

Chiddingly Parish Council
www.chiddingly.gov.uk

Chairman

Mike Goss
1 Thunders Hill Cottages
Nash Street
Chiddingly
East Sussex BN27 4AE
Tel: 01825 872016
e-mail: mike.goss@citta.co.uk

Clerk

Claudine Feltham
1 West View
High Street
Horam
TN21 0EZ
Tel: 01435 810439 (home)
e-mail: clerk@chiddingly.gov.uk

16th January 2019

Minutes of Chiddingly Parish Council meeting held on 15th January 2019 at 1930 hours in Chiddingly Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Goss (Chairman), Cllr C Marchant, Cllr B Marchant, Cllr Newham, Cllr Tolhurst and the Clerk.

Four members of the public present at this meeting.

MINUTES

1. Apologies and reasons for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Strong, Cllr Luke, Cllr O'Hare, Cllr Richards, ESCC Cllr Bennett and WDC Cllr Watts.

2. The Chairman will invite Councillors to declare any interest they may have in the following agenda items.

Cllr Goss declared a personal interest in respect of item 14 of these minutes, as he is the Chairman of Chiddingly CLT Limited.

3. Minutes of 18th December 2018 Parish Council Meeting to be agreed and signed as a true record.

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

The meeting was suspended at 1932 hours so that members of public present at this meeting could speak.

Two members of MOSAG (Millennium Oak Sculpture and Garden) spoke in connection with item 6.2 of this agenda – funding for Pocket Parks. They outlined their plans and gave details of the associated costings and requested the support of the parish council in their application.

The parish council agreed unanimously that they would wish to support MOSAG with their application and would be willing to write a letter of support.

Action: *Clerk to provide MOSAG with a contact name and email at WDC in connection with grant applications. Cllr Goss/Clerk to draft a support letter for MOSAG.*

The meeting re convened at 1942 hours.

2 members of public left at 1942 hours.

4. Clerk and Councillor reports arising from the minutes of 18th December 2018 not covered elsewhere in the agenda: there were none.

5. Councillor Reports:

5.1. Cllr David Watts (WDC) – not present at this meeting.

5.2. Cllr Nick Bennett (ESCC) – not present at this meeting. (Cllr Bennett is making enquiries with ESCC Rights of Way team re footpath 16 at Gun Hill but has no update at this time).

6. Correspondence:

6.1 High Weald Lewes Havens Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) would like to invite you to a discussion on the future for health and care services and to help it prioritise changes and improvements that need to be made to ensure local populations continue to have the best possible care. These discussions will build on what the CCG has already heard through its “Big Health and Care Conversation” across the area and help it to think about how it uses the available money for health and care in the best possible way. The discussions will be focused on the future of health and care:

Facing up to our challenges

Understanding Need

Transforming services

Unwarranted variation – ensuring this does not happen

Resources and how we use them most effectively

Equality of access and care for our diverse population

In 3VA's area, there will be an opportunity to join the CCG's discussions in person in Uckfield from 9:30 am to 11:30 am on Wednesday 13 February. For more information please contact the CCG at csesca.engagement@nhs.net

6.2 The Hailsham and Polegate Community Network is a meeting for voluntary, community groups and all others working in the local community organised in partnership by 3VA and the Locality Link Workers. It's one of eight Locality Networks supporting community resilience across East Sussex. The network meets quarterly. By coming along, you can: - Talk to other groups and organisations active in Hailsham and Polegate and explore ways of working together - Learn from each other and what already works well - Design how we can all be more involved in local conversations and plans in the future. This network is organised jointly by 3VA and ESCC. February 8th, 2019 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Venue to be confirmed.

6.2 Funding for Communities to Create Pocket Parks The Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) has launched the [Pocket Parks Plus fund](#) to support local community groups to develop their own small plots of land which provide an oasis from urban life and that help improve the physical and mental health of surrounding communities. There is a total of £1 million allocated for 2018/19 with grants of up to £15,000 for new pocket parks and £25,000 for refurbishment of existing parks split between capital and revenue. Communities are required to obtain match-funding towards the grant awarded and they need to provide evidence that a minimum of 30% of the grant applied for has been secured.

