



BREDE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 23rd January 2024 at 7:30pm in Trinity Methodist Church Hall

Present: Councillors S Hampson (Chair), M Griffiths, R Oliver, M Duffield, M Wey, and D McDonald.
(Cllr M Chamberlain after item 304)

In Attendance: One members of the public, Rother District Cllr Neil Gordon and the clerk.

- 301 Public Question Time.** A member of the public enquired if anything could be done about the parking in Cackle Street, some of it due to current building work, most of it general residential parking. Comments were noted.
- 302 Apologies for Absence:** Cllrs Allison and Olson
- 303 a) Declaration of Interests:** Cllr Hampson for item 21, Venues for Council meetings.
b) Dispensation Requests: None.
- 304 Co-option of a Councillor.** One candidate had applied for co-option. Cllr McDonald proposed that Mr Chamberlain be co-opted, Cllr Wey seconded. All were in favour.
Council RESOLVED to co-opt Mr Chamberlain to Brede Parish Council. Mr Chamberlain signed his acceptance of office and joined Councillors for the rest of the meeting.
- 305** Minutes of the following meeting were considered.
Full Council Meeting 28th November 2023 254/2023 - 281/2023. Cllr Wey proposed that the minutes be signed as a true record of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr McDonald.
Council RESOLVED to approve the minutes for signing.
- 306 Update on Work in Progress and Clerks report.**
The work in progress had been circulated. Updates on items not included in the agenda were: The United Bank Mandate had been rejected due to a signing error and was being prepared for resubmission. The Clerk was waiting for a date to erect the goal post, which had been delivered. The defibrillator pads had been renewed in the Village Hall defibrillator as they had date expired.
- 307 Chair's Report.**
The Chairman welcomed Cllr Chamberlain to the Council and expressed how good it was to have a full complement of Councillors again.
On 5th December he had attended the Rother Parish Conference with Cllr Griffiths. There had been some good presentations, and Rother Voluntary Action had been offering to visit Parish Councils to explain what they did. To consider this for later in 2024.
He had attended the ESALC Chairman's forum online. Still only 28 Councils in East Sussex had signed up to the Civility and Respect Pledge. The training is 7 modules long and appears quite intensive, but Council do need to consider someone doing this.
He had also attended the Highways Strengthening Local Relationships the previous day, the minutes of which will be circulated to all councillors. The were major concerns from councillors and residents about Kingwood Hill and the drains in the parish.
- 308 Correspondence.**
A questionnaire from Rother about the application process and requirements for Strategic Cil had been received, the clerk is answering it.
A notification from ESCC about the Rural grass cutting schedule, which will remain at twice a year unless Councils wish to reduce it to one cut, replies due by 20th February. As Brede

often needs extra visibility cuts, the rural grass cutting schedule would not be reduced to one cut a year.

309 Reports from the District and County Councillors.

Rother District Cllr Neil Gordon reported that enforcement is in progress in Great Sowdens Wood, the first letters have gone out, the second are imminent. He continues to have problems reported with Kingwood Hill. There is still money in the Coronation Regeneration fund for trees in non-woodland locations. To use his mobile number for the parish newsletter and website.

East Sussex County Cllr Carl Maynard had sent his apologies and an email report which would be circulated to councillors.

310 Finance

- a. Accounts to end of November 2023
- b. Accounts to end of December 2023
- c. To ratify the payment schedule for December 2023
- d. Payment schedule for January 2024

Council resolved to

- a) to approve the accounts to the end of November 2023
- b) to approve the accounts to the end of December 2023
- c) to ratify the payment schedule for December 2023
- d) to approve the payment schedule for January 2024

Payment Schedule for December 2023

			Net	Vat	Gross
D/D	Tesco Mobile	Clerks Phone			£14.30
D/D	Onecom	Village Hall Broadband	15.03	3.01	£18.04
BACS	T Spencer	Village Green mowing April to October	140.00		£140.00
BACS	Society of Local Council Clerks	Membership for clerk	183.00		£183.00
BACS	Brede Village Hall	Hall hire	32.00		£32.00
BACS	Safeplay	Playground inspection	76.00	15.20	£91.20
BACS	BACT	Grant as agreed in November meeting	200.00		£200.00
BACS	Trinity Methodist Church	Hall hire	36.50		£36.50
BACS	Baker Architectural	Architect for Pavilion 3rd payment of 4	237.50	47.50	£285.00
BACS	Jon Butler	Handyman November	80.00		£80.00
BACS	Uniserve 32520	Emails for December	46.30	9.26	£55.56
BACS	T Dixon	Wages for December			£xxx
BACS	HMRC	PAYE			£365.26
D/D	NEST	Clerk Pension, to note details only Employers Contribution £123.08			£221.55

Payment Schedule for January 2024

			Net	Vat	Gross
D/D	Tesco Mobile	Clerks Phone			£14.30
D/D	Onecom	Village Hall Broadband	39.50	7.90	£47.40
BACS	Rother	Election costs	211.97		£211.97
BACS	ESALC	Councillor Training	40.00	8.00	£48.00
BACS	Jon Butler	Handyman December	100.00		£100.00
BACS	Uniserve	Tech Support	17.00	3.40	£20.40
BACS	Uniserve	Emails for January	46.30	9.26	£55.56
BACS	T Dixon	Defib pads	66.95	13.39	£80.34
BACS	T Dixon	Wages for January			£xxx
BACS	HMRC	PAYE			£123.29
D/D	NEST	Clerk Pension, to note details only Employers Contribution £86.68			£156.03

Proceedings and reports of committees and working parties.

