



Iden Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting held on
1st February 2022 7.30pm, Iden Village Hall.**

Notices

The chairman thanked Chrissy Slater for the 42 years she had served the community as hall caretaker.

Present

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

In attendance: Mary Philo - Clerk

Members of the Public: two

Apologies

County Councillor Glazier and District Councillor Osborne

Disclosure of Interests

None.

Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

It was resolved to agree the minutes of the 4th January 2022 as a true record.

The meeting adjourned at 7.35pm for Public Session

Public Question

A member of the public advised that the droppings from the birds in the bus shelter near Grove Lane needed clearing away. The chairman offered to do it.

The meeting reconvened at 7.38pm

Planning

4.1 Enforcements

ENF/248/21/IDE Maltings Wood yard, Malthouse Lane: residential use of wood yard –
Contra Notice Served.

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

RR/2021/1942/P Oxenbridge Farm, Wittersham Road: Proposed lean too extension to existing barn. Approved.

4.3 Applications considered: None.

Finances

5.1 Bank Balance

Bank balances as of 31st January 2021 £20,146.02

5.2 January Receipts

£0.09 January bank interest

5.3 Additional January Payments

£60.00 T & J Fencing – repair to post and rail fence along additional parking area, Iden Playing fields (vat £10)

£51.20 Refund M Philo – Contribution to Society for Local Council Clerks Annual subscription.

5.4 The following payments were authorised

£473.55 Clerk's February Salary

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

£34.00 Refund M Philo – Pavilion keys cutting (vat £5.67)

£13.88 Appledore Parish Council: Share of ink cartridge (vat nil)

Charge Card: Nil

Pavilion Payments

£48.77 Castle Water - Final payment due following reading of the metre

£67.58 Castle Water – First payment due with the parish council in charge following the reading. The clerk awaits copies of the bills to check that the reading used is correct and that the vat rate charged is correct.

6 Quiet Lanes

This item was deferred till the next meeting.

7 Queen's Platinum Jubilee Village Event

In 2002 the village hall had held a tea party to commemorate the Queen's Golden Jubilee. Contact will be made with the hall committee. The Women's Institute had also asked about the possibility of planting a tree and if a location could be found. The playing field appeared to be to only location.

8 Iden Pavilion Association

The water meter has been read and the account with Castle water for Fresh water is being transferred and bills will be recalculated. The clerk is awaiting the completion of a new account for the pavilion before transferring the electricity billing. National Saving and Investment have been written to requesting the account be closed. Closing the Barclay's account is also waiting for the new pavilion account. The structural survey is booked for the 1st February 2022. The clerk now has most keys to the pavilion. Iden Cricket Club have been advised of the fees agreed at the last meeting. The Club will consider these at their next meeting.

Requests to use the football pitch

Following an adhoc request to use the pitch by a neighbouring football team, the Clerk was instructed to ask for a donation should this arise in future. Should the adhoc request become more regular then the council would reconsider.

A football team from Hastings had made a second enquiry about using the pitch for autumn this year. Once the pavilion structural survey was received and considered then the council would ask to meet the club organisers. Many factors should be considered including parking requirements, ground conditions and running costs.

9. Iden Playing Fields

To obtain a water metre reading for the pavilion, the meter area had to be excavated leaving a dip. The metre cover is significantly below the ground level. The clerk is to contact Southern Water and report this as dangerous.

Concern was expressed about the chicken wire ball stop fencing as being dangerous as it deteriorates with age. The clerk was asked to obtain a quote for post and rail fencing to replace it.

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

A carpenter had been found to replace the missing direction finger on the fingerpost, but it is proving difficult to obtain the many letters needed.

Points of note from the recent RALC meeting included:

There will be a seminar covering the new plan for enforcement by Rother District Council.

The backlog of enforcements is reducing.

Preapplication advice for a fee restarted in January this year.

Garden waste collection will in future be free.

Central government continued to say 'no' to remote public meetings for councils.

Central government is proposing a 1.75%, backed dated to 1st April 2021, pay rise for civil servants. The unions have rejected this.

The new website is up and running. It was confirmed that the old WordPress site should redirect its visitors to the new site for a fee of £11 for a year.

Speeding through the village is becoming an issue again. The council would again ask to operate a speed indication scheme as allowed in neighbouring Kent. The community speed watch needed some more volunteers. The group would be boosted with highways approved temporary signs reminding drivers to consider their speed. The go ahead was given for a leaflet asking for volunteers. The leaflet would include a review of the parish council finances.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 1st March 2022, 7.30pm, Iden Village Hall. The meeting closed at 8.30pm.