

## BODIAM PARISH COUNCIL

<b>Clerk:</b>	Christine Burgess	4 Sparkeswood Ave,
<b>Telephone:</b>	07944 958159	Rolvenden
<b>Email:</b>	clerkbodiam@hotmail.co.uk	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 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 6.30pm at the Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Bodiam

**Present:**

**For Bodiam Parish Council:** Councillors: - (Chair) Linda Stevens, (Vice chair) Tim Porter  
Graham Peters, Darren Page Nick Gilbert, **ESCC Cllr Paul Redstone**  
**In attendance:** Clerk, Christine Burgess

**104/2023      Apologies for Absence** – Councillor G Peters, RDC Councillors Tony Ganley and Tony Biggs,

**105/2023      Disclosure of Interests** – None

**106/2023      Minutes of Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

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

**107/2023      Matters Arising** –

**Notice Board.** cheque prepared, ready to be signed, notice board to be delivered to Cllr Page.  
**Grass Cuts,** the grass is looking better after settling for a week, but the dock leaves are still prominent. Landscape Services have been contacted re the problem and informed about the nettles near the pavilion and seats which still needs strimming.

**Goal Posts,** Sedlescombe Rangers will be arranging for the old goal posts to be dismantled and taken away over the summer period.

**Subsidence close to School,** enquiries to find who is responsible for the repair is still ongoing.

**Verge,** grass is overgrown on the verge just pass the school on the left-hand side reducing visibility. Cllr Porter will report on the ESCC highways website

**River** A meeting of all concerned, users and landowners of the river will be arranged shortly. There are safety concerns regarding the use of the river.

**108/2023      Public Questions-** None

**109 /2023      Councillors Meetings with Outside Bodies**

Cllr Porter had attended conference of the Institute of Lighting professionals, who last week had lobbied the House of Lords on dark skies regarding planning new buildings such as schools.

**110/2023      Planning**

**Applications**

**RR/2023/1131/P** 7 Castlehurst, Bodiam TN32 5UW Erection of a single storey side and rear extension with first floor balcony, and front porch improvements.      **Supported,**

**(With conditions of lighting not to affect our dark skies)**

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

**111/2023 ESCC Report**

Councillors had received the previously circulated report from ESCC and the full report can be read on the Bodiam Website.

Cllr Redstone would be very happy to receive feedback and residents' views on the new flexibus system. This ESCC service is a cross between a taxi which takes one customer from one chosen place to another at a chosen time, and a scheduled bus service which runs at scheduled times from between bus stops. Flexibus runs from a meeting point, which is likely to be close to your home or other start location, to another and often picking up other passengers on the way.

More money is going to be made available for road maintenance.

**112/2023 RDC Report**

Councillors had received the previously circulated report from RDC. Full report can be read on the Bodiam Website. The PCSO for Bodiam is Rachael Scott.

**113/2023 Resilience Plan**

All local Parishes are encouraged to have a resilience plan. Councillor Stevens and Councillor Page can be contacted during emergencies, and their names and contact details will be published on the website and the notice boards.

The distribution point for water is Levetts Lane.

**114/2023 Crime and Disorder**

There has been a 25 tonnes Lorry carrying scaffolding crossing the Bridge maximum weight is 18 tonnes.)

Police have been notified of bad behaviour in Levetts Lane, children throwing coal against the windows.

In Staplecross, a man was arrested, when he threatened to burn down the school.

A report has come through of an uninsured vehicle being driven around the village, the no. plate has been noted.

**115/2023 Recreation Ground**

**(a) Pavilion, Upkeep, and Inspection** – made this evening by Councillors

The Pavilion was cleaned thoroughly before the School Sports day on Wednesday and the Funday last Saturday with pressure washers etc. The building is not in good shape and even with a thorough clean still looks shoddy and complaints were made regarding its condition.

The question is whether it is still in a passable state to hire out. The Pavilion floods every winter and the cupboards and walls have to be pressured washed.

We have one regular user of the pavilion which provides some income to pay the electric and water bill, and Sedlescombe Rangers may use the field for the juniors over the summer period.

There is no disabled access to the Pavilion, and because of the flooding can only be open 6 months of the year.

It was proposed the Council need to decide what to do with the Pavilion, to put a survey with details and photos with costing together, and put before the residents.

There could be a few options;

- (a) demolish and clear the site completely,
- (b) demolish and leave the base for a bandstand, an area to sit in if it rains,
- (c) or rebuild smaller, a small kitchen area and toilets in a drier position with disabled access.

**116/2023 Environment** – While Councillors were on the recreation ground the access to the river. A meeting of all concerned, users and landowners of the river will be arranged shortly. There are safety concerns regarding the use of the river.

**117/2023 Trees and Footpaths**  
A report has been made by a resident, while walking a local footpath of donkeys in a field making a nuisance of themselves. Please be careful when crossing, Rights of way team are aware.

**118/2023 Proposed Illyria Theatre Co. Booking**  
A suggestion was made by Councillor Gilbert that we may be able to host the Illyria Theatre Co, for a performance of 12<sup>th</sup> Night. The company have a date free on the 5<sup>th</sup> of September. There would be certain problems to overcome, i.e., toilets, car parking. It was considered a good idea but too short notice for this year. To be put on the agenda for next year, when residents could be consulted. A drive-in cinema was also considered, and the possibility of setting up a group to concentrate on future events.

**119/2023 Finances**  
**(a) Receipts**

Date	From whom Received	Particulars	£
30.05.2023	H Fulker	Storage	24.00
31.05.2023	H Fulker	Storage	24.00
31.05.2023	Nat West Bank	Interest	2.81

**(b) Payments**

CHQ no	Payee	Description	£
2072	Castle Water Ltd	Pavilion	22.60
2073	C Burgess	Clerk RFO Salary	602.63
2074	C Burgess	admin expenses	7.99
2075	Signs of Cheshire	Notice board deposit	659.94

**120/2023 Monthly Finance Reports**  
The Clerk/RFO presented the bank statements with monthly and year-end financial reports, which were signed by the Chair.  
**All financial documents and invoices** are circulated to Councillors for inspection by email before meetings. Cheques cannot be signed this evening as not all the signatories have been able to attend and will be signed over the next few days.

**121/2023 Information for Councillors** - none

**122/2023 Date of Next Meeting**  
**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July, 6.30pm, The Parish Room, Bodiam**  
There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

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