- 311 Recreation Ground and equipment.** The new play equipment had suffered from some graffiti over the Christmas period. The graffiti wipes had not removed it. The clerks had provided a stronger remover to use, but if this did not work the supplier may need to be contacted for advice on what to use, or to see if the climbing wall can be sanded down to remove it.
- 312 Recreation Ground Layout working group.** Quotes had been received from the architect for the costs of the next steps. A committee meeting was needed, the clerk to arrange.
- 313 Footpaths.** No report
- 314 Seats, trees, bus shelters, bins and hedges.** Bus shelters need sweeping out again. Bus shelter in Udimore Road had also been graffitied and it would not come off.
- 315 Village Hall:** Member of the public reported that, there is a new heating system, hirers need to press override button to turn on the heating. The Charity Commission reports were completed. The new treasurer and booking clerk had started work. Quotes for roof insulations and solar panels were being sought. To note that a neighbouring resident had moved their boundary line inwards (into their own garden). It did not affect the hall for now, just to be aware.
- 316 Newsletter.** First draft had been circulated, a few more articles still due.
- 317 Speed Watch:** Have not been out due to adverse weather and lack of volunteers. Adverts now out for new volunteers to come forward.
- 318 Highways Items:** SLR meeting minutes will be circulated.

Items for Discussion

- 319. Climate Emergency.** Two presentations had been circulated by Cllr Griffiths. Rother declared a Climate Emergency in 2019 since which 8 out of 33 parishes have declared an emergency, mostly rural ones. Actions which could be considered,
- Supporting greener travel, such as the flexibus.
 - Consider energy efficiency training.
 - Wildflower planting.
- Cllr Griffiths suggested a working party to consider the details and work on a proposal to bring to council. Cllrs Griffiths, Wey and Duffield to take this forward.

Agenda Items for decisions

- 320 Budget and Precept for 2024-25.** The proposed budget for 2024-25 had been circulated, following discussions with councillors in November about plans for projects in the coming year. The precept calculation had also been circulated.
Council resolved to accept the proposed budget and that the precept required for 2024-25 would be £41,686.
- 321. Revision of 5 year plan.** The five year plan had been updated to reflect the current and planned projects.
Council resolved to approve the five year plan.
- 322. Tree Works.** The tree work quoted had been circulated. Works required had been based on the tree report from November 2023. Two tree surgeons had confirmed that they did not feel that T7 (oak), should be cable braced.
Council resolved to accept the quote from Julian Bone for £800, and not to proceed with any cable bracing for T7, but to continue to monitor the tree for any concerns.

- 323. Hedge Cutting on the Recreation Ground.** The Hedge cutting quotes had been circulated.
Council resolved to accept the quote for £700 plus VAT from Hunnisetts for the yearly hedge cutting.
- 324. Appointment of Representatives to the Village Hall Committee.** Two Councillors can be appointed, as representatives, not full voting trustees. Their responsibilities are restricted to attending Village Hall meetings and reporting back to council.
Council appointed Cllr Mike Duffield as a Village Hall Representative, a second Councillor may be appointed at a later date.
- 325. Telephone Box in Cackle Street.** No interest had been shown following the request in the Parish Newsletter for volunteers to turn the box into a community interest asset such as a bookswap. The box continues to deteriorate and will eventually become a safety risk. Clerk to advertise in next newsletter for those who might be interested in purchasing and moving it but keep it with the parish.
Council resolved to advertise for sale to interested local residents, who would be responsible for getting it moved.
- 326. Double Yellow Lines in Reedswood Road.** Concerns had been raised about the amount of parking, right up to the junction with Udimore Road, causing hazard to those trying to enter or exit Reedswood Road. Requests for double yellow lines need to be sent to Highways by February 2025.
Council deferred this item for more information and consideration of exactly what was needed in the parish, and will then submit to highways.
- 327. Redecoration of Bus Stop.** The bus stop in Udimore Road had been badly defaced with graffiti, which was resisting removal. As the paint is already flaking it was felt that a full rub down and redecoration was required, this time with anti graffiti paint.
Council requested the clerk to obtain quotes for redecoration of the bus stop, to include a full strip of the old paint, minimum of two new layers of paint and a layer of anti graffiti paint.
- Cllr Hampson restated his interest for the next item as treasurer for Trinity Methodist Church and took no part in the discussion and decision. Cllr Griffiths chaired the item.*
- 328. Council Meeting venues for 2024-25.** Council had been alternating venues for its main council meeting each month between Brede Village Hall Committee Room and Trinity Methodist Church Hall.
Council resolved to continue to alternate venues for meetings. (3 in favour, 3 abstentions plus Cllr Hampson did not vote).
- 329. Parish Assembly.** Possible dates for the Parish Assembly and its content were discussed. Preferred venue was the Village Hall, but it is very full with bookings now.
Council requested the clerk to see what dates and times the Village Hall may be available, and to see if Lucie Bolton is free to speak on any of those dates, and bring back to the next meeting.
- 330. Garden and Shield Awards for 2024.** The award categories and possible judging dates were discussed.
Council resolved continue with the award categories as per the previous year, nominations by mid June, judging late June and an awards ceremony date to be decided. Clerk to check if judges were happy to continue.
- 331. Items for noting or for including on future agendas.**
The pots on the Village Green required a new person to look after them Cllr Oliver to make some enquiries.
Broad Oak Sign (when new recommendations ready)
Climate Emergency (set up of working party)
Telephone Box on Cackle Street, (Selling decision)

332. Date of Scheduled next meetings

Planning Meeting 31st January 2024 at 7.30pm in Trinity Methodist Church Hall

Full Council Meeting 27th February 2024 at 7.30pm in Brede Village Hall Committee Room.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed _____

Date _____

Brede Parish Council