Clerk to the Council: Emma Fulham

Goods Yard House

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Present: Cllrs Eastwood (Chair), Nathan, Colenutt, Norman, Burnett-Dick, Smith, Shaw Gunn, Sanders and Bourne.

Absent: Cllrs Reed, Beare and Horner

In Attendance: Emma Fulham (Clerk)

**Minutes to the Parish Council Meeting held in Goods Yard House at 7:30pm on 4th July 2022.**

Public: No members of the public and County Cllr Georgia Taylor and District Cllr Rachael Millward.

**Cllr Taylor reported as follows:**

* I have submitted a list of road safety issues in our division to Ian Johnson. There were some funds put aside for road safety (from the community match scheme underspend). He tells me that there is only one or two of the requests that might be funded, and I am yet to hear what they are. I will update you once I hear. You will be aware that one of the requests was about the speeding in Upper Hartfield.
* I am aware that retirement housing in the county is under-occupied and also, in some villages, suffers from poor management. I have been asking questions about this to officers in ESCC and I am hoping to ask for some research. Patricia has also spoken to the District Council about this, so I hope that there might be some collaboration between the councils. The changes in social care that are coming up will put extra pressure on the council services and there will be a need to recruit more trained personnel. However, there has been a long standing problem with recruiting people to work in the social care sector. This is a particular issue for the more rural areas, where housing is expensive and those working in health and social care cannot afford to live, nor travel. It occurs to me that empty retirement housing might be offered to younger people working in the social care sector. It would be useful to know what your views are on this in the village.
* The ESCC Full Council meeting is taking place on the 12th July. Each political group has the opportunity to make a speech to outline priorities for the year ahead. If there is anything you would like me to highlight, that is relevant to the whole county, please do let me know. We are likely to highlight climate action, resilience and adaptation, new models for social care, waste reduction, nature and ecosystems support, localisation and active travel / public transport.
* There will be road works in Forest Row during July – A22 and also Priory Road – so be aware that it might affect traffic coming through Hartfield, or affect people trying to get through Forest Row.
* Ukraine visitor hosts should now be getting their payments from Wealden District Council. 3VA are no longer involved.

The Council queried the idea of releasing age restrictions on Oaklea Court as this could lead to units being sold at market value and the current community would not appreciate younger families moving in. However, it was acknowledged that management companies needed additional input and the need for affordable carer accommodation.

The Planning Committee had previously objected to the release of 106 agreement and age restriction at Oaklea Court.

**Cllr Millward reported as follows:**

There was an update on the Old Crown Farm planning applications although nothing was determined as yet.

July 12th there was a planning event at the Village Hall.

She reported on a proposal she was putting forward at WDC for sewage run off.

**The Parish Council meeting commenced at 7.50pm.**

1. To accept apologies for absence.  
   Cllrs Beare, Horner and Reed had made their apologies - **Duly accepted.**
2. Declarations of pecuniary and disclosable interests in respect of matters to be discussed.

The Chair reminded Cllrs to declare when necessary.

1. To Approve Minutes from Parish Council meeting held on 6th June 2022  
   **Unanimously approved and signed as a true record.**

1. Matters Arising.  
   Bank mandate still requires action.
2. Correspondence.
3. To receive list - **Duly accepted.**
4. To consider coffee cart request – The Playschool have withdrawn their formal request for a business and may choose to run a refreshment cart as part of open gardens and this more informal arrangement was welcomed by the Council.
5. To consider Upper Hartfield Speeding complaints – The Clerk and Cllr Colenutt outlined the recent complaints and the possible solutions suggested by ESCC. A visit to Upper Hartfield was expected in the autumn to look at possible sites for a speed indicator device before the Parish Council considers any expenditure in the budget discussions for 2023/24.
6. Finance
7. To ratify committee minutes

**Duly accepted. The virement and ear marked reserve movements were noted and approved.**

1. To accept reconciliations of bank accounts

**Duly accepted.**

1. To accept asset list

**Duly accepted.**

1. To accept risk assessment

**Duly accepted.**

1. To accept audit arrangements 2022/23

**Duly accepted.**

1. To accept grant list.

**Duly accepted.**

1. To accept the account summary 2022/23

**Duly accepted. The jubilee spend was noted as offset by the successful BBQ and Bar income.**

1. To approve expenditure as itemised on the schedule.  
   **Duly unanimously approved and accepted the published list of £28129.10**
2. To consider and accept policies
3. Health and Safety – **Duly approved no amendments.**
4. Bridge – **Duly approved with one amendment on the location of flowers.**
5. To ratify minutes of committees
6. Planning - **Duly ratified.**
7. Town Croft and Parish Assets - **Duly ratified.**
8. To consider lighting proposals for bus shelters and croft barn and pavilion.

The Clerk had provided a breakdown on the proposals and estimates.

**The following works were unanimously agreed:**

**Pavilion LED lighting £2250 inc VAT**

**Solar lighting to two bus stops £410 excluding VAT**

**Solar lighting to the Croft Barn up to £1000 including VAT and appropriate cricket protection.**

1. To consider the fun run update and any associated expenditure.

The group had now met to finalise agreement on detail.

**The Council approved payment of medal invoice £300 to volunteer Jo Edwarde and costs were agreed for planning the event up to £500.00**

There would be an electronic booking system and payments would be made into the PC bank account.   
Marshal volunteers were encouraged to get involved.   
The Clerk would confirm the position on the event with the insurers.

1. Items for Reporting or Inclusion in Future Agendas.

Fete preparations were going to plan for the first weekend in September.

1. To exclude press and public for a confidential staffing item.

**Unanimously approved.**

1. Confidential staffing item

The report was duly noted. The possible expenditure from the contingency fund was noted.

**Dates of Next Meetings:**

5th September 2022.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.