

BODIAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Please note these are draft minutes until formally approved at the next Parish Council meeting.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 15th July at 7.00 p.m. in Bodiam Parish Room

Present:

For Bodiam Parish Council: Councillors, Chairman Richard Mitchell, Graham Peters, Linda Stevens
 Clerk, Christine Burgess.

For Rother District Council: Councillors T Ganley and M Mooney.

For East Sussex County Council: Councillor A Davies

In Attendance: Tree and Footpath Warden, Mr Nigel Froggat

118/2019 Apologies for Absence -Cllr Geoffrey Goodsell, Cllr Barbara Napper

119/2019 Disclosure of Interests.

Cllr Peters declared an interest as the Chairman of the Parker& Ashcombe Trust.

Cllr Peters declared an interest as he swims at Claremont School item 128/2019

Cllr Peters declared a personal interest as a client of G Moore item 123/2019

Cllr Peters declared an interest as a Director of the company that is the Landlord for the High Weald item 124/2019

Cllr Stevens declared a personal interest as an acquaintance of Liz Moore item 123/2019

Cllr Stevens declared an interest as Patrick Stevens is on the Governing Body of Bodiam C of E Primary School item 128/2019

Cllr Mitchell declared an interest as he is employed by the owners of Court Lodge Farm item 123/2019

120/2019 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th June 2019 was signed as a true record.

121/2019 Matters Arising

Cllr Stevens had followed up with the bank, and although we have not yet received a statement, it is on the way in the post and should be received shortly. Regarding the Welcome Pack for new residents Clerk C Burgess had enquired from another Council as the contents of the pack that they produce but as yet has had no response. Welcome Pack to be put on the next agenda.

122/2019 Councillors Meetings with Outside Bodies

Cllr Peters attended the RALC meeting on the 10th July and reported that there had been a good attendance of new Rother District Councillors.

The Police reported that there are now more PCSO's in the community.

Minutes signed as a true record.....Dated.....

The Council is consulting on changes to its policy for allocating social housing to local residents. This consultation runs until 9 September 2019.

The new Rother District Council leader, Doug Oliver, has pledged that Planners will take Council opinions and views very seriously.

123/2019 Planning

(a) Applications

RR/2019/1414/FN Court Lodge Farm, Peters Green Road, Bodiam TN32 5UJ

Notification for prior approval for the erection of a proposed single storey agricultural shed.

This notification is for information only

RR/2019/1539/P Old Pump Cottage, 4 Northlands, Bodiam TN32 5UX.

Proposed first floor and two storey side extension to dwelling and detached garage with off-road turning area to front. **Concerns to be noted regarding of the size of the extension in relation to the size of the house but Supported**

(b) Decisions RR/2019/1018P 8 Northlands, Bodiam. TN32 5UX **Permission granted with conditions**

(c) The Forge, Bodiam, possible change from business to residential use. No objections to Change of use to advise to put planning application in for consideration.

124/2019 High Weald, Design concept guide

The Design Guide gives succinct, practical advice on design expectations for new housing development within the High Weald AONB. This will enable higher quality and landscape-led design that reflects the High Weald character. This Design Guide is the subject of an eight-week period of formal public consultation from 19 June to 14 August 2019. Council agreed to support this and comment positively. *Clerk to complete the survey on behalf of the Council.*

125/2019 ESCC Report

Councillors had received the previously circulated report from ESCC.

Cllrs commented that the residents of East Sussex who burn wood or other solid fuels like coal to heat their homes are being asked to cut down their use, or to switch to less polluting alternative. The question was asked what the alternative would be. Seasoned wood is far better to burn than unseasoned in woodburners, but in the future they may have to go. Where there is no gas supply, eventually electric would be the only other alternative.

The Pot holes still remain a problem and with the diverted traffic coming through Bodiam has made them worse. *Clerk to report the pothole outside the entrance to the National to be reported on the ESCC site.*

126/2019 Adult Care consultation report survey

ESCC are proposing to take away the subsidy on Meals on Wheels, which are currently not means tested. Approximately 750 people are provided with a meal by this service. The fear is that people who need this service the most will have to go without their meal. The Councillors feel that the subsidy should remain but means tested so that those most in need will still receive a meal. *Clerk to complete the survey online.*

127/2019 Rother District Council Report

Councillors had received the previously circulated report from RDC and a Housing Allocation Report to be forwarded to the Councillors.

