



Chailey Parish Council
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Minutes

A Meeting of the Full Council was held on Tuesday 18th October 2016 in the Reading Room, Chailey Green, commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr. M Evans (Chairman).
Cllrs. P Atkins, S. Avery, R. Barnard, N Belcher, V. Harrison, K. Jordan and J. Millam.

Public present: two.

In attendance: S Treharne (Clerk).

16/155.Apologies for absence: Cllrs. K Matthews and P Olbrich.

16/156.To welcome Dr Nicholas Belcher as a Councillor: Dr Belcher signed a declaration of acceptance of office and was welcomed as a Councillor.

16/157.Declarations of interest: none.

16/158.Questions/comments from members of the public:

Cooksbridge Area Rail Action Group: Mr. Ginn drew attention to the consultation currently being conducted by Southern Railways into the 2018 timetable and the importance of establishing a regular train service from Cooksbridge Station. He hoped that as many people as possible would respond to the consultation.

Traffic in South Street: Mr Sheridan drew Councillors' attention to his email in which he had explained the difficulties faced by residents because of speeding traffic in South Street. Cllr. Evans confirmed that a response would be sent to Mr Sheridan and that the matter would be put on the agenda for the Full Council meeting in November.

16/159.Items considered as a matter of urgency: none.

16/160 .To agree the Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 20th September 2016: the minutes were approved and were signed by the Chairman.

16/161.To consider and if thought fit approve financial reports for September 2016: Cllr. Evans referred Councillors to the financial reports circulated with the agenda.

Receipts in September were £267 and payments were £3,471. Receipts for the year to 30th September 2016 (excluding the precept and support grant received of £55,022) now total £1,560 and payments £37,632. Councillors' attention was drawn

to the analysis of payments by category shown in the financial reports, to the detailed breakdown of the receipts and payments for the month and to the bank reconciliation attached. Cllr. Avery confirmed that he had examined the reports for September and that they were in order.

Cllr. Jordan proposed and Cllr. Avery seconded a motion that the financial reports for September 2016 be approved and this was agreed.

16/162.To consider the provision of defibrillators in the Parish: Cllr. Belcher led a discussion on the installation, maintenance and use of defibrillators. The overall cost of equipping the Parish with defibrillators could be in the order of £4,000. The possible sites for the machines and their security were discussed. Sussex Ambulance Service was likely to be a good source of advice and assistance. Cllr Avery proposed and Cllr. Jordan seconded a motion that Cllr. Belcher be authorised to prepare a full costed proposal for consideration by the Council and this was agreed.

16/163.To consider the Council's response to the Government's open consultation on the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2017/18: Cllr. Evans referred to the papers circulated with the agenda and in particular to the suggestion made by the Government that the referendum principles currently applied to District Councils (requiring them to hold a referendum if a proposed increase in the Council Tax would be over defined limits) could be extended to larger Town and Parish Councils or even to all Councils of whatever size.

Councillors considered that applying the referendum to the very few larger Town and Parish Councils made sense. However the resources in time and money that would be required for a Parish Council such as Chailey to hold a referendum would be out of all proportion to the sums involved and could stifle local initiative. The press release issued by the National Association of Local Councils summarised Councillors' concerns and the Clerk was asked to submit a response to the consultation based on this.

16/164.To consider the recommendations made by the Local Government Boundary Commission for Lewes District and Chailey Parish: Councillors noted that the LGBC had ignored all objections voiced during the consultation period and had made its decisions based purely on the numbers and without regard to any other considerations. The LGBC's final recommendation is that a new ward of Chailey, Barcombe and Hamsey would be established with Wivelsfield being a ward in its own right.

The Clerk advised that a separate consultation was under way concerning consequential changes to polling districts and places. No change was proposed for Chailey with the Parish Hall remaining as the Parish's polling station. It was agreed that, this being the case, no response to the consultation was necessary.

16/165.To consider and if thought fit approve terms of reference for the Council's Personnel Advisory Committee: Cllr. Evans referred to the draft circulated with the agenda. The Clerk advised that the Chairman of the Committee, Cllr. Olbrich, had indicated that he was content with the draft. Cllr. Jordan proposed and Cllr. Atkins seconded a motion that the draft terms of reference as circulated be approved and adopted by the Council and this was agreed.

16/166.To receive a report on the quarterly meeting with ESCC Highways: Cllr. Evans reported on the recent meeting and agreed to email to Councillors his personal note of that meeting. On the Warrs Hill footpath, the work is scheduled for late summer 2017. It seems clear that the money held is going to match the cost of the works with no surplus becoming available.

16/167.To receive a report on the Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Jordan reported that nothing has been heard from the consultant. The steering group has therefore embarked upon preparing a first draft of the plan and, in the first place, ideas and comments will be sought from those who have previously shown interest. A meeting of the group is to take place shortly. Cllr. Millam mentioned that Wivelsfield had used a consultant when preparing their plan and Cllr. Jordan agreed that this could be worth following up. Cllr. Avery advised that he awaits the relevant documents for posting onto the website.

16/168.To receive verbal reports from Councillors on their area(s) of responsibility and/or their involvement with village organisations:

Chailey Commons Society: Cllr. Harrison reported that she is to attend the forthcoming meeting of the Society.

Website: Cllr. Avery reported that the facility to generate emails sent out to alert interested residents to news items was now in place.

Allotments: Cllr. Millam reported that he had visited the allotments and identified a number which appeared not to be properly maintained. It was agreed that the Clerk would remind the relevant tenants of their obligations under their tenancy agreements. In cases where tenants had been warned on a previous occasion, consideration would be given to exercising the Council's power to bring agreements to an end.

Chailey Youth Group: Cllr Evans reported that all indications were that the Group is currently not operating. He and Cllr. Olbrich would try to establish the full position.

16/169.To consider items of correspondence for noting and response: The Clerk advised that no list had been prepared but confirmed that he was unaware of any significant correspondence of which Councillors had not been made aware.

16/170.To note Risk implications: none to note.

16/171. Confidential information – exempt matters: Cllr Avery proposed a resolution to exclude the press and public from the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 s1(2). The resolution was seconded by Cllr. Barnard and agreed. Councillors considered matters relating to the Sports Pavilion.

16/172.Next Full Council meeting: 15th November 2016. Next Planning & Environs Committee meeting: 1st November 2016. Both meetings will take place at 7.30pm in the Reading Room, Chailey Green.

Signed: *Mark Evans*
Chairman

Date: 15th November 2016