



BREDE PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 26th November 2024 at 7:30pm in Brede Village Hall (Committee Room)

Present: Councillors S Hampson (Chair), M Griffiths, M Wey, G Olson, J Allison, M Duffield and D McDonald

In Attendance: The Clerk, Rother District Cllr Neil Gordon and two members of the public.

235 Public Question Time. None

236 Presentation regarding land at Stubb Lane and its possible donation to the Council. A presentation was made about an area of land in the Parish and its future preservation.

237 Apologies for Absence: Cllr M Chamberlain.

238 a) Declaration of Interests: Cllr Hampson for Item 16, Grant Applications
b) Dispensation Requests: None.

239 Minutes of the following meeting were considered.

a. Full Council Meeting 22nd October 2024 205/2024 - 228/2024. Cllr Allison 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.

240 Update on Work in Progress and Clerks report.

The work in progress had been circulated. The Poppies have all been taken down, cleaned and stored for next year. The telephone box move has been delayed, but is still going ahead. This may be just before or after Christmas now.

241 Chair's Report. The Chair reported that there had been a good meeting with Highways the previous day, it was very worthwhile and there seemed to be a good team now working together. A further report would be made under the Highways agenda item.

242 Vice Chair's Report. The Vice Chair reported that he had attended the Rother Parish Assembly.

Budget

The slides from the budget presentation would be circulated by the clerk. There was a big overspend on homelessness, which was a national issue. Planning fees would be doubling. Car parking fee income is down, but there is consideration of increasing fees. They are waiting to hear of the cap on raising Council Tax is changing. The capital budget is to be reduced by £80m over the next few years. Devolution is being investigated.

Planning

The government want to see Britain building. Increase of housing deliver for Rother raised to 800 per annum. (currently delivering just over 200). Use of the AONB as a key reason will not be acceptable. Looking to scrap CiL

Highways will only object to a planning application if it has severe impact. (eg roads need rerouting). Enforcement will only step in if there has been a breach of planning control, and then only if it is in the public interest. The approach to planning is 'How can we make it succeed'.

243 Correspondence.

None which had not been circulated.

244 Reports from the District and County Councillors.

Rother District Cllr Neil Gordon, reported that the new head of planning is now in post. Rother are considering introducing car parking charges in various car parks across the area, including Northiam.

East Sussex County Cllr Carl Maynard, had sent his apologies.

245 Finance

a. Accounts to end of October 2024

b. Payment schedule for November 2024

Council resolved to

a) to approve the accounts to the end of October 2024.

b) to approve the payment schedule for November 2024

Payment Schedule for November 2024

			Net	Vat	Gross
D/D	Tesco Mobile	Clerks Phone	12.85	2.57	£15.42
D/D	Onecom	Village Hall Broadband	42.62	8.52	£51.14
BACS	Mr J Butler	Handman October			£80.00
BACS	Countrymans	Grass cutting cut 5	395.00	79.00	£474.00
BACS	Wealden Ad	Newsletter			£370.00
BACS	Uniserve	Emails for October	46.30	9.26	£55.56
BACS	Viking	Stamps and Stationery	344.72	17.94	£362.66
BACS	Curley Consultants	Tree inspections			£900.00
BACS	Brede Village Hall	Hall Hire			£22.50
BACS	Trinity Methodist church	Hall hire			£20.00
BACS	T Dixon	Expenses (Land Registry and cable ties for poppies)			£14.95
BACS	T Dixon	Wages for November			xxxx
BACS	HMRC	PAYE			£199.22
D/D	NEST	Clerk Pension, to note details only Employers Contribution £171.45			£308.61

Proceedings and reports of committees and working parties.

246 Recreation Ground maintenance and equipment. The play equipment inspection report for November was due.

247 Footpaths. Cllr Olson had no report or updates.

248 Seats, trees, bus shelters, bins and hedges. The bus stops need sweeping out of leaves. Cllr Duffield will try and do this next week.

249 Village Hall: Lots of work going on in the Hall, new fire doors, redecoration of entrance area, entrance drive repaired. The heating has now been regulated and classes have commented that the hall feels warm and inviting. New classes have started, September was very busy. Hiring prices being reviewed.