Minutes signed as a true record.....Dated.....

Cllr Mooney reported on the latest scam, someone rings up, states that they are from BT and ask you to wait to be connected to an international call. We are advised to put the phone down immediately. Police are aware.

128/2019 Environment

(a) School Parking: Bodiam C of E School Governors have replied regarding a meeting with Councillors to arrange a meeting in September when they are back at school. There has been no reply from Claremont as yet.

(b) Speeding through Villages: This will be focus of the RALC meeting in October. Rother District Clerks have identified three key points:-Awareness, to change driver attitudes. Road Safety, signs and speed limits and Enforcement .This subject has been brought to a head with the recent diversion of traffic through the village. Chairman Cllr Mitchell has spoken to a Bodiam resident who enquired if the speed limit of 30 mph from the School can be continued up to the Curlew. The Traffic and Safety Team at ESCC has been contacted by Cllr Mitchell for advice and is waiting to hear back from them. This may be difficult to resolve as reading up on-line there has to be 4 accidents reported in the last three years.

(c) Roadworks diversion: For the present, the Roadwork Diversion has now finished. Cllr Mitchell thanked the Clerk for being pro active responding to residents emails, also for contacting SGN Project Manager regarding the signage when alterations were required and checking that the alterations had been made.

The road works may appear again later this year and Cllrs felt that we had not been adequately advised last time. Clerk to draught a letter to Kent County Council regarding this and to also write to neighbouring Parishes requesting contact from them when events will affect Bodiam Parish.

129/2019 Trees and Footpaths

(a) Wardens Report: Mr Nigel Froggat is the new Tree and Footpath Warden and has spent some time acquainting himself with all the Footpaths. A couple of the footpaths need cutting back and clearing up and has requested from the owners that this is done. Cllr Mitchell had noted that a broken board near the pumping station had still not been repaired and had sent another email to ESCC as a reminder.

(b) National Trust: The Clerk had just received an email from the National Trust with regard to an onsite meeting at Bodiam Castle suggesting two dates in August. *Clerk to forward this on for Councillors decision.*

130/2019 Website and Community App

Following Mr Nick Gardner’s presentation last month, Councillors had received a shared a link to a free demo app to view what this could possibly become. The decision was made to not take up this idea as Rother District Council will be updating the new Parish websites shortly. It was felt that it was unnecessary to spend residents money on something that would in effect replicate the official website.

131/2019 Crime and Disorder

A Vehicle in Levetts Lane had been broken into and all the tools taken.

132/2019 Royal British Legion Wreath: Ordering of Wreath

We no longer have a local representative from the Legion and the Wreath now will be ordered directly from the RBL. A wreath was selected, the order form completed and the cheque written to be posted as soon as possible. Delivery for mid October requested.

Minutes signed as a true record.....Dated.....

133/2019 Recreation Ground

(a) Upkeep and Inspection and Bookings

Sedlescombe Rangers had their football completion over the week end, the Saturday was cancelled due to lack of interest which should have been the Seniors, so there was just the ladies tournament on the Sunday. Cars were kept to the Pavillion end of the Recreation Ground. Sedlescombe would like to continue using the ground next season and will let us know later in the year. Mrs P Marsh will clean the Pavillion ready for the fun day nearer the weekend.

Bodiam Fun day Saturday 20th July

134/2019 Finances

(a) Payments

Payee	Particulars	Chq no	£
T Barratt	Internal Audit	1887	162.00
C Burgess	Clerk Salary	1888	420.00
C Burgess	Admin Expenses	1889	33.39
RBL Poppy Appeal	Wreath for November	1890	17.00

The Clerk/RFO reported that no Bank Statement had been received. Cllr Stevens initialed the payments in the Receipts & Payments book. Cheques and invoices were signed by the Councillors. Cllr Stevens has been informed by the Bank that the statement is in the post. Cheque to be written for P Marsh (invoice received this evening) and posted to the Councillors for signing outside of the meeting and will be reported in the next minutes

135/2019 Information for Councillors

Welcome pack for new Residents, to be put on the Agenda for the next meeting.

136/2019 Date of Next Meeting –

September 2019 in the Bodiam Parish Room.
August Meeting cancelled.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.30pm