



# BREDE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 7:30pm in Trinity Methodist Church Hall

**Present:** Councillors L Nottage (Chair), S Hampson, C Apps, J Allison, M Wey, R Oliver and M Griffiths

**In Attendance:** Rother DC Neil Gordon. ESC Cllr Carl Maynard (from 8.15pm), four members of the public and the Clerk.

**268 Public Question Time.** Members of the newly formed Little Park Woods Community Asset Project introduced themselves. They have set up the group with a formal constitution and are currently opening a bank account. Their aims are to try and preserve the wood in its natural state, preserve the flora and fauna, protect the wildlife, obtain the right of way through the woods (an application has been made to ESCC), prevent the progression of any commercial venture in the woods, and to purchase as much of the woodland as possible. They have had ESCC confirm that the right of way has been established for over 20 years, but may take up to 5 years to be formalised. They had heard nothing from Rother about the Tree Preservation Order (TPO) for the trees which had been requested

**269 Apologies for Absence:** Cllr G Olson

**270 a) Declaration of Interests:** Cllrs Nottage and Oliver for the Village Hall

**b) Dispensation Requests:** Cllrs Nottage and Oliver for the Village Hall.

*Council moved to bring Item 13 of the Agenda forwards*

**271 Pottery Lane Woods.** Councillors had all seen the sale details and pictures of the new gates, and coppicing. Cllr Griffiths confirmed that the TPO was still with Rother and that the Ramblers association had also taken up the case of the lost pathway. ESC Cllr Maynard to be informed of the issues getting the footpath established. Cllr Griffiths suggested that the Little Park Woods Community Asset Group contact the High Weald AONB group and Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) for advice.

*(Cllr Maynard later confirmed that the time to formalise a right of way is up to five years due to the legal processes required.)*

*Council returned to the Agenda*

**272** Minutes of the following meeting were considered.

**a) Full Council Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023 238/2022 - 261/2022.** Cllr Apps proposed that the minutes be signed as a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Griffiths.

**Council RESOLVED to approve the minutes for signing.**

**273 Update on Work in Progress and Clerks report.**

The work in progress had been circulated and was noted. The play equipment had now been installed and the fencing was due down by Thursday.

The Clerk had attended a pre-election briefing by Rother. Purdah would start on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March. Nominations were due in by 4pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> April. The clerk reminded all councillors if they wished to stand for election they must download, complete and return their own papers. Nomination papers have to be handed in to the elections office at Rother by hand.

**274 Chairs Report.**

Cllr Nottage had met with the play equipment installers and monitored the installation progress.

He had taken delivery of the new bench and seat which were now awaiting installation. He had attended the Farmers Market with PCSO Georghiou.

**275 Correspondence.**

Nothing of importance which had not been forwarded or was already on the agenda.

**276 Reports from the District and County Councillors.**

**Rother District Cllr Neil Gordon** reported that Sidley and the De La Warr Pavilion had received a 90K levelling up grant. The Bexhill toilets are being devolved to Bexhill Town Council. The recent wage increase had been rejected by 60% of the staff, and the Town Hall refurbishment project had been put on hold.

**East Sussex County Cllr Carl Maynard**

Had sent an update from ESCC before the meeting to the clerk which had been circulated. Cllr Nottage raised some concerns with Cllr Maynard about the drains and roads in the Parish.

**277 Finance**

a. Accounts to end of January 2023

b. Payment schedule for February 2023

**Council resolved to a) to approve the accounts to the end of January 2023**

**b) to approve the payment schedule for February 2023**

**Payment Schedule for February 2023**

			Net	Vat	Gross
D/D	Tesco Mobile	Clerks Phone			£12.50
D/D	Onecom	Village Hall Broadband	37.25	7.45	£44.70
BACS	Julian Bone	Hedge Cutting			£800.00
BACS	Hunnisetts	Tree Works	690.00	138.00	£828.00
BACS	Glasdon	Benches	976.68	195.33	£1172.01
BACS	Jon Butler	Handyman January			£80.00
BACS	SAfeplay	Equipment checks	76.00	15.20	£91.20
BACS	East Sussex Highways	Feasibility Study	500.00	100.00	£600.00
BACS	Astral Signs	Banners			£160.00
BACS	Trinity Methodist Church	Hall Hire			£39.00
BACS	Uniserve 30447	Emails for February	42.40	8.48	£50.88
BACS	T Dixon	Expenses, McAfee and cable ties			£104.34
BACS	T Dixon	Wages for February			£1067.51
BACS	HMRC	PAYE			£97.33
D/D	NEST	Clerk Pension, to note details only Employers Contribution £82.13			£147.84

**Proceedings and reports of committees and working parties**

**278 Recreation Ground and equipment.** The play equipment installation had completed. The herras fencing and remaining materials were due to be removed on Thursday. A formal opening ceremony was planned for 3.30pm on Thursday. Some small repairs to the swings had been arranged, following the latest inspection.

