

PEASMARSH PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Council meeting held Tuesday 4th April 2023 at 7.30pm at Peasmarsh Memorial Hall.

Present: Councillors: Ray Hollman (Acting Chair) (RH), Mick Coleman (MC), Peter Lamont (PL), Gina Sanderson (GS) and Ben Clinton (BC).

Also present: Clerk and RFO Amy Head (AH), County Councillor Paul Redstone (PR) and District Councillor Lizzie Hacking (LH)

130. Apologies for absence – Councillors David Pankhurst (DP), Hilary Pankhurst (HP) and Robert Barham (RB).

131. Disclosure of interests under the Council's Code of Conduct – GS for 134.2, RH for 135.2 and MC for 136.2.

132. Minutes of the last Council meetings – March 7th 2023 – Unanimously agreed.

There was one member of the public present. The member of the public did not have any questions.

133. District & County Councillor Reports – District Councillor Report – LH reported that she now sits on a new HR committee specifically for discussing the pay review for next year. LH reminded the PC about the need for voter ID at the local elections in May. In more general Rother news, LH reported that Camber Central car park charges have recently been increased to £30 for the Central car park over the summer season. **County Councillor Report** – PR arrived at 8pm following attendance at Beckley's PC meeting. PR supplied a written report which is attached and on the PC's website. PR discussed pot holes and said that he now stands on the pot hole sub-committee and said that there is extra government funding due to help with this issue. PR said that he felt that work on pot holes has slowed down and this may be due, in part, to the Costain contract ending at the end of the month. PR said that he would send out a link for any pot hole damage cost compensation from the Council. However, overall the problem still stems from a lack of budget. **RESOLVED:** In relation to item 135.3, RH asked PR if he could find out the land owner for Malthouse Lane – is it designated as Highways owned or a Green Lane.

134. Housing –

134.1 Tanyard field development – No updates.

134.2 Pippins' development – No updates.

134.3 RDC Local Plan – No updates.

134.4 Neighbourhood Planning for Peasmarsh – GS reported that the consultation period for Regulation 16 ended on Friday 31st March and the PNDP has not been informed of any feedback yet.

135. Community Matters and Issue

135.1 Village traffic and roads

Signed:



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135.1.1 VAS – PL supplied a written report which is attached and on the PC website.

135.1.2 Speed Watch – PL supplied a written report which is attached and on the PC website.

135.1.3 Black Cat speeding device – PL supplied a written report which is attached and on the PC website. PL said that he would be monitoring traffic from the Old Winders from tonight onwards to capture data for the Easter weekend period.

135.2 Recreation Ground/Playspace/Pavilion – RH reported that Bourne Sports had just finished their two-day Easter football training course. A walking group have booked the Pavilion for Wednesday 5th April.

135.3 Waste removal in Malthouse Lane – RH said that a member of the public had reported that the users of the bike ramps in the private woods next to Malthouse Lane had filled two wheely bins with rubbish. This also contains dog waste bags from passing dog walkers. The member of the public wanted the PC to dispose of the waste and install dog bins along the lane. The Clerk explained to the member of the public, that RDC will not empty dog bins that aren't on main roads. Also, as the bins are on private land, they will also not empty the wheely bins. Especially as one of the bins is a brown bin which is designated for paid garden waste only. When PR arrived at 8pm, RH asked him to check if the lane is owned by ESCC or a Green Lane and whether he could find the owner of the woods. The woods are not registered with the Land Registry so the ownership is difficult to find out. PR used a new mapping system to research this and said that he would investigate.

135.4 Bowls Green project – RH explained that he and DP had met with Lee Beckham from RDC to discuss a quote for the landscaping of the old Bowls green to be able to make nine accessible allotment plots with associated paths and raised beds. This initial quote came in at c £14k. The Clerk has organised a meeting with Kibblewhite Gardens for the second quote. A site visit is planned for Friday 28th April. DP has submitted a grant request from N & P in East Sussex for £4,000.00. The Clerk reported that Stephen Jempson applied for a grant for celebrating the Coronation weekend on behalf of the Parish Council from Nisa. The grant has been awarded for £500.00. However, the Clerk asked Nisa whether the grant could be for a longer-term project in celebration of the Coronation, such as a Coronation celebration garden benefitting the whole community (which is what the Bowls Green transformation aims to be). Nisa has agreed to this.

RESOLVED: Clerk to seek a third quote from another local landscaping company. RH to send Clerk details of a Tenterden company that he has used before.

135.5 Change of date for May AGM/first meeting post-election – **RESOLVED:** AGM and first post-election meeting has to be held by 19th May. PC agreed to hold the meeting on Wednesday 17th May from 7pm.

135.6 Coronation celebrations – The PC agreed that there were currently no plans to celebrate as a village due to a lack of volunteers. However, the conversion of the Bowls Green into a Coronation Garden is a longer-term celebration project.

135.7 Parish Assembly – Wednesday 31st May – The PC agreed that the assembly should focus on encouraging the village to vote in the upcoming Referendum for the PDNP and to encourage residents to become Parish Councillors. MC noted that the assembly had not been added to the Memorial Hall calendar. **RESOLVED:** The Clerk to contact DP/HP to add the date to the Memorial Hall calendar.