- 250 Newsletter.** The newsletter has been distributed.
- 251 Speed Watch:** Sussex Police and the fire brigade had attended for a day, but it was a very quiet day and only four cars were registered. They are looking to come again in the future.
- 252 Highways Items:** SLR meeting minutes have been distributed. The clerk has sent the Brede Hill and Kingwood Hill reports to the Highways liaison officer who has asked the steward to take a good look. The reinstatement of verge around the manholes in Udimore Road is being looked into.
- 253 Climate and Ecology Working Group:** Is working on a strategy plan and it should be ready for the January meeting.
- 254 Report from the Recreation Ground Committee.** The Recreation Committee has not met, but the National Lottery grant application has been approved. An application to the Rother Community Grants has now been submitted.

Agenda Items for decisions

- 255 Trees.** The trees have been inspected and the report circulated for 2024. Further checks were requested on two trees, which may show that works are required in the area of the play equipment. The Recreation Ground Committee would like to consider what works should be proceeded with.
Council resolved to pass this item to the Recreation Ground to discuss and make recommendations for full Council to consider.
- 256. Play Equipment Inspections for 2025.** Councillors discussed the inspection schedule, which was currently three quarterly inspections by one company in February, May and November and a separate independent one in August.
Council resolved to accept the quote from Safeplay for three inspections at £77.50 plus VAT per inspection and continue with the independent one from TMPI in August for 2025.
- Cllr Hampson restated his interest in this item as the treasurer for Trinity Church and took no part in the discussion or vote.*
- 257 Applications for grants to maintain the Cemetery for Trinity Church and St Georges Church.** Grant applications have been received from both churches to assist with costs of maintaining the Cemeteries.
Council resolved to approve a grant for £400 for each cemetery.
- 258 Online meeting consultation.** Councillors felt that a collective Council response was important, as well as responding individually if needed.
Council resolved that the Clerk circulate the questionnaire, collate responses and respond on behalf of Council.
- 259 Rother Budget consultation.** Councillors needed time to read through the budget proposals carefully.
Council resolved that the Clerk circulate a summary of the consultation and the questions being asked, collate responses and respond on behalf of Council.
- 260 Annual Parish Meeting for 2025.** The Village Hall has been booked for Wednesday May 7th from 5.30pm to 9pm. Councillors discussed the possible formats and timings. It was felt that a talk from the planning department may be of interest to local residents. Other items should include a general talk on Council work over the past year, and update on the Recreation Ground. Refreshments would be available from 6.30pm and the meeting start at 7pm.
Council resolved to request that the clerk contact planning and arrange for a speaker.

- 261 Double Yellow Lines.** Requests for consideration for new double yellow lines need to be submitted to Highways by 28th February. Councillors felt that Reedswood Road was one area which would benefit from extended lines, and possibly outside the shop.
Council resolved to defer this item to January, to allow everyone time to look around the Parish and make recommendations for consideration.
- 262 New mobile Phone for the clerk.** The clerks current mobile is over five years old and has been struggling to work properly in recent months. It has now ceased to work and the clerk has a temporary mobile to maintain telephone contact. The sim contract is suitable and does not need updating or renewing. The clerks prefers using an iphone to android.
Council resolved to budget up to £500 for a refurbished iphone. The clerk to research and purchase a suitable replacement.
- 263. Items for noting or for including on future agendas.**
 Training Policy
 A precept budget setting meeting is booked for the 9th December.
- 264. Date of Scheduled next meetings**
 Full Council Meeting 28th January 2025 in Trinity Methodist Church Hall.
 Planning meetings will be booked when required.

Cllr Hampson moved that under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

- 265. Staffing.** Cllr Allison circulated a paper reviewing the Staff pay rates and a recommendation.
Council resolved to approve the pay rate as recommended, to be implanted from January 1st. Council also noted the pay award for 2024 as per the NJC pay scales.

The meeting closed 8.57pm

Signed _____

Date _____

Brede Parish Council