

BODIAM PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Christine Burgess
Telephone: 07944 958159
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 Zoom Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 25th January 2021, at 7.00 p.m.

Present:

For Bodiam Parish Council: Councillors, Richard Mitchell (Chairman), Linda Stevens, Graham Peters, Barbara Napper and Councillor Michael Weddle.

For Rother District Council: Cllr T Ganley,

For ESCC: Cllr A Davies

In attendance: Clerk Christine Burgess and one member of the public

11/2021 Apologies for Absence:

Rother District Councillor M Mooney.

12/2021 Minutes

The minutes of the Budget meeting held on 11th January which had been previously distributed, were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

13/2021 Disclosure of Interests:

Councillor Peters declared an interest as he is acquainted with Mr John Lovering.

Councillor Weddle declared an interest as he rents a small plot of land from Mr John Lovering

14/2021 Matters Arising

None

15/2021 Councillors Meetings with Outside Bodies

Cllr Mitchell attended a meeting held remotely by PCSO's Emma Philips and Daryl Holter with 8 or 9 other Parishes. At the moment these will be held monthly, but eventually when out of Covid restrictions the PCSO's are hoping to attend the Parish Meetings in person.

One of the main areas for concern was speeding through the Villages. Speed traps can be set up but unfortunately the speed limit cannot be altered unless there has been a fatality.

The contact number to ring in an emergency is 999 but if it is not happening at the time ring 101.

Fly tipping can be reported on 999 if you see it happening or after the event 101. If the rubbish is not on private land Rother District Council should be notified to clear up. Otherwise it is the Landowners responsibility.

16/2021 ESCC Report

Councillors have received the previously circulated report from ESCC.

The Covid-19 Rates are starting to come down in Rother and Hastings, unfortunately there is still an increase in the death rates. The Etchingham Hub is now up and running for vaccinations.

The full report can be viewed on the Bodiam Parish Council Website

www.bodiamparishcouncil.org.uk

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

17/2021 Rother District Council Report

Councillors had received the previously circulated report from Rother District Council.

At the December meeting, Councillors queried whether the footpath from the top of the hill down to the Green would need permission for two, finger sign posts, this is not required as it would be installed by East Sussex Highways.

Planning Enforcements have notified that the placement of the gas tank at 1 Blacksmiths Field is in a dangerous location near the Highway and could potentially contaminate the ground.

Action Taken: Ceased Usage.

Fly Tipping can be reported on-line on the Rother District Council Website, a map comes up and the site can be pin pointed.

There is a discretionary grant scheme for businesses and organisations, that have not been able to access mandatory grants and help caused by the latest lockdown. Rother District Council would like to know of any businesses, organisations or other bodies that you know of, that cannot access grants which they need to survive the lockdown. This will help develop targeted criteria to ensure the limited funds go to the places most in need.

The full report can be viewed on the Bodiam Parish Council Website

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18/2021 Planning

No new application but the application below has now expired.

RR/2020/583P National Trust Bodiam Castle, The siting of three shipping containers hereby permitted shall be removed and the land restored back to its former condition on or before 31 December 2020. Clerk to contact Planning Rother District Council.

19/2021 Environment**Tree Planting, Recreation Ground**

After the last Parish Meeting in December Mr Lovering was contacted and asked to clarify his proposal for the Tree Planting Scheme. The Council now has full details.

The proposal was dependent on a scheme which would see a full plant of broadleaf trees to the acreage specified by the Woodland trust's to maximise the carbon capture benefit and the wooded links for wildlife. For this scheme Mr Lovering would underwrite the cost of planting by a Contractor and the first two years maintenance. The anticipated cost this is £6000. Mr Lovering would also make a one off grant of £4000 to cover the management of the woods to be used at the discretion of the Council.

If there was a smaller scheme or one involving a planting of shrubs in place of trees, Mr Lovering would still underwrite the capital cost, but the one off grant would be reduced to £2000 as the environmental benefit would be reduced and the management task diminished.

The Councillors will inform the Residents and invite their response to this project before a decision is made. A leaflet will be drafted out to be distributed as soon after lockdown as possible. The response of the leaflet drop will be taken into account when deciding the way forward. All information will be available on the Website.

Councillor Peters entered the meeting room at this point and was bought up to date by the Chairman.

20/20201 Crime and Disorder

There was an incident of Fly Tipping in a Lay by which has been reported and a Shed broken into on Levetts Lane.

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

21/2021 Trees and Footpaths

The Tree and Footpath Warden reported that there were one or two footpath discs to be replaced and a stile that need repairing near Elms Farm.

The trees from the Recreation Ground which are falling into the Pub garden will be sorted out after Covid restrictions have been relaxed.

22/202 Recreation Ground

(a) Upkeep and Inspection – Nothing to note. All seems intact from the outside..

(b) Bookings –Sedlescombe Rangers have made enquiries regarding a Summer Tournament in July.

23/2021 Finances

(a) The Precept set at the previous budget meeting in January of £10,550 was agreed. Proposed Cllr Napper, Seconded Cllr Mitchell.

Clerk to complete forms and return to Rother District Council.

(b) Receipts

Date	From whom Received	Particulars	£
31/12/2020	Nat West Bank	Deposit A/C interest	0.02

(c) Payments

Date	Payee	Particulars	Chq no	£
19/01/2021	P Anderson	Finger Sign (replacement chq)	1957	240.00
19/01/2021	C Burgess	Clerk/RFO Salary (replacement chq)	1958	436.80

(d) Monthly Finance Report

The monthly financial report had been circulated by email, along with photocopies of the Receipts and Payment Book, Cheques and Invoices. Cllr Napper and Cllr Stevens have signed the cheques and invoices. The Financial Report was approved and signed by the Chair and will be forwarded to the Clerk with the signed copy of the Minutes.

24/2021 Information for Councillors

None

25/2021 Date of Next Meetings –By Zoom

15th February 2021

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