Pocket parks are defined as a piece of land of up to 0.4 hectares, although many are around 0.02 hectares – the size of a tennis court. Each pocket park will be an individual space tailored to the needs of the local area by the community group which has applied for the

grant. The funding will support communities to develop new green spaces, or improve existing ones that are in poor condition, that provide people with better quality spaces; increasing opportunities for social mixing, healthy living, relaxation, play, food growing and contact with nature. The funding support will enable, for example, (this list is not exhaustive):

- Capital – support to prepare a site, earth-works, landscaping, tree planting, structural works etc. and put it into a good condition for further development.
- Resource – to secure support from relevant experts (ie. landscape architects, lawyers, horticulturalists or wider green sector experts) and/or to connect with existing green space support networks.

Applicants must be constituted community and voluntary groups and demonstrate it is a community-led proposal addressing a specific local need and can produce a sustainability plan for the park's future by March 2019. They must have the support of their local authority, and grants will be paid to the principal local authority that is supporting the application. The deadline for applications is 25th January 2019 (5pm).

Update: as detailed after item 3 of this agenda, MOSAG are going to apply for funding and the parish council unanimously agreed to support this and write a letter of support.

7 Jubilee Field and verge

ESCC have replaced the posts on the school side of the road, however there are still posts missing on the opposite side. **Action:** Cllr Newham will look at where the posts are missing on the opposite side and let the Clerk know, who will in turn make contact with ESCC Highways.

8. Jubilee Play Park – no new issues to report.

9. Jubilee Garden – to consider the quotes for the base for the bench. The clerk advised the council that two quotes had been received for creating a base for the new bench, as already circulated by email. The first (Vince Fisher) was estimated at a maximum of £300, the second (Ivan Vincent) was £260 + VAT = £312. **Resolved:** the parish council unanimously agreed to go ahead with the first quote – Vince Fisher. **Action:** Clerk to advise Vince Fisher that they were requested for the works, and to thank Ivan Vincent but they would not be required on this occasion.

Cllr Newham confirmed that the bench has been delivered today.

The location of where the bench will be put in Jubilee Garden needs to be decided. **Action:** Parish Councillors were requested to visit the garden and see where they would think the best location would be, and for a decision to be made at the February parish council meeting.

10 Councillor Reports:

10.1 Village Shop – update from Cllr O'Hare – not present at this meeting

10.2 Saturday Morning Market: There was no market in January. Cllr Goss due to attend 2nd February 2019.

11. Footpaths

11.1 Hoads Wood (footpath bridge often under water) – Cllr Goss/Clerk: there has been quite a lot of communication between the parish council and three land owners who have land adjoining the stream at Hoads Wood, as well the Rights of Way Team at ESCC. The Rights of Way Team say that installing a new bridge at this location would be far too costly, and it wouldn't necessary alleviate the problems – and they would be unprepared to carry out the works. The landowners also do not wish to be responsible for a new bridge and its associated costs. Cllr Goss attended the location and it was not under water when he visited.

The Rights of Way Team feel that if the Environment Agency undertook regular dredging then the flowing wouldn't happen. However, the environment agency is unlikely to carry

this out this work, and whilst it had been something they did historically, it was no longer on their schedule of maintenance works. The Clerk has gone back to the Rights of Way Team at ESCC and explained the current update – and have asked if they would re consider by adding hand rails to the bridge, alongside some warning signs.

Action: Clerk to request a further meeting with Rights of Way and Cllr Newham to re assess the situation. **Action:** Clerk to pass the recent email correspondence on this issue to Cllr Newham. **Ongoing:** this item to be added to February's agenda for further consideration/update.

Gun Hill – footpath 16. The Clerk advised those present at the meeting that the blocked off footpath issue still hadn't been resolved, despite being ongoing for 2 years. The Clerk has asked ESCC Cllr Bennett to see if he can help get this issue resolved.

