



Chailey Parish Council
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Minutes

A Full Council Meeting was held on Tuesday 19th November 2019 in the Reading Room, Chailey Green.

Present: Cllr. K Jordan (Chair)
Cllrs. S Avery, E Berry, M Cornwall, M Evans, M Lethem, P Olbrich,
R Penfold, J Tregenza

Public present: One.

In attendance: B Newell, Clerk to the Council.

19/183.Apologies for absence: Cllrs Belcher and Millam.

19/184.Declarations of interest: None.

19/185.Questions/comments from members of the public: Mr Stephen Black, present for item 19/189.

19/186.Items considered as a matter of urgency: None

19/187.To agree the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 15th October 2019:
The minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

19/188.To receive and if thought fit approve financial reports for September 2019: The Clerk presented the Council's financial reports for October 2019. These consisted of four reports; payments made by the Council between 01/10/19 and 31/10/19, receipts received between 01/10/19 and 31/10/19, the bank reconciliation statement as of the 31/10/19 and a cost centre report for receipts and payments up to the end of October. Reports were signed off, proposed by Cllr Olbrich and seconded by Cllr Lethem. All in favour.

19/189.To consider an offer to replace an existing seat that has fallen into disrepair on the Common adjacent to the Garth Christian Memorial. There is an existing seat next to the Memorial stone that has fallen into disrepair. Mr Black, member of the public who attended the Full Council meeting has kindly offered to buy and install a new seat to replace the old one. This is in memory of his family who have very special memories of this part of the Common. The Council had no objections to having a new seat installed. Mr Black, before the meeting had provided details about the seat in question. The Council recommended that it be secured to the ground with a robust anchor kit with concrete pads for the feet. Installation must be carried out by an installer approved by the Council. The seat will also have a small plaque to remember Mr Black's late Father. The Council will not insure the value of the seat but will include its existence on its asset register. Proposed in favour by Cllr Olbrich and

seconded by Cllr Cornwall. All in favour. Mr Black will advise the Clerk as to when the seat will be fixed.

19/190.To review pothole repairs at Mill Lane, North Chailey. Cllr Lethem reminded the Council that this item had been discussed at last month's Full Council meeting. The residents of St Georges are seeking financial assistance from the Parish Council to repair the potholes on the track that leads up to St Georges. It was left at last month's meeting that the St George's committee would get some quotes for repairs. They would also approach those that live in the area to find out if they would be willing to contribute to the cost of repairs. Since that meeting the Clerk has been advised by St George's committee that they have a Directors meeting pending to discuss the issues raised.

The Parish Council on their part would endeavour to look at their own responsibilities with regard to ownership of the track and financial responsibilities. Shortly after the meeting, whilst looking through archived material, a letter was found from Lewes District Council dated 2004 saying that Mill Lane is not the responsibility of the Council and that maintenance was the responsibility of the properties that it accessed.

After further deliberation, the Council came to the conclusion that they will not be making a financial contribution to the repair of the costs. Proposed by Cllr Olbrich and seconded by Cllr Berry. All were in favour. Clerk to draft a letter to St George's Management Committee advising of situation.

19/191.Consider and review services offered by East Sussex County Council to the cutting of the verges within the Parish. The Clerk advised that East Sussex County Council have been in touch asking the Council to decide on who they would like to cut the verges within the parish. Chailey Parish have historically gone with the standard two cuts over the course of a year which is carried out by ESCC at no cost. ESCC also offer four additional cuts (totalling six in a year) and this would cost the Parish Council £1,658. There is also a third option and that is the Parish Council take on the responsibility of their own grass cutting which must include a minimum of two cuts over a year. ESCC would subsidise the sum of £829 to do this.

Cllr Penfold raised the fact that parishioners do have complaints about how high the grass grows with there being just two cuts a year. Views are obstructed and some pavements are unpassable. The Parish Council will consider remaining with the two cuts provided by ESCC and perhaps asking Barcombe Landscapes to cut the verges on an ad hoc basis. The Clerk is seeking a quote from Barcombe Landscapes.

To discuss again at next month's meeting. To note, ESCC require a decision by the 31st December.

19/192.To discuss identifying and mapping the location sites of Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) within the Parish. Cllr Avery commented that during the Neighbourhood Plan discussion, the Parish Council were told that LDC had sent a letter to the Clerk listing all the locations of the trees that own a tree preservation order. The Clerk has not received such a list. LDC unfortunately do not have a map of TPOs in the area but do have a list. Clerk to chase up with Daniel Wyn and bring back to December's meeting.

19/193.To consider and if thought fit purchase a new "Tommy" to celebrate the Royal British Legion's Centenary. To purchase a Tommy for the village would cost £150. It was agreed that this would be a nice thing to do and to place on Chailey Green.

Cllr Jordan proposed, and this was seconded by Cllr Cornwall. Six in favour, one abstention.

On this note, Cllr Olbrich mentioned that one of the Bonfire committee members has asked if they could have at a suitable time, the poppies from the memorial stone on the village Green. They would like to use the poppies for next year's memorial service. The Parish Council had no objections to this and advised that the poppies could be removed on the 1st December. Cllr Olbrich to advise person who requested.

