

WATTISFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
VIRTUAL MEETING USING ZOOM PLATFORM
MONDAY 17 AUGUST 2020
7.30 PM

PRESENT:

Councillor Geoff Wade (GW) (Chairman)
Councillor Michael Elflain (ME)
Councillor Ian Dobson (ID)
Councillor Cynthia Penn (CP)
Councillor Naomi Ambrose (NA)
Councillor Rick Meyer (RM)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Christopher Garman (Parish Clerk) (CG)
County Councillor Jessica Fleming (JF)

No members of public were present.

20/086 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no members of public present.

20/087 REPORT FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

- a) JF's report had been previously circulated and the contents were noted. There was discussion on SCC Highways failure to install the posts for the SID.
- b) RM's report had been previously circulated and the contents were noted.

20/088 APOLOGIES

Councillor Sarah Goodchild (SG) and the reason was accepted.

20/089 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

20/090 REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

None.

20/091 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2020 had been previously circulated.

It was resolved that these were an accurate record of the meeting.

20/092 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

20/093 COVID-19 SITUATION

- a) There was a discussion on the current levels of activity.
- b) It was reported that the village hall remains unavailable for public meetings. Therefore, it was decided to continue with virtual meetings.

20/094 WATTISFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE AND RECREATION GROUND

As the information to enable a full discussion had not been provided, it was decided to postpone the agenda items until the September meeting. GW explained the current lease arrangements and a copy of the lease was to be circulated. In the meantime, CG will work with the village hall team to get the information required.

20/095 WATTISFIELD TOWN ESTATE CHARITY

The nomination of a councillor to represent the Parish Council was considered.

It was resolved to nominate ID to be considered by the charity to be a trustee acting as the Parish Council representative.

20/096 HIGHWAYS, TREES AND CHURCHYARD

- a) There was an update in respect of the SID. It was reported that there is still no date set for the installation or adaption of the posts by SCC. CG will continue to press for this to be done as soon as possible.
- b) It was reported that the clock specialist has now carried out the inspection and the report and estimate for the electric winders in the sum of £5,600 had been previously circulated. It was decided to continue to move forward with this project. CG will see if grant funding is available to cover some of the cost and also seek a second quotation.
- c) The situation with the current signage for the defibrillator was considered. CG is to approach SCC to see what is needed to get signage added to existing posts.
- d) There was a discussion on the current situation with overgrowing hedges, the various hot spots and the actions that had been taken or were needed. It was again noted there were still issues in Walsham Road by Meadowside despite trying to make contact with the landowners. The matter is now being reported to SCC for them to take appropriate action.
- e) RM reported on developments with the dredging of the pond and that samples had now been taken for analysis. When the results are known, MSDC will then take a decision on the disposal of the waste.

20/097 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) The situation with any pending and decided applications were noted.
- b) The decision in respect of planning application DC/20/01892 relating to land west of Walsham Road and south of Kudu Lodge, Walsham Road, Wattisfield, IP22 1PB and the effect that this would have on the public footpath was again considered. It was noted that the officer's decision report had now been published. SCC ROW have agreed in principle to the development but a formal application for any works is required. The situation will continue to be monitored.

20/098 VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

The production and distribution of a village newsletter was considered. It was decided to proceed with the production of a draft for the next meeting with the view to producing quarterly thereafter. NA said she will prepare a draft.

20/099 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) There was discussion about recent notifications of consultations in respect of land bank within MSDC and the proposed changes to planning legislation. The consultation by NALC in respect of changes to legislation will be carried forward to the next meeting.
- b) Other correspondence had been previously circulated and was noted.

20/100 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

None.

20/101 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting is on Monday 21 September 2020 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Christopher Garman
Parish Clerk
21 August 2020