135.8 Oast Cottage – No updates.

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136. Reports and other items**136.1 Clerk's Report** – Noted.

136.2 Memorial Hall – MC reported that he was attending a meeting tomorrow to discuss the purchase of a battery store (50KW) so that the Hall can continue to be available as an 'emergency hub' for the community. MC said that the Committee was also seeking plumbing quotes for fixing the heating system. It is 14 years old and is starting to be temperamental and the control board has broken. **RESOLVED:** RH to send MC a plumbing contact he has used before. MC also reported that the Hands of Hope monthly Monday lunch club continues to be successful with over sixty diners attending this week. Finally, there is an art exhibition at the Memorial Hall this coming Easter weekend.

136.3 Allotments – The Clerk reported that all allotments are occupied and the majority have paid the annual rent. A couple of allotment holders need chasing for payment. **RESOLVED:** All agreed that as Plot 11 was not left in a good state, the new tenant of Plot 11 could be offered the plot rent-free for the first year as they bring it back to a reasonable state. Clerk to let them know.

136.4 Repairs and Maintenance reports – MC reported that School Lane is due to be closed for two days from 11/04 for drainage work. MC said that the potholes at the junction of School Lane and Tanhouse Lane have still not been fixed- **RESOLVED:** Clerk to send PR the ESCC Highways report case number to chase this work.

136.5 ESCC Highways report – Noted.**136.6 Rights of Way** – No updates.**136.7 Police and PCSO Reports** – Monthly police report – February 2023 – no crimes reported in Peasmarsh.**136.8 Footpaths reports** – No updates.**136.9 Village and environment** – No reports.**137. Financial Matters****137.1 Reports****137.1.1** Monthly statement of receipts and payments – from March 2023 – **approved by PL.****137.1.2** Budget comparison and bank reconciliations – for March 2023 – **approved by PL.****137.2 To approve and ratify payments – all approved. RH and MC to provide the two online authorisers.****137.2.1** Clerk's March pay – monthly standing order: £625.73– comes out on 26th of the previous month.**137.2.2** Clerk's March expenses: £61.75**137.2.3** Recreation Ground booking clerk wage - March: £50.00 – paid by standing order on 26th of the month.**137.2.4** Castle Water – allotment water invoice from 1st Jan 2023 – 30th June 2023: £59.43 – already paid on 13/03/2023.**137.2.5** Memorial Hall grant – first instalment of two annual payments: £2,000.00**137.2.6** ESALC and NALC subscription FY23-24: £356.30**137.2.7** ESCC – additional grass cutting for FY23-24: £983.24

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137.2.8 Bourne Sports Association – Easter football training course – 3-4th April: £350.00 – *with many thanks to Bourne Sports Association for their £85 donation towards the Play space.*

137.2.9 Calendar Cleaning – Rec ground and Pavilion cleaning - March - £TBC

137.2.10 Biffa Waste collection – monthly direct debit – April: £65.57

137.3 Receipts – Noted.

137.3.1 RDC first instalment of yearly precept: £17,500.00 – paid on 03/04/2023.

137.3.2 Allotment plot 3 rent payment - £25.00 online payment.

137.3.3 Allotment plot 7 rent payment - £25.00 online payment.

137.3.4 Allotment plot 9 rent payment - £25.00 online payment.

137.3.5 Allotment plot 6 rent payment - £25.00 cheque payment.

137.3.6 Allotment plot 8 rent payment - £25.00 cheque payment.

137.3.7 Allotment plot 4 rent payment - £75.00 online payment.

138. Correspondence – RH noted BC's recent letter stating that he would not be standing at the next local election in May. RH thanked BC for his time at the Parish Council and HP and MC who also announced at the last meeting that they wouldn't stand at the next election. The Clerk said that DP would like those standing down to attend the May meeting if possible, so that he can give his personal thanks on behalf of the PC.

139. Planning Matters – Noted.

Applications –

[RR/2023/341/P](#) - The Pavilion, Tillingham Lane, Peasmarsh, TN31 6XH – Erection of new Cricket Pavilion to replace existing. **Comment agreed:** *"Peasmarsh Parish Council noted this planning application and agreed it would be good to see cricket return to Peasmarsh".*

[RR/2023/537/P](#) and [RR/2023/538/L](#) - Horse & Cart, School Lane, Peasmarsh, TN31 6UW – Proposed change of use of first floor guest bedroom to owner/manager's accommodation and change of use of ground floor redundant 'take-away' kitchen to single guest bedroom with en-suite facilities. **Comment agreed:** *"Peasmarsh Parish Council support this planning application and the re-opening of this village pub".*

[RR/2023/588/P](#) - Starvecrow Cottage, Starvecrow Lane, Peasmarsh TN31 6XN - Main building alterations to facade materiality and eaves, window and doors replacement and alterations. Alterations to external landscape to improve accessibility and addition of one previously removed parking space. Artist studio amendments to (partially built) previously approved extension. Re-cladding of garage. New brick wall to existing potager. **Comment agreed:** *"Peasmarsh Parish Council note this planning application and has no comment".*

Decisions – None to date.

Appeals – None to date.

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140. Dates of Forthcoming Meetings: AGM and Monthly meeting, 17th May 2023, Memorial Hall, Peasmarsh at 7.30pm.

The meeting finished at 8.35pm.

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