glazier, District Councillors P. Osborne and Mary Philo  
- Clerk

Members of the Public: Five

## **Apologies**

None

## **Disclosure of Interests**

None.

## **Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

**It was resolved to agree the minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 as a true record.**

## **The meeting adjourned at 7.36pm for Public Session**

### **County Councillor Report**

Council Tax 2022-2023: The county council tax increase was finally set at 4.49%: 1.99% county council increase plus, as agreed by central government, 1% allocation for Covid plus 1.5% (the remainder of a 3% deal over two years) for adult social care. This represents an increase on the average household band D of £1.30 per week. No savings/cuts were needed to balance the budget. Improvement works to Iden Lock will be part of the highway's expenditure in the coming financial year.

A member of the public raised the growing number and depth of potholes on the road to Rye.

### **District Councillors Report**

Council Tax 2022-2023: The district council increase represents an increase of about £5 on the average household band B. Savings and cuts will be made so as not to dramatically reduce the district council reserves. The cost of housing those in need should reduce as more homes become available through the acquisition of properties. The council is looking to make further investments.

The prospect of a bin strike was averted with the agreement of an improved pay packet. A resident queried whether in future there would be separate waste collection lorries as suggested by recent legislation. It was suggested that a national strategy would be more effective.

A member of the public queried if Iden would be affected by the requirement for the borough to provide greater number of new housing. Developments in Bexhill had previously provided the housing supply but Iden did have some protection as part of it is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. New planning laws are expected to come out in spring this year.

### **Public Question**

A member asked what plans the Bowls Club had for dealing with the large protected beech tree that had been blown down across the adjacent field by Storm Eunice. It was thought that the club planned to cut it up themselves. The remaining protected tree is now one sided as a result. Advice had been given to the club from the district tree officer that a beech or hornbeam of about 2 metres would have to be planted as a replacement.

The meeting reconvened at 7.50pm

### **Planning**

#### **4.1 Enforcements and Appeals**

No advice since the last meeting.

#### **4.2 Planning Decisions made by Rother District Council since the last meeting**

RR/2021/1706/L The Granary, Wittersham Road: Installation of 2 conservational velux windows and 4 light tunnels to roof. Approved.

#### **4.3 Applications considered:**

None.

### **Finances**

#### **5.1 Bank Balance**

Bank Balance of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022 stood at £20,266.01 which includes £878.33 for the pavilion account.

#### **5.2 February Receipts**

£0.08 February Bank Interest

£727.14 Pavilion N S & I account closure to be transferred to separate pavilion account when open

£200.00 Iden Cricket Club for 2022 season pitch hire

£200.00 Iden Cricket Club for 2022 season pavilion hire to be transferred to separate account.

### **5.3 The following payments were authorised**

£473.55 Clerk's March salary

£41.70 Clerk's March Salary Allowances: Room £30 and car £11.70

£14.21 Pett Parish Council: Share of Clerk's Mobile Phone (vat nil) January to March 2022

£700.00 Richard A Copland Chartered Surveyors Condition report of Sports Pavilion to come out of the monies for the pavilion account

Charge Card (payment about 6<sup>th</sup> March):

£32.00 Annual fee for Charge card

### **6 Storm Eunice**

The churchyard has lost one popular and a branch of one of the oaks. A conifer branch has fallen onto the football pitch but represented no danger and an ash tree branch has fallen into the field behind the playing fields. The village suffered the same 24-hour power cut as the whole region alongside no mobile phone service. Although not able to communicate, the emergency forum was aware that very vulnerable residents were being taken care of by their families following the storm. The shop remained open and functioned as it made use of its generator.

### **7 Queen's Platinum Jubilee Village Event**

A request has been made, for volunteers to come together on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March 11am at the Old Hall to discuss organising a jubilee party in June.

**It was resolved that the Women's Institute may plant a rowan tree to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee on Iden Playing Field between the large oak and the walnut on the roadside woodland.**

**It was resolved to acquire a holly tree and plant it on the 11<sup>th</sup> March at the village hall.**

### **8 Iden Pavilion Association**

A complaint letter to South East Water has been sent regarding the danger of the location of the water meter particularly as it will be regularly read in future. A technician will be visiting on the 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022. The NS&I account has been closed and money transferred to Iden Parish Council. The council is still in the process of setting up a new account for the pavilion with Lloyd's Bank. The parish council still has to reimburse the Cricket club for the previous water bill.

### **9. Iden Playing Fields**

Following discussion of trees and possible wildflower seeding, it was suggested that a group should work on constructing a management plan for the playing field.

### **10. Risk Assessment – Report on Parish Assets**

There were no other issues to report to those mentioned in the previous item.

## **11. Information for Councillors**

None.

## **12. Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2022, 7.30pm, Iden Village Hall. Date of the annual village assembly/parish meeting to be advised (between 1<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> June). The meeting closed at 8.25pm.