

Clerk to the Council: Emma Fulham

Goods Yard House

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**Minutes to the Parish Council Meeting held in Goods Yard House at 7:30pm on 4th September 2023.**

Present: Cllrs Horner, Reed, Colenutt, Eastwood, Nathan, Smith and Burnett-Dick.

Absent: Cllrs Sanders and Norman.

In Attendance: Emma Fulham (Clerk).

Public: There were 6 members of the public.

**Public Questions and Comments.**There were six members of the public present.

A concern over Edenbridge Road safety was raised. A meeting with ESCC and Georgia Taylor had happened. Ian Johnson, ESCC Highways, had agreed to review the accident data and had suggested the possibility of a feasibility study along with match funding for gateways. The Clerk would follow up with ESCC to see if there were any further suggestions from them and add to a future agenda.

Thanks were given for the hard work of the Fete Committee and the success of the weekend’s event.

Concerns were raised about the state of the Croft Barn and when it would be recoated in preservative. The Clerk would investigate.

Concerns were raised over footpath 19a and potential access issues with possible diversion against the definitive line and signage. The Clerk would highlight this to ESCC Rights of Way to investigate.

There was a request to plant the area round the memorial with daffodils and wildflowers leaving space for the memorial bench planned for the area and leaving an area approx. 1ft around the perimeter of the memorial. This was unanimously agreed by the Council.

There was a concern raised over the recent road works to Upper Hartfield which seemed to be excessive given reasonable state of the road and there was dismay over news that utility companies were about to dig up sections.

**Reports from District and County Councillors.**

**Cllr Rachael Millward (Wealden District Councillor)**

Cllr Millward reported on the carbon saving by the bin lorries using vegetable oil rather than diesel.
She confirmed work continues on the local plan process and noted that the Council strategy will be issued shortly.
Southeast Water were attending a scrutiny meeting.
Southern Water had a sewage spill in Forest Row following an oil disposal in drains highlighting the need for responsible disposal of oil and fat.
There was a recent incident with a dog dying from a bacterial infection from the water course behind the Croft. The various agencies had been contacted and the results of testing by the dog’s owner had been received but not examined prior to the meeting.
Finally, she noted there was no further progress on the Perry Hill developments.

**Cllr Georgia Taylor (East Sussex County Councillor)**
She had sent her apologies, but no report had been provided.

 ***Parish Council Meeting commenced at 8:25pm***

1. To accept apologies for absence.
Cllrs Sanders and Norman.
2. Declarations of pecuniary and disclosable interests in respect of matters to be discussed.
The Chair reminded Cllrs to declare when necessary.
3. To Approve Minutes from Parish Council meeting held on 3rd July 2023.
**Unanimously approved and signed as a true record.**
4. Matters Arising.
Electrical charge points – This item would be brought back to a future meeting.
5. To consider co-option to the Council.
This item was deferred to a future meeting.
6. Correspondence.
The list had been circulated prior to the meeting.
The remembrance service correspondence was noted and the Clerk would publish the information once received from the Church.
The external audit completion was noted.
the resignation of Rob Shaw was noted, and the Clerk had actioned this with WDC.
**The insurance renewal quotes were reviewed and the quote from Zurich for a 3-year deal for £3059.26 was approved.**
7. Finance
8. To accept the account summary 2023/24
**This was duly approved.**
9. To approve expenditure as itemised on the schedule.
**The list had been circulated prior to the meeting and expenditure of £8137.81 was unanimously approved.**
10. To ratify Committee Minutes
11. Planning
**Unanimously ratified.**
12. To consider proposal for AED / First aid training.
A proposal for AED / First aid training was outlined by the Clerk.

**The Council agreed to pay up to £200 for a defibrillator training session. The Clerk would book a date and then advertise the event.**

1. To receive Fete Update.
Cllr Burnett-Dick outlined the successes of the Fete and the trials of lack of volunteers. A further report on profit would be published in due course. He raised concerns over accessibility and visibility of the PCSO – The Clerk would follow this up with the PCSO.
2. To consider quote for the playground fencing.
This item was deferred to a future meeting as further quotes were still to be received.
3. To consider quote for Croft Barn improvements.
The quotes received for the concrete plinth were too expensive to consider within budget the Clerk was asked to revisit further options on drainage and to clear back vegetation.
4. To consider actions and costs following recent vandalism in the Parish.
The Clerk reported the costs to repair the window were within emergency spending powers and had been actioned. It was not financially sensible to claim on the insurance for this one-off sum. It was noted that the Council volunteers had removed the graffiti on the youth shelter.
5. Items for Reporting or Inclusion in Future Agendas.
Edenbridge Road safety.
PCSO visibility.

Playground fencing.
Croft barn drainage improvements.
Co-option.

**Dates of Next Meetings: 2nd October 2023.**

The meeting closed at 9pm