

CUCKFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Queen's Hall, High Street, Cuckfield, RH17 5EL



Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council held at 7.30pm on 18th July 2019

Present: Mr A Burton (Chair), Mrs J Butler, Mr J Dickie, Mr S Oversby-Powell, Mr A Podmore and Mrs H Schan-Martyn

In Attendance: Mrs S Heynes (Clerk)

FC052. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mrs A King, Mr C Mercer, Mr M Sheldon and Mr A Symonds

FC053. Declarations of Interest

None.

FC054. Public Question Time

None.

FC055. To approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 13th June 2019.

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th June 2019 were taken as read and confirmed as a true record.

FC056. To receive a report regarding any matters arising from the minutes not included elsewhere on the agenda

There were no matters arising.

FC057. To receive reports from the District Councillor and County Councillor.

Apologies received from Cllr Bradbury.

Cllr Salisbury attended the meeting and provided the following updates.

Cuckfield Golf Course: MSDC could not see any reason for the accommodation, and also felt the size of the machinery store was disproportionate to the equipment required to service the golf course. The application had been modified again to remove the facilities required to classify the accommodation, although the building was still in the plans. The barn had been moved closer to the golf course and reduced in size. At the time of writing, the revised plans had not been made available to MSDC for review.

Denning Place: An MSDC Enforcement Officer had written to the developer asking why the installed gates were still in situ as they were not in the planning application. As there had been no response a letter had been sent requesting a formal submission within 21 days. It was illegal not to reply to this letter or to be dishonest about what works had been done. If no reply was received this would become a criminal offence. If this response received did not satisfy Officers, MSDC could take action to make an enforced inspection.

Cllr Salisbury would speak to Richard Speller at WSCC regarding the parking restrictions in place for the summer during the road works on London Lane, to see if they could be slightly reduced.

Buttinghill – Cllr Salisbury would follow up with Andy Clarke at MSDC as no action seemed to be progressing, and review whether it would be appropriate to reissue the enforcement letter to Taylor Wimpey.

The planning appeals process was discussed and Cllr Salisbury advised that the legal department were very busy with these, and that MSDC would continue to fight against any application when they believed in their decision.

New Councillors at MSDC had been receiving training in the Planning processes. The Planning Chairs would be very strict and ensure each Councillor was restricted to 3 minutes speaking time per planning item, to keep the meetings on schedule.

No update was available regarding the Play Meadow.

FC058. To receive a report from the Chairman.

Nothing to report.

FC059. To note the Full Council Action List

Items were noted.

FC060. To consider the adoption of the updated Grants Policy

Council resolved to adopt the new policy.

FC061. To consider the Visioning Report and discuss how to convert this into the Business Plan

The Clerk was instructed to arrange a separate meeting to review the output of the visioning exercise, with a view to producing a scheduled business plan to share publicly. Working Parties would likely be required to flesh out some of the suggestions in more detail. Cllr Burton would pull together initial lists to assist in the review process.

FC062. To consider the suggestion by Cuckfield Lawn Tennis Club to have a sign installed at the entrance to Cuckfield Rec advertising the clubs and activities available within the Rec

The Clerk was instructed to write to the Highways department to ask if they can put a brown tourism sign up at the entrance to Cuckfield Rec to advertise its location more clearly.

FC063. To consider the offer to take photos of the cemetery with a drone, at no charge

Council resolved to accept the offer.

FC064. To consider the tender document to refurbish the pathways at the Churchyard and Cemetery

Council resolved to accept the draft document subject to agreement of the finalised finish of the pathways, considering the environmental impact of materials used.

Council would not submit for quotes until the extent of the repairs required to the Lych Gates were understood, as they may require more urgent remedial works.

The Clerk was instructed to investigate whether any grants would be available for the pathways or Lych Gates.

FC065. To agree to commission a survey of the cemetery to determine the location of surface water and foul water pipes and manholes.

Council resolved to proceed with a survey to identify the location of the water pipes.

FC066. To consider the quotations to install garden lighting at the Queen's Hall.

Council resolved to accept the quotation and reminded the Clerk to take into consideration environmental impacts of purchases such as this, by ensuring that all lights and bulbs are LED.

FC067. To consider the offer of a grant to arrange a Silver Sunday activity and if agreed, to form a Working Party to organise an event

Council resolved to form a Working Party; Cllrs King and Schan-Martyn agreed to be part of this, together with the Clerk. The Clerk was instructed to apply for the grant, and to check whether any other Council members wished to be involved. A suggestion to tie this in with Cuckfield Bookfest was made, if possible.

FC068. To consider the report to install a new noticeboard at Whitemans Green

Council resolved to allow the Clerk a budget of £1,000 to purchase a replacement noticeboard, ideally of wood effect to minimise maintenance requirements.

FC069. To consider whether the Parish Council would like to organise an event in support of National Loneliness Awareness Week and if so, to form a Working Party to organise an event

The recent loneliness week event took place in June, so Council resolved to incorporate this into the Silver Sunday event. The Clerk was instructed to research recent events to see how successful they were.

FC070. To consider the proposal to invite local news agencies to cover the installation of the Commemorative Feather Bench, ideally prior to the opening ceremony.

A suggestion was made to invite a local famous person to open the Commemorative Bench service; the Clerk would make this suggestion to the Working Party. Council approved the suggestion to approach local news agencies (papers, radio, TV) to ask them to cover this news item.

FC071. Confidential Business

None.

FC072. To note items arising after the preparation of this Agenda which the Chairman agrees to take as urgent. Such matters will be for noting only or deferral to a future meeting only.

The Chairman reminded all Committee Chairs that it was useful for each of them to write an update for the quarterly newsletter, and that the next update should include Buttinghill progress and an overview of the Business Plan.

Meeting closed 10.10pm.

Signed _____