

SLAUGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting MINUTES

Meeting held on Thursday 30th March 2023 7.30pm – The Sports Pavilion, High Street, Handcross



Sally Mclean - Clerk to the Council Email clerk@slaughampc.co.uk Website: <http://www.slaughampc.co.uk>

Press and Public are welcome to attend - **Public attendance at Parish Council meetings** - The Parish Council is an open and transparent local authority and encourages public attendance at meetings. However, the Council is maintaining COVID precautions. You should not attend a meeting in person if: -

- you have coronavirus symptoms: a high temperature, loss or change to sense of smell or taste, a new continuous cough.
- if you have tested positive for COVID-19 or are waiting for a test result.

Keeping us all safe: When you attend the meeting, keep yourself and others safe by following the Government's guidance at all times.

Present: Cllr Julia Elliott, Jane MacNaughton, Lorette Holborn, Eric Prescott, David Dunn, Lesley Read

Others Present: District Councillor Kristy Adams, 5 members of public

1. **Apologies for Absence:** To receive and accept apologies for absence. Cllr Michael Earle, Bob St George, County Cllr Bruce Forbes, District Councillor Gary Marsh
2. **Declaration of interest from members in respect of any items on the agenda:** To record any declarations of interest
3. **Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting held on 2nd March 2023** -To receive and accept the Minutes Cllr David Dunn
4. **Adjournment for questions from the public:** Council to consider adjournment of the meeting in accordance with Council's Standing Orders, to receive questions from members of the public in attendance in respect of items on the agenda

CLT – Ask that the Council confirm that the Committee will not take any decisions around scale, nature or type of affordable housing in relation to the site ahead of a meeting with the CLT on the 20th April. Cllr Prescott advised that the Council have repeatedly advised and documented this within the minutes of their meetings held that they have made no decisions surrounding the disposal of the site. We not going to make any decisions until the report is approved and the site and the evaluation has had a second appraisal. The Clerk advised that any discussions/decisions made surrounding the future of site will be considered at a public meeting. The Council are yet to approve the land disposal report which is on agenda for this evening.

Member of the public raising awareness on the potential opportunities available for a community energy solar farm locally that would benefit of local people. Looking to form a Community Energy Group that could investigate and take forward the possibility of farm in the area and asking for the support of the Parish Council. There was discussion around how it would work and who would benefit and financing a project. There is a similar project happening in Balcombe and West Hoathly. District Cllr Kristy recommended that they pitch the concept ahead of future investment into the planning requirements etc. for a solar farm. Cllr Elliott likes the idea of community energy group that would look into a solar farm but at the same time available to advise residents more generally on energy and those considering installing solar panels.

Members of the meeting proposed that Slaugham Garden Nursery is a south facing site that would offer the opportunity for a solar farm.

5. **Matters from District & County Councillors:** to receive verbal reports from representatives of other authorities
 - 5.1. **Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC):** Press Release/s updates *cc'd in advance*

District Councillor Kristy Adams:

 - The Blue Campaign – Rewilding Britain, and wildering nationwide initiative to help combat this loss by allowing 40 areas in the District to 'rewild'. These special areas are identified by blue heart information signs and blue heart symbols at larger sites.
 - Grants for Disabilities 113 awards
 - CCTV to tackle anti-social behaviour in the Haywards Heath
 - Three leisure centres the Dolphin, Triangle and East Grinstead are having LEDS being installed in all the swimming pools to save energy costs. Solar is being installed at the Triangle.
 - Car Parks are being paid by cards rather than cash and will be completely phased out by the end of April
 - 65 new charging points have been installed
 - Dog Bins - Cllr Adams and Cllr Marsh are challenging the current service with the head of department in the lack of provision provided and the demand for additional bins across the district, that the service is currently challenging and inadequate.
 - 5.2. **West Sussex County Council County Local Committee (WSCC/CLC)** – Press Release/s updates *cc'd in advance*

6. **Committee Reports:** Council to consider the recommendations, receive and note committee and advisory group/updates: To approve meeting and or briefing notes received in advance of the meeting convened:
- 6.1. **Finance & Policy Committee:** - Interim AGAR review to be scheduled for mid/late April.
- 6.2. **Recreation:** The Committee met on the 16th March 2023 Cllr Read advised
- Survey of the allotments/plots had taken place with a view to marking the site more adequately and enable Council to review and adjust the pricing.
 - A preliminary ecological survey on Knapes Field was also completed with a view to the provision of a full report required for the site. The Council will then be able to establish what is there and what they want, and can do with the land.
- 6.3. **Neighbourhood Planning: Land at St Martin Close** - The Neighbourhood Plan indicates that the site is suitable for development between 2017 – 2022 – Update members on current progress with options and lawful requirements of the site pending document review and future meetings:
- 6.3.1. **Prospective of Land Disposal at St Martin Close** – Members are asked to accept the report prepared in the disposal of the land at St Martin Close (East). **APPROVED RESOLVED**
- 6.3.2. **Independent Appraisal** – Members are asked to consider independent appraisal. **APPROVED RESOLVED** – The Clerk to coordinate professional advice as documented and associated fees.
- 6.4. **Planning Committee:** Members to consider updates: To approve meeting minutes of meeting/notes *cc'd in advance* Planning Application Appeal - Nursery Lane, Warninglid retrospective application for six new caravans
The Cisswood House Hotel at Lower Beeding is currently housing refugee families after being procured by the Home Office. The hotel has been shut to the public since January 2022 when it suddenly ceased trading. The hotel is being used as a refuge for asylum seekers and that the families' needs are being assessed.
- 6.4.1. Traffic Calming Project – Sub Committee – The planning team will initiate the project once they have inducted additional numbers post-election.
7. **Chairman's Report:** to receive verbal report for the Chair:
8. **Clerks Report** – to receive verbal or written report from the Clerk papers *cc'd in advance*
- 8.1. To remind members of the elections timetable <https://www.midsussex.gov.uk/elections-voting/upcoming-elections/>
- 8.2. Members to review and approve the Parish Councils Grant Policy **APPROVED**
- 8.3. The Annual Parish Meeting **18th May 2023** Members are asked to consider speakers. The Clerk to approach Nymans as well as a presentation on the opportunities for a community energy group as per item 4
- 8.4. The Annual Meeting of the Council **11th May 2023**
9. **Finance Matters Payments and receipts** The Committee is asked to RESOLVE to approve: Bank Reconciliation for month February 2023 Approval in line with scheme delegation (*Ref: Bank Payment Analysis attached*) **RECOMMENDATION:** The Committee approves the schedule of payments for March 2023 **APPROVED - RESOLVED**

Bank Statement Account Name (s) Statement

Treasurers 01/03/2023	£1,000.00
Business Investment 28/02/2023	£76,767.81
Total at the Bank	£77,767.81

Payments Analysis 030323 -290323

Payments £11,763.15 - VAT £842.20 - Total £10,920.95

10. **Correspondence/Information Items/Publications/Consultations:** (*Correspondence cc'd in advance to members*)
11. **Highways/Footpaths:** to review highways projects/items – Nothing new to report
12. **Police / NHW Report / Resilience Group Reports**
- 12.1. Crime Reports *cc'd* members – Updates issued to members in advance
13. **Any other matters that the Chairman wishes to raise for future discussion:** None
14. **Date of next meeting/s – 27th April 2023**

Signed: _____ Date: _____