

PEASMARSH PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Council meeting held Wednesday 17th May 2023 at 7.30pm at Peasmarsh Memorial Hall.

Present: Councillors: David Pankhurst (DP) (Chair) Ray Hollman (Vice Chair) (RH), Gina Sanderson (GS), Robert Barham (RB) and Mick Coleman (MC).

Also present: Clerk and RFO Amy Head (AH), County Councillor Paul Redstone (PR) and District Councillor Paul Osborne (PO).

13. **Apologies for absence** – Councillor Peter Lamont (PL)
14. **Disclosure of interests under the Council's Code of Conduct** – GS for 17.2, RH for 18.2, MC for 19.2 and DP for 19.2 and 21 – flower festival.
15. **Minutes of the last Council meetings – April 4th 2023** – Unanimously agreed.
There were no members of the public present.
16. **District & County Councillor Reports – District Councillor Report** – PO reported that there was no real news at the moment as the new post-election council had only just formed and the AGM was not until next week. **County Councillor Report** – PR said that the new Highways contractors – Balfour Beatty – began their new contract on 1st May. It is early days and new procedures are in place but most staff have swapped over to the new contractor. PR discussed potholes and the key distinction between 'patching' and remedial work. PR said that the main issue remains that the roads will never be perfect as there will never be enough money to fix everything. PR said that it was estimated that it would take between £350-450 million to get roads completely up to standard. DP said that the road condition at the crossing next to the junction to the Maltings is deteriorating again. **ACTION:** Clerk to report online and forward PR the case number.
17. **Housing –**
 - 17.1 **Tanyard field development** – No updates.
 - 17.2 **Pippins' development** – No updates.
 - 17.3 **RDC Local Plan** – No updates.
 - 17.4 **Neighbourhood Planning for Peasmarsh** – GS reported that the NDP group has been sent a summary of the representation of comments regarding Regulation 16. GS said that there were no surprises in the comments and the main concerns raised continue to be from Ethical Partnership, Cornerways residents on School Lane, Southern Water and villagers living in the Flackley Ash area. GS reported that the Independent Inspector is due to visit the village/proposed sites on Friday 19th May. GS said that the Inspector can speak to people but she said that any association to the NDP/PCC should be declared. The report from this visit will take around a month and then the NDP group have to decide whether to accept or reject the recommended changes. If the changes are rejected by the NDP group, then the whole plan cannot go ahead. The PC also discussed the possibility of doing a tree survey to check if more trees would qualify for a Tree

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Preservation Order (TPO). **ACTION:** Clerk to look into recommended companies to complete a tree survey.

18. Community Matters and Issue

18.1 Village traffic and roads

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

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

18.1.3 Black Cat speeding device – PL supplied a written report which is attached and on the PC website – noted.

18.1.4 Renewal of Black Cat licenses – The PC agreed to renew the existing licenses. PR to find out the correct contact for this and forward to DP. **ACTION:** Clerk to renew and pay for licenses.

18.1.5 Purchase of three Black Cat mounting plates and six straps – PC all agreed. **ACTION:** Clerk to go ahead and order parts with TagMaster Uk Ltd.

18.2 Recreation Ground/Playspace/Pavilion – RH reported that various checks were going to take place in the next few months – Chubb, RoSPA and W.S. Parsons for electrical tests. Lindy Alton is the bookings clerk now and RH needs to meet with her shortly to discuss the extra tasks she has been taking on such as the cleaning. RH said that the services of Calendar Cleaning would no longer be required now that the football season has ended. Instead, RH would discuss with Lindy whether she would carry out ad hoc cleaning and bin emptying. The Recreation Ground's bank statement for April has now arrived and once this has been reconciled, the accounts can be handed over to the Clerk for managing whilst the Committee is not quorate.

18.3 Waste removal in Malthouse Lane – RH reported that the bins now appear to have been emptied. PR said that he had sent a request to RDC to find out the boundary lines and ownership of the woods where the bike ramps are located. RB said that this had been looked at by him before as he has access to the Land Registry and the land was not registered. PR discussed the importance of finding out the ownership in case of any incidents. **ACTION:** RB to double check with the Land Registry.

18.4 Bowls Green/Coronation Garden project – RH explained that he and DP had met with two companies so far – Lee Beckham from RDC and David Kibblewhite from Kibblewhite Gardens and obtained quotes for the conversion of the bowls green to an accessible garden with raised beds. A third quote is being obtained from Lucas Landscape Maintenance after a visit tomorrow. DP reported that the N+P grant had been awarded for £4,000 but a few more details are required before the grant can be obtained which will be supplied once the contractor is decided. DP said that an RDC Community Grant would be applied for and this required match funding. The Clerk said that Rye Mutual Aid also had a grant scheme for up to £1,000 for community projects which she would look into applying for. RH said that the Recreation Ground Committee's bank balance was around £6,500 so this could also be used. PR said that a friend of his, David Chaplin was keen to start a community garden and he lives in Flackley Ash and has previous experience with charities. DP asked PR to put him in touch with the Clerk so that the PC can meet him and discuss their plans for the Bowls Green.

