

BODIAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 9th January 2023 at 7.00 p.m. in Bodiam Parish Room

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

Present:

For Bodiam Parish Council: Councillors: - (Chairman) Linda Stevens, Barbara Napper, Graham Peters, Tim Porter. **In attendance:** Clerk Christine Burgess.

1/2023 Apologies for Absence: - Cllr Darren Page

2/2023 Disclosure of Interests

Cllr Peters declared a personal interest as a Trustee of the Parker& Ashcombe Trust, also a personal interest as the Church Warden, a personal interest as a Trustee of the Rural Rother Trust and the Chairman of Bodiam Pre School

Cllr Linda Stevens declared a personal interest as a Trustee of St Michaels Hospice and Patrick Stevens is a Governor of Bodiam C of E School.

Cllr Porter declared a personal interest as his wife runs Bodiam Pre School

3/2023 Minutes of Meeting 19th December 2022

(a) The minutes, which had previously been distributed were approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

(b) Matters arising: - Cllr Stevens had met with ESCC Cllr P Redstone and the Co-Chair of Bodiam C of E School Philip Hind regarding the school layby. The next stage is for the school to obtain 3 quotes for the work to be done

4/2023 Annual Reviews

(a) Risk Assessment

The risk assessment on all assets and activities was reviewed and updated. Following the resignation of Cllr Weddle, a new Cllr will be required for Health and safety, to be decided at the next parish meeting. Repairs are under review for the roof of the War Memorial. The Fire risk assessment reviewed and updated. Electrical Check was carried out in May 2019, next due in 2024. The fire extinguishers were serviced in the Pavilion March 2022.

Actions: Clerk to arrange for the fire extinguishers to be checked in March.

(b) Employees contracts

The Council reviewed the contract and pay of the Clerk

Resolution: The Clerks rate of pay to remain the same.

(c) Contracts

Grass Cutting

The new quote has been received which is higher than last year

Resolution: To keep within budget, Landscape Services to be contacted for a new quote with a reduced no. of cuts.

Internal Audit Mr T Barrett has been contacted and is happy to continue as internal auditor for the Parish Council Accounts for a fee of £162

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

(d) Income and Charges for Recreation Ground Bookings

The Council looked at the Sources of Income and reviewed the charges for 2023/24. The recommendations were for them to be kept at the same amount:

Village Sports Clubs: -Single match £40, Series Match £30, Evening Game £20.
 Juniors: -£12.50 per match, £5 per practice, National Trust Bookings, £250.00 per day
 Sedlescombe Rangers FC, £40.00 per match, £125.00 per tournament day, £500 per season.
 Bodiam Church of England Primary School and Bodiam Pre-school to have free use of the Ground. All bookings and charges at the Councils discretion
 The cost of purchasing copies of documents from the Council 20p per sheet.

(e) Asset Register

The Asset Register was reviewed and to be updated in June when the Insurance would be up for renewal.

5/2023 To Draw up Schedule of Works 2023/24

The following works were identified: -

Grit bin for	Levetts Lane	from CIL
contribution to School layby		From CIL
Layby Bodiam Rd	. Depending on ownership of land	From CIL

6/2023 To set the Budget and Precept for 2023/24

The Council resolved to make recommendations to be presented to the meeting on 23rd January 2023.

Councillors redeclared all interests as above, and left the room when donations were discussed

Item	£	Power
Gen Admin:Subs	150	S 143
Churchyard	240	S215
Footpaths	50	S130
RFO/Clerk	6,200	S151, 112(1)
General repairs	250	
Hire of Halls	12	S111
Admin	300	S111
Insurance	800	S111,143,114
Audit	162	S21(6)
Village Green & open spaces	450	LGA 1894 1894 S8
Election	200	
War Memorial	260	S133
Recreation Ground mowing	2,200	S44
Pavilion Maintenance	300	S44
Pavilion Utilities	400	
Section137	596	S137
TOTAL	12,570	

Section 137

It was resolved that the Council, in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act of 1972 should incur the following expenditure which, in the

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opinion of the Council, is in the interests of, or will directly benefit, the area or its inhabitants, or part of it, or some of it in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.

It was recommended that the following payments be made: -

Beneficiary	£
Bodiam C of E Primary School	80
Rural Rother Trust	85
Hawkhurst League of Friends	80
St Michael's Hospice	150
Bodiam Pre School	70
Rother Citizen's Advice	95
CPRE	36
TOTAL	£596

An allocation of £596 in the budget was recommended.

Income

The Council recommended allowing for an income of £1,150

Balances

£12570-£1,150= £11420.

Precept

The Council recommended setting a Precept of £11,420, an increase of 4%.

In the current environment the Council have tried to keep costs down as far as possible and are pleased that this is only a 4% increase. However, this is an election year and if Bodiam is required to hold an election the cost will be between £1750 and £2000 which will have to be taken out of reserves. The Precept is to be set at the next Council Meeting on the 23rd January 2023

7/2023 Councillors Travel and Subsistence Allowances

The mileage allowance remains at 45p per mile. Subsistence allowance for meals would be in line with NJC recommendations

There had been no claims made by the Councillors during the year.

8/2023 Information for Councillors -none

9/2023 Date of next meetings

January 23rd 2023 at 6.30pm in the Parish Rooms. There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

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