12. Highways – no new issues report

13 Financial Matters

13.1 To approve the Bank reconciliations for November and December 2018. **Resolved:** the parish council reached a unanimous decision to approve the bank reconciliations for November and December 2018.

13.2 To approve and authorise accounts payable (as detailed on the payment list). **Resolved:** the parish council reached a unanimous decision to recommend approval of January 2019 payments – cheques 102298 to 102302 refer.

13.4 Members of the parish council had also received the Cash and Investment reconciliation to 15.1.19 and summary receipts and payments report. No questions were raised.

14. Community Land Trust – update from Cllr Goss: Membership drive is going well, with over 81 paid up members. All members will be invited to the first AGM at 8pm 12th Feb 2019 in the Village Hall where there will be reports and they can elect the Board of Directors. Cllr Goss believes that all the current acting directors will be standing for re-election.

Willets Farm: we now have some clarity on the planning issue at Willets Farm. Originally the plan was to use the Traffic Movements associated with the B2 Light Industrial use the site already has, and transfer these to domestic use to cover the new properties. But the rules have now been changed in the new local plan and traffic movements are no longer transferable, so Wealden are only prepared to allow the 2 conversions and 7 Class Q permissions already granted. This doesn't leave enough for low-cost hosting to be included. Tony Penrose is currently trying to find a way forward and we hope to have a meeting soon with him and his planning consultant. Separately, on behalf of the CLT I am trying to get an explanation from Wealden as to why that particular rule has changed. I have asked our MP Nus Ghani to look into it, as it effectively stops any Community-Led developments of Low-Cost housing, against National Government's and Wealden's stated intentions

15. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) expenditure. Cllr Goss: article went into the parish magazine – but he has not heard anything back from anyone with ideas/suggestions and hopes to put it in the parish magazine again.

16. Spring Clean – date(s) to be confirmed for this year's Spring Clean – Cllr B Marchant. Resolved: the date of the Spring Clean will be 30th March 2019. It could also carry on to the Sunday if required. **Actions:** Cllr Goss to advertise for volunteers within the parish magazine articles. Clerk to promote on the parish council website.

Clerk to arrange: Rubbish bags, litter pickers, gloves, hoops, fluorescent jackets (borrow some from Buxted Parish Council if required).

Refreshments could be provided by Cllr B Marchant at the Village Hall.

Clerk to find out if the hall is available that date.

Bags of rubbish from the Spring Clean to be left at the recycling centre in the car park for WDC to collect.

17. Chiddingly Churchyard – Cllr Goss: Correspondence was received from one of the Church Wardens who confirmed that they did have some problems during 2018 - due to ill health, as well as there had been a decision tied to conservation advice not to trim certain areas of the churchyard until later in the summer. This was not very successful as the considerable rain in the spring meant that the grass that had been left grew faster than normal and ended up looking a mess. They have therefore:

- Identified new volunteers to mow and trim
- Have also obtained a legacy to help us to use a contractor to help with the strimming and maintenance.
- They have also had a very generous offer for funding of new oak fencing and have got funds in place for the balance to be paid by the PCC.
- They have obtained costs for supply of the oak, storage and erection so can now progress the work.
- As there is quite a long timescale for the fence repairs it was agreed that some funds for temporary repairs to the fence and a small work party just to get the fallen sections back up and vertical.

18. Any items for inclusion on next month's agenda:

- Hoads Wood and Gun Hill footpaths
- Chiddingly School – to consider the materials and prices for the Astroturf area adjoining the playground (grant for 2019-2020).
- Spring Clean advertising for volunteers.
- Siting for bench in Jubilee Garden.
- Missing bollards on Jubilee Verge.
- Jubilee Garden bench

Meeting closed at 2022 hours

- *The planning meeting will take place on 22nd January 2019 at 7.30 p.m. in Chiddingly Village Hall.*
- *The next parish council meeting will take place on 19th February 2019 at 7.30 p.m. in Chiddingly Village Hall.*