19/194 To consider and discuss the balance of deer management within the area. The Clerk has received an email from Mark Smith who is qualified and trained to hunt and reduce deer. He is offering his services to control deer on Parish Council land. The Parish Council on balance do not wish to uptake the services offered at present. The Clerk will respond accordingly to Mr Smith's email.

19/195 To receive verbal reports from Councillors on their area(s) of responsibility and/or on their involvement with village organisations.

Cllr Jordan has had recent discussions with Andros Almshouse Trust. The Chairman of the Trustees had concerns that the Parish Council had asked Mike Berry, Parish Council Trustee to give a report about the Almshouse Trust. Cllr Jordan explained that as the Council had a right to nominate a Trustee then the Council would hope for periodic reports. Cllr Jordan has received correspondence from the Chair that suggests asking for a report from the Council's nominee could be illegal. Cllr Jordan has since been in touch with the Charity Commission who advised that the best course of action would be for the Trustees to approve any reports that the nominated Trustee makes to the Parish Council. Cllr Jordan has spoken with Mike Berry and he does not object to this. The Trustees have since discussed this and they would like to nominate the Chair of the Trustee, Jill Bailleux to act as liaison between the Trustees and the Parish Council. No information relating to the workings of the Charity would be disclosed unless agreed by all of the Trustees. Cllr Jordan suggested to the Parish Council that this was accepted. The Council had reservations about accepting this proposal, declaring that it seemed unusual practice to appoint a nominee to sit on the board of Trustees, but they are not able to report back. Cllr Jordan said that reports would still be received but that they would be collective reports from the Trustees and not just the nominee. The Council did not feel comfortable with this situation. To discuss at the next Full Council meeting

Cllr Avery reported that the Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan had produced the final version of the document which has been viewed by the rest of the NHP Committee. There were one of two minor changes to be made and the report has since been sent back to Jack Cranfield, Chair of the NHP committee. Both Cllr Avery and Jordan feel that we are now in the very final stages of finishing the plan, and handing over to Lewes.

Cllr Avery has worked with the Clerk regarding uploading news items on to the website and is happy for her to continue with this.

Cllr Berry spoke of two dog litter bins that have not been emptied. Cllr Berry has been in touch with Customer Services at Eastbourne who informed her that the reason they are not being emptied is because East Sussex County Council have not paid the bills for LDC to do so. Cllr Berry asked if the Council knew of any other dog bins not being emptied. The Clerk will consult with other parishes to see if they are experiencing the same problem and approach ESCC.

Cllr Tregenza continues to manage the Speeding programme and has caught 12 exceeding the speed limit. More volunteers are needed to partake in the programme. She also very kindly thanked the Clerk for the communication/dialogue that comes out from the Parish Council offices which she finds helpful.

Cllr Evans informed the Council that there was a recent meeting of the Friends of the Windmill and they would like to paint the windmill in 2020. There are also repairs that need to take place at the top of the windmill which would require scaffolding, and it would therefore be sensible to make use of the scaffolding for both jobs. A working group will be set up to get this underway. A budget of £20,000 will need to be made available to do the works.

Cllr Evans advised that the traffic surveys undertaken by ESCC at Mill Lane, South Chailey for the pedestrian crossing have been completed and the results are through. A problem will occur when it comes to completing the Community Match application form as the costing for the junction is not apparent, the Council will have a better idea of costs once the designers have done their report. It would also be sensible that those involved in the Highways committee group complete the Community Match application form.

The Clerk has received the application form for the Feasibility study which will need to be completed before moving on to the Community Match. The Clerk will complete what she can, and forward to Cllr Evans to finish. The Clerk and Cllr Evans have been advised by ESCC that the Council will be required to show evidence of a public consultation. Cllr Evans went on to say that he has received correspondence from Chailey School who are conducting two petitions for the crossing, one that is online for which they have approximately 1000 signatures and a paper petition. Cllr Evans will advise the School that this will be a valid contribution towards the public consultation.

Cllr Penfold has spoken with a few playground providers about the costs of setting up a playground in the village. Costs could be fairly hefty and may be something to discuss at another stage once the other projects are underway. He suggested bringing back to the table later in the year or next.

Cllr Olbrich informed the Council that the spare goalposts that were at Roeheath have now been taken by the Colts. On a different matter, one of the doors at the Sports Club has been vandalised. The Clerk has asked for this to be repaired.

Cllr Lethem reported that the Village Hall had their oil stolen. As a result, the hall was out of action for 5 days. Ways of increasing security has been discussed.

The Clerk reported that Steve Brentnall, the internal Auditor recently visited. There were a few things that he asked the Clerk to look into and tidy up. Generally, however, he was quite pleased with things.

The Clerk has also ordered a new phone piece – this is now in the Cloud. We also have a new fast broadband service. This package reduces both the phone and internet bills significantly. The budget had been set at £1200 for the year, now we should average £500.

The Clerk informed the Council that we now have a Facebook page and posting information on Chailey Chat.

19/196 To note and consider any implications arising from the Council's duty under section 17(1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998: nothing to report.

19/197. Confidential matters: to consider a resolution of exclude the press and public from the meeting in accordance with section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960 in order to discuss items of a confidential or commercially sensitive nature: None

19/198. Date of the next meeting of the Full Council: Tuesday 10th December 2019 at 7.30pm at the Reading Room, Chailey Green.

**Signed:
Chair**

Date:

Initials:

Date: