

BODIAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Christine Burgess
Telephone: 01580 241700
Email: clerkbodiam@hotmail.co.uk

4 Sparkeswood Ave
 Rolvenden
 Kent TN17 4LU

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 9th December at 7.00 p.m. in Bodiam Parish Room

Present:

For Bodiam Parish Council: Councillors, Chairman Richard Mitchell, Graham Peters, Barbara Napper and Clerk Christine Burgess.

For East Sussex County Council: Councillor A Davies

For Rother District Council: Cllr T Ganly

Mr E Dickie and Mr J Murray representing Claremont School and two members of the public

190/2019 Apologies for Absence: Cllr Linda Stevens

191/2019 Disclosure of Interests.

None

192/2019 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2019 which had been previously distributed, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

193/2019 Matters Arising

None

194/2019 Councillors Meetings with Outside Bodies

Chairman Cllr Mitchell had met with Karen Stafford, Manager of Bodiam Castle regarding the installation of the primary tank. This will now be over ground rather than sunken and new plans are ready to be submitted to the planning dept. The timescale for the whole process should not be affected.

Cllr Mitchell and Cllr Stevens met with Philip Hind from the Riverside Federation at Bodiam Primary School, to look at the car parking situation, whether the layby could be made more permanent. The Clerk has contacted ESCC highways as to whether they would have a meeting to discuss this. They will consider the matter of safety and will get back to the Council in the near future.

195/2019 Planning

(a) Enforcements-Claremont School, Breach Conditions Not Served. No more complaints have been received. Use of MUGA lights now within the time limits set.

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

196/2019 ESCC Report

Councillors had received the previously circulated report from ESCC and ESCCllr Davies had nothing to add to her report. (Full report will be put on the website.)

The report mentions the Community Match Programme, which has an annual budget for Parish Councils if they need to tackle local highways projects.

New PCSOs began their new duties in November, and will be invited to the next Parish Assembly in March 2020.

Also mentioned is the Open Doors scheme enabling more than a 1000 students to have work experience. This is open for students aged 7-13.

197/2019 Rother District Council Report

Councillors had received the previously circulated report from RDC and RDCCLlr Ganly had nothing to add to his report. (Full report will be put on the website.)

Councillors were interested to read about the Housing Development Programme and the £200m housing project, Council Tax, Development and Site Allocations Plan and The Rother District Citizens Advice Bureau.

198/2019 Parish Assembly

The Parish Assembly will be held at Claremont School on Thursday 19th 2020. Councillors suggested that in future years the venue could be alternated with Bodiam Primary School. Clerk to invite Inspector Jonathan Hartley and the local PCSO to Parish Assembly.

199/2019 Environment – School car parking meeting,

Mentioned above 194/2019

200/2019 Trees and Footpaths

The tree warden had nothing to report at this time. Chairman Cllr Mitchell had noticed that all the treads on the Kent Ditch Bridge had now been replaced by ESCC.

It was reported that a tree on Levetts Lane possibly had Ash die back, Tree Warden to be notified.

201/2019 Crime and Disorder

None to note

202/2019 Public Questions

1. A member of the public enquired why the Coaches for Claremont were still parking in Levetts Lane, and not in the school grounds. Cars are finding it almost impossible to pass and the grass verges are being carved up. Mr Murray (Claremont's Estates' Bursar and Facilities Manager) replied that they are also finding it equally frustrating that the Coaches are unable to park in the School, especially at this time of year when it's dark. A space had been cleared for that purpose, but the Coaches are hired and at the moment the Hire Company are not willing to allow the Coaches to reverse in through the back gate and they cannot fit through the front gate. The School is

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

very aware of how patient the Residents have been throughout the build and is looking at other alternatives. One option is that the front gate may have to be widened and it may be that the School will have to invest in their own coaches, all possibilities are being considered. A meeting with the Director of the Coach Company, to take place later this week.

Chairman Cllr Mitchell asked if they had a timescale in which this could be achieved. Claremont would like a decision before the end of February, but hopefully if the meeting goes well with the Hire Company it could happen before. Claremont will make the Verges good at the end of this process.

2. A member of the public asked why there wasn't any parking at the Recreation Ground and was there a possibility of achieving this, to fit 3 or 4 cars so that when people want to walk their dogs they do not have to use the Pub car park. Cllr Peters replied that there was parking around the Pavillion but unfortunately the gate is locked and has to remain locked. One possible solution would be to move the fence and gate down so an area of hard standing could be laid. Will be put on the agenda for the next full Parish meeting at the end of January.

3. The owner of Forge Cottage attended the meeting to ask the Council if there were any objections for the development of this property. No application has not yet reached the Council and are unable to comment until that happens.

203/2019 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

The Clerk informed the Councillors that an email had been received requesting a report for any financial year in which it receives CIL receipts. The report should be sent to Rother District Council, no later than 31 December 2019 and published in the Parish Council website. At the moment the money remains unused but there are possible projects coming up that would qualify next year. The Parish Council has 5 years from the date of to spend this money or Rother District Council may request the return. The payment was received May 2018.

204/2019 Recreation Ground

(a) Upkeep and Inspection

Cllr Mitchell went into the Pavilion before the frosts to drain all the water down and sorted the sewerage system out.

Mr. J Smith has quoted for the Pavillion repairs.

(b) Bookings

Sedlescombe Rangers have been invoiced for the 2 games played and next years tournament.

Northiam have not yet notified us of the number of games played. Cllr Mitchell will get in touch with the team Manager.

205/2019 Finances

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

(a) Receipts

None

(b) Payments

Payee	Particulars	Chq no	£
Clerk/RFO	Salary	1903	420.00
Commercial Services	Grass Cutting	1904	180.22

(c) Monthly Finance Report

The monthly financial and Budget reports were presented.

CLlr Peters initialed the payments in the Receipts & Payments book. Cheques and invoices were signed by the Councillors. The Financial Report was approved and signed by the Chair.

206/2019 Information for Councillors

CLlr Mitchell reported the funeral of ex CLlr John Saxby would be tomorrow 10th Dec.
CLlr Mitchell and the Clerk will meet re the on line mapping training.

207/2019 Date of Next Meeting –

Budget Meeting January 6th 2020 at 7pm in the Bodiam Parish Room.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 7.55pm.

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