



Iden Parish Council

**Minutes of the Meeting held on
3rd January 2023 7.30pm, Iden Village Hall.**

Notices

The Chairman advised of the passing of Ralph Morris a founding member of Iden Bowls Club.

Present

Councillors R Griffin (Chairman), P. Allard, M. Miller, G. Say and J. Wood.
In attendance: District Councillors P. Osborne and L. Hacking.
Members of the Public: Sixteen.

1. Apologies

County Councillor Glazier.

2. Disclosure of Interests

None.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Following minor amendment, it was resolved to agree the minutes of the 6th December 2022 as a true record.

The meeting adjourned at 7.37pm for Public Session

District Councillors Report

Councillor Osborne offered to bring the Community Grant Officer to view the sports pavilion to see how the stalling point of the application might be resolved. No planning application had been received regarding the Conker site.

Public Questions

The road between New Bridge and the top of Gardiner's Hill will be closed on the 4th January for road patching, from 9.30am to 3.30pm.

Clearance Works to Conker's Field

Neighbouring residents raised concerns about the clearance work that had and were being completed on the site, not complying with the Local Plan provisions for a nature strip behind the properties on Main Street and boundary treatment on the eastern side of the site. They requested that the Parish Council works to ensure that only 12 dwellings are built which reflect the village in style and varying sizes. Similarly, that the development is not just low carbon but carbon neutral. Also, that the affordable houses are prioritised for relatives of local families. A resident had raised a complaint with planning enforcement but they were unaware of any officer visit. The contractors on site had advised they were preparing the site for survey and that they were unaware of any planning conditions.

The council expressed concern about the difficulties of accessing the site through Elmsmead and it was noted that the large digger had entered the site from Main Street.

The meeting reconvened at 8.10 pm

4. Planning

4.1 Enforcements and Appeals

There are no outstanding appeals and no new enforcements. The enforcement made on Memorial Bungalow had been processed and no further action decided upon by the officer. Similarly, an enforcement request regarding Iden Motorcross Track has been reviewed and no further action would be taken due to unreasonable cost to the public purse.

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

RR/2022/2662/P Sabraon, Church Lane: Variation of condition 2 imposed on RR/2022/1198/P to allow the addition of a pergola to western extension -Withdrawn.

4.3 Applications considered

None.

5. Council Finances

5.1 Bank Balances and Third Quarter Financial Report

Bank Balances on 31st December 2022 £23,604.07: Council Treasurers Account £13,332.96 and Reserve Account £10,271.11. Third Quarter Financial Report is attached at the end of the minutes.

5.2 December Receipts

£43.34 Appledore Parish Council: refund for share of inks

£629.77 Castle Water refund for overpayment made to avoid charges while the issue was being discussed between the Clerk and Castle Water

£2.35 Bank Interest

5.3 December Additional Payments

£84.00 Play Safety Limited: Play area inspection (vat £14)

5.4 The following payments were authorised

£516.53 Clerk's January salary
£41.70 Clerk's December salary allowances: Room £30 and car £11.70
£1,074.00 Gibbs and Sons Ltd: remaining grass cutting fee
Charge Card (January) - Nil

5.6 Setting the Precept

It was resolved to set the precept for the financial year 2023-2024 at £16,000 per annum. The band D property household would pay £68.45 (an increase on last year of around £1.15) per annum.

6 Conker's Field Residential Development

Clearing work on the field has started and concern has been raised regarding the removal of hedges and boundary trees. It was resolved to write to Rother District Council on the issue.

7 Update on Iden Pavilion Works Grant Application to Rother District Council

The grant application was deemed to be more refurbishment and thus did not comply with the criteria to provide capital improvements. Further quotes for works which complied further with these criteria were prohibitive to move forward with. The council will take up the offer to meet with the officer on site.

8. Pavilion Finances

8.1 Bank Balance

Bank Balances on 31st December 2022 Treasurers Account £5,512.31

8.2 December Receipts

Nil

8.3 January Payments

£47.00 EDF monthly direct debit payment on the 15th of the month. Following a telephone conversation EDF have agreed to return the monthly debit to £23 as the building sees little use during the winter months.

Note

£1,938.61 Refund to Iden PC current account, agreed at the July 2022 meeting has not been made. Adjusted by the refund from Castle Water, this now stands at £1,308.83.

9. Iden Playing Field and Pavilion

A new position has been agreed for the tree in memory of Mrs Cloute between the pavilion and the play area.

10. Risk Assessment – Report on Parish Assets

Nothing new to report.

11. Information for Councillors

The clerk was reminded to apply for listing of Grove Lane bus shelter in the hope it will be granted in time for the Coronation.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 7th February 2023, 7.30pm, Iden Village Hall. The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Iden Parish Council Third Quarter Financial Report 2022 -2023

Third Quarter

Bank balances as of 31st December £ 23,604.07

Income £920.32

By this stage in the financial year the council has received all monies from the precept: the parish council share of the annual council tax bill for residents. So, for this quarter small receipts have come in from the burial ground £200 for a stone, £3.89 from bank interest and £86.66 recharging to Appledore and Pett Parish Councils for shared ink costs. Additionally, Castle Water has refunded what is left of the overpayment, for the pavilion, made to avoid charges, being £629.77.

Expenditure £3,128.29 (net of vat)

This represents the running costs of the council and its assets except for two donations made to the British Legion Poppy Appeal (£50) plus the Rural Rother Trust (£200) and the 100th celebration of the erection of the war memorial (£194.20)

The anticipated costs to pay till the end of the financial year are £3,739.59. Once this and the reserve of £8,000 and two other ring-fenced sums (Website £661.36 and garden society donation £246) are subtracted the parish council will have around £10,000 in the bank. There is also some expected income of £1,000 from the burial ground to come in to add to that. The final amount will depend on the remaining bill for grass cutting and any unexpected costs.

Based on the estimated costs for the remaining year the parish council will have spent just below its budget around £15,500. Should the parish council wish, if it agreed not to collect monies owed from the pavilion account the council would have spent around £16,500.