

## BODIAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Clerk:** Lynsey Willard  
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34 Levetts Lane,  
 Bodiam,  
 East Sussex,  
 TN32 5UL

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 6.30pm at the Parish Room, Bodiam TN32 5UJ.

**Present:**

**For Bodiam Parish Council:** Councillors: - (Chair) Linda Stevens, (Vice chair) Tim Porter  
 Graham Peters, Darren Page, Nick Gilbert, ESCC Cllr Paul Redstone, RDC Cllr Tony Biggs and  
 RDC Cllr Tony Ganley.

**In attendance:** Clerk, Lynsey Willard & Christine Burgess

**163/2023 Apologies for Absence**

None

**164/2023 Disclosure of Interests –**

Cllr Peters declared a personal interest as a Trustee of the Parker & Ashcombe Trust, who  
 are the Landlords of the Parish Rooms.

Cllr Peters declared a personal interest as a friend of Mr J Lovering **item 169/2023**,  
 enforcements.

**165/2023 Minutes of Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

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

**166/2023 Matters Arising –**

**153/2023 Environment:** The grit bin has still not arrived for Levetts Lane, it was ordered and  
 paid for in March 2023, ESCC Cllr Paul Redstone has offered to chase this up.

**155/2023 Trees & Footpaths:** Cllr Linda Stevens to arrange a time with the Castle Inn  
 landlord and Cllr Darren Page to consider what action needs to be taken with the tree  
 causing a problem in the pub carpark.

**156/2023 Donation of Bench:** Waiting on a response from Karen Towner.

**167/2023 Public Questions- None**

**168/2023 Councillors Meetings with Outside Bodies –**

Cllr Gilbert met with a Sidley Cricket club to discuss their container/changing facility.

**169/2023 Planning**

**Applications**

**RR/2023/1808/P Fourboys Farm, Castle Hill, Bodiam** Retrospective application for the  
 construction of ancillary/annexe accommodation (**alterations to RR/2021/913/P and**

**RR/2021/2697/P)**

**Parish remain neutral on this application.**

**Decisions**

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

**Permission granted with**

**conditions.**

**Appeals**

**APP/U1430/D/22/3312655 Ellen Archers, Castle Hill, Bodiam, East Sussex TN32 5UE** The application Ref RR/2022/2089/P, dated 19 August 2022, was refused by notice dated 7 October 2022. The development proposed is a first-floor extension to modern garage building to form home office and lift access.

**Appeal dismissed.**

**170/2023 ESCC Report**

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

**149/2023** Update: ESCC Cllr Redstone has contacted the Alternative Water Manager, and they are happy to run a pilot in this area for provision of water during a loss of water supply period.

**171/2023 RDC Report**

Councillors had received the previously circulated report from RDC. Full report can be read on the Bodiam Website.

RDC Cllr Tony Ganley passed on the thanks form Rural Rother Trust regarding the purchase of a vacuum cleaner for a family in need. The Trust helps local people in need and Bodiam Parish has supported them form the offset.

Consultation is happening for polling stations.

There is a meeting on the 2 November 2023 in Bexhill regarding Affordable Housing in the Rother area. Cllr Nick Gilbert offered to attend.

**172/2023 Crime and Disorder**

Nothing to report in Bodiam but villages are asked to report anything suspicious to the police.

Problem occurring in Sandhurst with someone/people catapulting house windows. There has also been a report of catapulting of 40+ pheasants in a pen. Pictures have been forwarded to the police for investigation.

**173/2023 Village Notice Board**

The notice board has now been erected by Bodiam school, thanks to Cllrs Tim Porter & Darren Page and Thomas. The old one was very dangerous and has been removed. The Parish will apply for CIL funding for the notice board.

**174/2023 Environment**

The grit bin has still not arrived for Levetts Lane, it was ordered and paid for in March 2023, ESCC Cllr Paul Redstone has offered to chase this up.

Urban grass cutting for 2024 which covers verge cutting up to the Curlew. It has been agreed that the Parish would opt for the option of paying for four extra cuts on top of the two carried out be ESCC, totalling 6 cuts. This will cost the Parish a total of £110 for the year.

**175/2023 Trees and Footpaths**

Cllr Linda Stevens to arrange a time with the Castle Inn landlord and Cllr Darren Page to consider what action needs to be taken with the tree causing a problem in the pub carpark.

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

**176/2023 Donation of Bench – John Towner**  
Waiting on a response from Karen Towner.

**177/2023 National Trust- Water Easement Bill**  
The Parish Council received a bill from the National Trust for waterpipe easement backdated 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Council offered the National Trust an immediate payment of half of the bill in full and final payment. Waiting on final confirmation that this is accepted.

**178/2023 Recreation Ground Pavilion, Upkeep, and Inspection:** The future of the Pavilion is still under discussion. The safety and condition of the goal post on the recreation ground is being reviewed.

**179/2023 Finances**  
**(a) Receipts**

| Date       | From whom Received | Particulars | £      |
|------------|--------------------|-------------|--------|
| 09.09.2023 | H Fulker           | Storage     | 30.00  |
| 13.09.2023 | HMRC               | VAT Refund  | 636.02 |
| 29.09.2023 | Nat West           | Interest    | 3.35   |

**(b) Payments**

| CHQ no | Payee     | Description                  | £      |
|--------|-----------|------------------------------|--------|
| 2084   | L Willard | Clerk Expenses               | 20.80  |
| 2085   | C Burgess | Clerk/RFO Salary (Oct/Final) | 361.58 |
| 2086   | C Burgess | Clerk/RFO Salary (Sept)      | 482.10 |

**180/2023 Monthly Finance Reports**  
The Clerk/RFO presented the bank statements with the monthly financial report and budget reports with forecast, which were signed by the Chair. All financial documents and invoices are circulated to Councillors for inspection by email before meetings.  
The Parish Council are still awaiting the invoice for the election.  
Online banking possibilities to be explored in the future.

**181/2023 Information for Councillors**  
Wreath received by clerk from RBL. To be laid at the Memorial on Sunday 12 November.  
Cllr Graham Peters circulated an email that Cllr Nick Gilbert had sent out to some parishioners using a private email address list. The council chair stated that she had serious concerns about whether the email broke the Code of Conduct. Cllr Gilbert rejected this and asked the chair to detail any parts of the Code she thought might have been breached. The chair and other members of the council highlighted the issues with the email and why it was considered inappropriate.

**182/2023 Date of Next Meeting**  
**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm, The Parish Room, Bodiam**  
There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at approx. 7.30pm.

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