**279 Village Hall:** Were applying for a grant for further works.

**280 Footpaths.** Nothing to report

**281 Seats, trees, bus shelters, bins and hedges.** The dog bin and rubbish bin in Chitcombe Road had not been emptied regularly, they had been reported to Rother, Cllr Maynard and finally environmental health and were now empty. The tree works were completed. The recreation ground hedge had been trimmed back. Two overgrown hedges in the parish had been attended to.

- 282 Community Hall:** The Architect had been given the revised request and was working on a new plan.
- 283 Newsletter.** The March newsletter had been distributed.
- 284 Speed Watch:** Had not been out due to low numbers and inclement weather.
- 285 Highways Items:** An SLR meeting had been requested for 27<sup>th</sup> March, but the clerk was still waiting for confirmation. Agenda items would be needed. The feasibility study application requested had been accepted and booked. It will take around 12 weeks.
- 286 Recreation Ground Layout working group.** Are due to meet next week
- 287 Coronation Celebration Plans:** The Farmers Market Stallholders are planning something for the Friday Market, on the 5<sup>th</sup> May. Cllr Oliver will ensure the bunting from the Jubilee goes up somewhere in the Parish.
- 288 Parish Assembly:** Banners were ready to go up, Cllr Nottage will arrange for them and the boards at the Village Hall to be put up on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>, but will need assistance. The clerk had prepared an Agenda and the posters which will go up on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

#### **Agenda Items for discussion**

- 289. Coronation Items.** Councillors considered the options for mugs for the children. A bone china design was approved. Councillors considered having enough for the school children and some for other resident children in the Parish  
**Council resolved to purchase 175 bone china mugs, with presentation boxes at £5.30 each plus VAT, with a CIIR design and a lion and unicorn reverse.**
- 290. Post Installation Inspection of New Play Equipment.** Council discussed options available for a post installation inspection of the Play Equipment  
**Council resolved to use RoSPA for a post installation inspection at a cost of £415 plus VAT**
- 291. Garden Awards and Shield Awards.** Councillors considered the awards categories for the Garden Competition.  
**Council approved that the garden awards be Large Garden, Small Garden, Containers & Baskets. The clerk to see when the Village Hall is available for a Saturday afternoon in late July for the awards to be presented.**
- 292. Grit Bin at Crossways.** Councillors discussed the disappearance of the grit bin at the crossroads, and how long it had been missing.  
**Council deferred this item for a future agenda. The Clerk to liaise with Cllr Maynard about previous placing of the bin and when it was removed.**
- 293. Civility and Respect Pledge.** Councillors had read the documents circulated and agreed it was appropriate for Council to sign up to. Concerns were noted about Council not having a formal training policy in place.  
**Council resolved to sign the Civility and Respect Pledge. The Clerk to prepare a draft Training Policy for approval to support the pledge.**
- 294. Review of Policies.** Councillors had read the policies.  
Freedom on Information Policy, only change had been the contact email address for the council.  
Media and Communications Policy, no changes required.  
**Council resolved to adopt both policies again. Policies to be reviewed in 3 years unless there is a legislation change**

- 295. To consider if any changes are required to the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) for the Control of Dogs on Recreation Ground.** Councillors reviewed the current order.  
**Council resolved to retain the Recreation Ground as a dog free space and requested no changes to the PSPO**
- 296. To consider the letter re Highways from Hadlow Down Parish Council.** Councillors had read the circulated letter. While sympathising and supporting the objectives raised, Councillors did not feel that the suggested group action was appropriate, especially without knowledge of possible costs to Council.  
**Council resolved not to participate in collective action.**
- 297. Items for noting or for including on future agendas.**  
None to note
- 298. Date of Scheduled next meetings**  
Parish Assembly at 7pm on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at Brede Village Hall (Refreshments available from 6pm).  
Planning Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm in the Trinity Methodist Church hall.  
Council meeting 28<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in the Trinity Methodist Church hall.

**The meeting closed at 9.20pm**