**BODIAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 18 May 2015 at 7.00 p.m. in Bodiam Parish Room**

**Present:**

Councillor Geoffrey Goodsell (Chairman)

Councillor Graham Peters

Councillor Richard Mitchell

Councillor Barbara Napper

Councillor Janet Gardner

In attendance:

Mrs V Davies (clerk)

PCSO Georghiou

RDC Graham Browne

ESCC Councillor Angharad Davies

**No Members of the public were present**

**66/2015 Apologies for Absence** were accepted from:

Apologies were received and accepted from RDC Sue Prochak

1. **67/2015 –Election of Chair** and **Chair’s Declaration of Acceptance of Office in relation to the Members’ Code of Conduct**

Councillor Peters nominated Councillor Goodsell to be the Chairman. This was seconded by Councillor Mitchell. Councillor Goodsell signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in relation to the Members’ Code of Conduct.

**68/2015 Election of Vice Chair and Vice-Chair’s Declaration of Acceptance of Office in relation to the Members’ Code of Conduct**

Councillor Peters proposed Councillor Gardner as vice chair. This was seconded by Councillor Napper. Councillor Gardner signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office in relation to the Members’ Code of Conduct. Councillor Goodsell thanked Councillor Napper for her many years as Vice Chairman.

69/2015 - **Notification by member of a Local Authority of Registrable Interests.**

Councillors completed the Notification of Registrable Interests Forms.

**70/2015.**  **Disclosure of Interests**

* Councillor Gardner declared an interest as she rented land from New House Farm.
* Councillor Peters declared an interest as he had received hospitality in the past from New House Farm.
* Councillor Peters declared an interest as he swam regularly at Claremont School.
* Councillor Goodsell declared at interest as he was related to the contractor quoting for the War Memorial
* Councillor Goodsell declared an interest as he had eaten a meal with Claremont school.
* Councillor Goodsell declared an interest as he had previously delivered goods to Senlac.
* Councillor Mitchell declared an interest as he is acquainted with the Chairman at Senlac.
* Councillor Napper declared an interest as a member of the National Trust Committee

**71/2015. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 27.4.15 had been previously circulated. The minutes were signed by Councillor Goodsell as a correct record of the proceedings.

**72/2015.** To appoint Councillors to all areas. This was carried over to the next meeting.

**73/2015. Meetings Attended by the Chairman and other Councillors**

* Councillor Goodsell had attended a meeting with Conquest Hospital
* Councillor Mitchell, Councillor Goodsell and the clerk had attended a meeting with Senlac
* Councillor Gardner had attend a meeting with Bodiam Community Friends

**74/2015 Crime and Disorder**

Councillors noted that PCSO Georghiou had attended the meeting on his rest day. PCSOGeorghiou had dealt with an accident on the B2244 (junction road) involving multiple cars when a driver had swerved to avoid a deer. Residents were warned to be vigilant when driving.

**75/2015 – Planning Applications –**

RR/2015/771/P- New House Farm Oast, New House Lane, Bodiam TN32 5UP.

Councillors had no comment.

**76/2015 – Trees and Footpaths**

* Councillor Mitchell had not received a response regarding footpath 10b – Blacksmiths Field.

**77/2015 - Bodiam Parish Council**

1. War Memorial. Councillor Goodsell had chased up when the work would be completed.
2. Bus Services. There was no timetable available for the Bank holiday Bus Service supported by East Sussex County Council. Councillor Goodsell was chasing up the information.
3. Clerk Sponsorship. No council money will go to sponsorship for the clerk to run a half marathon on 14 June. Any sponsorship was individually obtained.
4. Senlac Car Show. Councillor Goodsell, Councillor Mitchell, the clerk and George Bailey (National Trust), had met with David Miles from Senlac. Senlac would be sending a letter to the people around The Green to request residents not to park on the road. Senlac had also requested that the hedge around the pedestrian entrance be cut.

Resolution:

Clerk to contact Grass cutting contractor.

**78/2015 - Rother District Council**

Councillor Browne reported that the first District Council meeting since the election had taken place. The District Councillors reported that the main area for concern from residents was the potholes.

**79/2015- East Sussex County council**

The first full council meeting had taken place. The cabinet’s priorities for the year had been discussed. Savings of £70-90 million would be required. Questions took place regarding the timings of the bank holiday service supported by East Sussex County Council.

**80/2015 - Recreation Ground**

1. Changing rooms: general up-keep, inspections and security. Three windows would be replaced by Croft Glass in the near future. The Parish Council had accepted the quotation from E Cloute for £140 plus VAT to repair the balcony on the pavilion.
2. Bookings: Senlac, Bodiam Cricket Club. National Trust. Bodiam Primary School Sports Days 15/16 June. The grass cutting contractor had been informed of all the dates of the bookings.
3. Westridge Football Club had not played any matches at Bodiam since October. In addition Hurst Green had not played any matches since October. Hurst Green Juniors were now using the Recreation Ground for training.
4. Locks on Pavilion Doors. Councillor Mitchell would investigate whether the keys were working.

81/2015 Finances

1. **To Receive Report from Internal Auditor**

The council received the Auditors report and noted that there were no issues for concern. The council believes the audit to have been effective in checking the Council’s risks, financial records, and procedures as detailed in the letter of engagement.

1. **To Approve and complete the audit return**
2. The statement of Accounts (Section 1 of the Annual Return) was approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman.
3. The Council completed the Statement of Governance (Section 2 of the Annual Return) which was signed on behalf of the Council by the Chairman. Notices are on the boards advertising the Rights of the Public to inspect the accounts.
4. To receive RFO report and balances –

The monthly financial reports and balances were presented.

Balances: Current and Deposit accounts as of 12.4.15: £18,137.35 outstanding cheques**:** £629. Councillor Peters verified the statements and balances. Councillor Goodsell scrutinized the invoices and vouchers. Cheques were signed by Councillor Goodsell and Councillor Napper.

b) **To authorise payments and note receipts**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CHEQ NO** | **PAYEE** | **AMOUNT** | **DESCRIPTION** |  |  |
| 1601 | T Barratt | £162.00 | Internal Audit | S21(6) |  |
| 1602 | V Davies | £152.60 | Clerk Salary | S151,112(1) |  |
| 1603 | Inland Revenue | £124.60 | Clerk Tax | S151,112(1) |  |
| 1604 | RALC | £25.00 | Subscription | S143 |  |

Letters of thanks had been received from the following agencies to which payments had been made under Section 137:-

St Giles Church

Hawkhurst Cottage Hospital

Bodiam CE Primary School

**82/2015**. **Dates of future meetings 22 June 2015.** A further meeting to discuss Finances was required.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.00 pm.