



Iden Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting 16th May 2019 at 7.30pm at Iden Village Hall

Present: Cllrs R. Griffin (Chairman), P. Allard, M. Miller, G. Say and J. Wood
 In attendance: County Cllr K. Glazier, District Cllrs S-A. Hart and the Clerk M. Philo

Item No.		
1	Election of Chairman	Ray Griffin was proposed by Cllr Miller and seconded by Cllr Say. As Ray Griffin had been chairman for three consecutive years it was proposed that the council policy that chairman should be in office for a maximum of three years be amended to extended this for just one more year in his case alone. It was resolved to agree this amendment. It was resolved to elect Cllr Griffin to the position of Chairman till the next annual meeting in 2020. Cllr Griffin signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office. LGA 1972, 15(1) & (2)
2	Election of Vice Chairman	Greg Say was proposed by Cllr Wood and seconded by Cllr Miller. It was resolved to elect Cllr Say to the position of Vice Chairman.
3	Apologies	District Councillor Paul Osborne
4	Disclosure of Interest on Agenda Items	All Councillors have a prejudicial interest in the precept. Cllr Wood had a prejudicial interest in the Fete. Councillors would review their interests and advise the Clerk.
5	Minutes	It was resolved to agree the minutes of the 2 nd April 2019 as a true record. The meeting was adjourned at 7.40pm
	County and District Councillors' Reports	
	Highways Steward	Iden's current highway steward Isla will be the new head of Stewards and James is her replacement. The clerk will be advised of the details..
	Potholes	15 potholes had been identified along Cold Harbour Lane. As a result of the planned maintenance program, overall less roads needed repairing than last year.
	Rother District Council Election Result	There were now 12 conservatives based in rural areas of Rother. Independent candidates had won in the Bexhill area. The council was headed by a coalition of Labour, Liberal Democrats and urban independents.
	Public Questions	
	Waste Bin at Grove Lane Bus Shelter	The Clerk and Cllr Hart had emailed the relevant department. The instruction had been made for the bin to be delivered but it had not been delivered. The officer apologised and would request the bins delivery again.
		The meeting was reconvened at 7.55pm

6	Planning	Town and Country Planning Acts 1990 sch1 and 2010
6.1	Enforcements	None.
6.2	R.D.C Planning Decisions	RR/2019/664/L and P - Peryetes Cottage, Readers Lane: Extension to the south east of the existing property, new window on the north west and a new double garage. Granted
6.3	Applications Received	None
7	Finances	I.P.C. Financial Regulations
7.1	Financial Report	As at 30th April stood at: Reserve account £9,757.96 and Treasurers account £22,901.83 Treasurer's Report is attached.
7.3	Receipts for Previous Month	£ 0.39 April bank interest £ 7,000.00 50% Precept £ 350.00 Burial Ground
7.4	Payments	£ 444.25 Clerk's Salary £ 65.44 Clerk's Administration costs: room £30, Car £ 11.70, stationary and stamps £ 23.74 £ 9.12 Pett PC – share of mobile phone cost Charge card Nil
7.4	Internal Report	The audit had been completed and no concerns had been raised. The methodology of the council asset list had been queried. The clerk had provided a SALC advice paper on this demonstrating that depreciation is not considered.
7.5	Annual Return Governance Statement	Concern was raised over the continued disregard of the requirement to have regular safety inspections of the sports pavilion by Iden Pavilion Association. The association had contacted the previous inspector but he had retired. The association was seeking quotes. The council concurred that if the safety inspection for next year was not completed in February 2019, then the council would instigate an inspection and the cost passed on to Iden Pavilion Association. Following this discussion, it was resolved to agree the 9 assertions of the Annual Governance Statement – Section 1 and the chairman signed the document.
7.6	Annual Return Accounting Statement	Having considered the financial report and bank reconciliation, it was resolved to agree section 2 – Accounting Statements 2018/2019. Chairman signed the document.
7.7	Certificate of Exemption	Having agreed the Annual Governance and Annual Return 2018 – 2019, it was resolved to complete a certificate of exemption. The certificate was completed and the chairman signed the document.
8	War Memorial Hedge	The Clerk confirmed that she had ordered the wrong colour hedge. It was resolved that the hedge should be replanted either in the new burial ground or the playing fields and a replacement bushes acquired and planted in the autumn.

9	Playing Fields and Pavilion	
	Pavilion Safety Inspection	See minute 7.5
	Ash trees – die back	Concern was expressed about the number of ash trees on the playing fields and churchyard that were showing signs of die back. Limbs had been noted as suddenly falling down. Particular concern was raised about those at the entrance to the churchyard. Clerk requested to seek advice. The cost of dealing with the number of trees in the woodland and any required bat surveys could be prohibitive so it was suggested that the woodland area should be fenced off as a means to prevent walking through the woodland.
10	Risk Assessment	
11	Information for Cllrs	
	Cricket Club 2019 fee	This had been received
	Insurance renewal 18th June	Following correspondence from the solicitor it was thought best to remain with Zurich Insurance. Renewal to be agreed at the next meeting.
12	Date of Next Meeting	Tuesday 4 th June 2019 at 7.30pm at Iden Village Hall
13	War Memorial	Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, it was resolved that because of the confidential nature of the business transacted the public and press leave the meeting during the consideration of 1972 Act, sch. 12 A part 1, 2, 3, 4
		A response to solicitors was resolved.
		The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Iden Parish Council End of Year Financial Report
Year Ending 31st March 2019

Taking expenditure first. Once you consider that the council received a grant for £747 towards the restoration of the fingerposts, the cost of the laptop came from the Transparency Fund and that we have outstanding bills of approx. £700, even after the decision to cover costs with the contingency fund, the council did spend about £1500 more than budgeted. This was mainly due to the emergency play area surface repair and smaller overspends in general. However, the council's funds are sufficient to easily cover this.

Regarding income the council again received an unusual amount from the burial ground and again a number of grants. The income was bolstered as the cricket club paid two years fees in one.

As at the 31st March the bank balance being carried forward was £25,804.47 but there were still bills not yet received totally around £700 so the true balance is nearer to £25,000. Of that the following sums are ring fenced:

£7,000 council reserve
£8,900 play area replacement equipment
£246 garden society donation
£50 Iden Emergency Community Forum
Donations Fund £100

Once you take these out that leaves the council with a sum in the region of £7,000.