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- 18.5 Parish Assembly – Wednesday 31st May** – The PC agreed that the key agenda items would be the co-option of residents to make up the three vacancies on the Parish Council. Then a discussion of the development of the Coronation Garden at the old Bowls Green site. Then finally a chance for Mike Inkson to promote the NDP group and urge the village to vote in the Referendum towards the end of this year. **ACTION:** DP/MC to look for a banner to promote this outside the Memorial Hall. Clerk to purchase biscuits/milk for teas and coffees.
- 18.6 Cloud Storage** – DP had purchased a USB memory stick which has a large storage capacity. DP and the Clerk to alternate using the stick and storing information for the Memorial Hall and the PC. If necessary, additional storage devices may also be purchased in the future.
- 18.7 Oast Cottage** – No updates have been received from the developers as to when the new house will be built. The next-door neighbour has reported unsafe conditions and supplied photos of school children playing on the site. **ACTION:** Clerk to contact RDC's enforcement team and determine what can be done to get the site owner to make the site safe and start work on demolishing the derelict house.

19. Reports and other items

- 19.1 Clerk's Report** – Noted.
- 19.2 Memorial Hall** – MC reported that their longstanding treasurer Vagn Hansen had recently retired and at the recent AGM there was a reshuffle of the Committee. The Chair is now MC, Treasurer is DP and the Secretary is Hilary Pankhurst. The Committee is still in the process of getting the air source heat pump fixed ready for winter. Although three quotes have been sought, only two quotes have been obtained as few companies want to fix an existing pump, they would rather install a new one. The toilets ~~have recently been~~ ^{are due to be} redecorated and the flushes' replaced. The Memorial Hall continues to be well used and new yoga classes have started recently.
- 19.3 Allotments** – The Clerk reported that a long-term tenant had recently handed in his notice for plot 6. The next on the waiting list has been contacted and the previous tenant is keen to hand over the plot with the new tenant, to enable them to maintain the plot to a good standard. The Clerk also reported that in the recent internal audit report (due to be discussed at next month's meeting), the auditor recommended a separate risk assessment form for the allotments. **ACTION:** The Clerk has drafted a template for this for consideration by the PC and will circulate. MC to carry out the risk assessments at (to be agreed) regular times in the year.
- 19.4 Repairs and Maintenance reports** – None to date.
- 19.5 ESCC Highways report** – None to date.
- 19.6 Rights of Way** – No updates.
- 19.7 Police and PCSO Reports** – Monthly police report – March 2023 – no crimes reported in Peasmarsh.
- 19.8 Footpaths reports** – No updates.
- 19.9 Village and environment** – **ACTION:** Clerk to report various issues: overgrown hedge by the Pippins boundary and hole in pavement outside Flackley Ash Cottage to ESCC Highways and fly tipping on Mackerel Hill to RDC.

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D. Pankhurst

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20. Financial Matters

20.1 Reports – Unanimously agreed to defer this to the June meeting for PL to report on.

20.1.1 Monthly statement of receipts and payments – from April 2023.

20.1.2 Budget comparison and bank reconciliations – for April 2023.

20.2 To approve and ratify payments – all approved. RH and RB to provide the two online authorisers.

20.2.1 Clerk's April pay – monthly standing order: £625.73– comes out on 26th of the previous month.

20.2.2 Clerk's April expenses: £26.00

20.2.3 Recreation Ground booking clerk wage - April: £50.00 – paid by standing order on 26th of the month.

20.2.4 RDC dog waste bin collection: £514.80 – already paid on 06/04/2023.

20.2.5 Francis Warren – Recreation Ground mowing – Feb-April: £368.00 and Parish Council mowing: £82.50. Total payment: £450.50

20.2.6 Zurich Municipal insurance renewal: £962.67

20.2.7 Sally Sharp – annual internal auditor fee: £70.00

20.2.8 Biffa Waste collection – monthly direct debit – May: £65.57

20.3 Receipts – Noted.

20.3.1 Allotment Plot 10 and 11 (no fee for 11 for the first year as it was taken over in a poor state): £25.00 – paid online.

20.3.2 Allotment Plots 1 and 2: £50.00 – paid online.

20.3.3 NISA/MADL Coronation grant: £500.00 – to be kept to go towards the conversion of the Bowls green to a Coronation Garden/allotment. Paid on 02/05/2023.

20.3.4 HMRC VAT Claim reimbursement for FY22-23: £1,408.79 – received on 05/05/2023.

21. Correspondence – Letter received from Victim Support on 21/04/23 requesting a donation from the PC. **RESOLVED:** Letter retained for July meeting to discuss donations.

Letter received from Deidre Bull, organiser of the St Peter and St Paul Peasmarsh Church Flower Festival (26th – 29th May 2023), requesting a donation towards flowers or to sponsor a display. **The PC agreed unanimously to donate £45 towards flowers.**

22. Planning Matters – Noted.

Applications – None to date.

Decisions – [RR/2023/214/P](#) - 27 Farleys Way, Peasmarsh TN31 6PZ - Conversion of garage and enlargement front parking area. **APPROVED 06/04/2023.**

Appeals – [2817](#) - Partridge Farm, Starvecrow Lane, Peasmarsh TN31 6XN - Change of use of the building and land from holiday let accommodation to permanent dwelling – **APPEAL DISMISSED 27/04/2023.**

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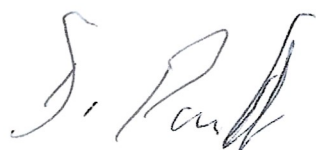
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23. Dates of Forthcoming Meetings: Parish Assembly, 31st May, Memorial Hall, Peasmarsh at 7.30pm and Monthly meeting, 7th June 2023, Memorial Hall, Peasmarsh at 7.30pm.

The meeting finished at 9.05pm.

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