

SLAUGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting MINUTES

The Council Members Meeting held on Thursday 25th January 2024 7.30pm
2023 – 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 - The Parish Council is an open and transparent local authority and encourages public attendance at meetings. The Council is maintaining COVID precautions. You should consider staying at home if you have tested positive.

Present: Cllr's Julia Elliott, Phil Morris, David Dunn, Lesley Read, Lorette Holborn, Jane MacNaughton,

Others Present: 2 members of Public.

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** To receive and accept apologies for absence. Cllr's Gary Marsh, Eric Prescott, Carole Steggles, Adrienne Melville
- 2. Declaration of interest from members in respect of any items on the agenda:** To record any declarations of interest. **NONE**
- 3. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting/s held on 14th December 2023** -To receive and accept the Minutes. 6.2 **APPROVED** Proposed Cllr David Dunn, Second Cllr Lorette Holborn **RESOLVED**

- 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.

Neighbourhood Plan - St Martin Close – The Council is currently engaged in discussions with the developers of the adjacent site in relation to the level of planning obligations associated with advancing the sites. We are awaiting their response regarding the next steps. The Committee intends to convene meetings with the various interested parties once we have received more information.

Slaugham Village Green Caution – The Committee to evaluate the possibility of taking over the care of the caution on the village green. The Clerk will prepare a briefing note for members detailing the advantages of exploring the acquisition of the caution, provided the owner of the rectory is open to the idea. This initiative aims to formalise green's ongoing management responsibilities.

- 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. None present*
 - 5.2. West Sussex County Council County Local Committee (WSCC/CLC)** – Press Release/s updates *cc'd in advance: None present*
- 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:** To update members on current activities: To approve meeting/note minutes distributed 27th November 2023 & 15th January 2024.
 - 6.2. Members are asked to consider the following:**
 - 6.2.1.** To review and approve the Income and Expenditure Year Ended 31st March 2024 Proposed Cllr MacNaughton Second Cllr Holborn **APPROVED**
 - 6.2.2.** To review and approve Trial Balance Current Year Cllr MacNaughton Second Cllr Dunn **APPROVED**
 - 6.2.3.** To review and adopt the recommended budget for the financial year 1st April 2024 – 31st March 2025 Proposed Cllr Holborn Second Cllr MacNaughton **APPROVED**
 - 6.2.4.** To review and approve the recommended precept for 2024/25:

The members acknowledge the cost-of-living crisis, their position in maintaining the constancy of current services; alongside delivering future enhancement projects within the villages in conjunction with the future housing/land development an economic growth within the Parish. The Committee recommend that the Council adopt a precept of £139k for the year 2024/25. An increase of £3k from £136000k to £139000k. The tax base of 1860.3 represents an increase of 78.9 from 2023/24 in 2024/25 Proposed Cllr Dunn Second Cllr MacNaughton **APPROVED RESOLVED**

	Tax Base	Precept	Band D	Increase
Current 2023/24	1781.4	£136000	£76.34	
Recommended 2024/25	1860.3	£139000	£74.72	£3000.00

This will present a reduction of approx. £1.62 on a BAND D property.
 - 6.2.5.** Members to approve the demand to Mid Sussex District Council the collecting authority for the 2024/25 Precept. Cllr MacNaughton Second Cllr Holborn **APPROVED RESOLVED**
 - 6.3. Recreation:** To update members on current activities: To approve meeting/note minutes from meetings held:
 - 6.4. Neighbourhood Planning: Land at St Martin Close** - To update members on current activities/status: To approve meeting/note minutes from meetings held: *See item 4*

6.5. **Planning Committee:** Members to consider updates: To approve meeting minutes of meeting/notes *cc'd in advance*.

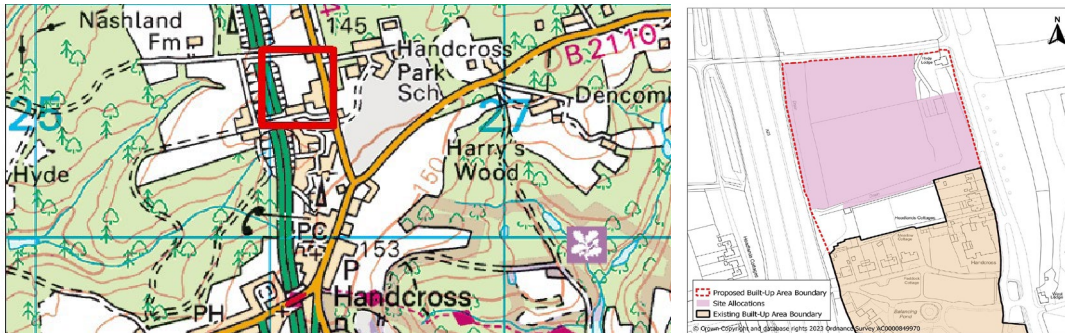
To receive updates on other planning matters:

Mid Sussex District Plan - Regulation 19 Consultation - 12 Jan 2024 at 08:00 to 23 Feb 2024 at 23:59.

<https://midsussex.inconsult.uk/districtplanreg19/>.

Members of Committee to provide an update on the Councils draft response to the District Plan. To include allocation: DPA19 Land at Hyde Lodge, Handcross. **Allocation Older Persons' Accommodation SHELAA: 1106 Settlement: Handcross Gross Site Area (ha) 3.0 Number and type of older persons accommodation** Contribution towards identified need.

This site is being delivered in line with policy DPH4: **Older Persons' Housing and Specialist Accommodation**



Council agree to consider the District Plan consultation at the next convenient planning meeting scheduled for either 8th or the 15th February – This will include the Hemsleys/Finches field masterplan proposal recently received which appears to deviate significantly from the previous plan consulted on.

7. **Chairman's Report:** to receive verbal report for the Chair:

8. **Clerks Report** – to receive verbal or written report from the Clerk:

8.1. **Annual Parish Meeting** – Members to agree a date/speakers for the Annual Parish Meeting. *The Local Government Act states that every parish must hold Parish Meeting between 1st March and 1st June. The meeting will be held 18th April 2024* Cllr MacNaughton to approach the St Catherines Hospice, Woodgate. Members to consider options for a second speaker. Additional speaker Action in Rural Sussex

8.2. Item 6.2 Meeting 25th January 2024 – The coffee mornings at Handcross will not continue due to lack of interest, however they hope resume at MacNaughton Hall in February, new dates will be published on the website and issued to the residents associations.

8.3. The Clerk raised the issues surrounding the need for additional dog bins at the recent Clerk Forum meetings held with the District Council. Please see the following response:

Dog Bins - Dog Bins, additional bins and replacement bins - (Raised by Sally McClean) *In response to a question as to whether the council were looking to increase the number of dog bins, Rob Anderton responded that the issue was not just regarding budget, the council does not have the capacity for the crews to service any more additional bins. MSDC currently services over 400 bins across the district with 2 crews. Any increase would cost an extra £200k to put together a 3rd crew. Officers were currently keeping a record of additional bins requested and where they are required and confirmed that where possible, areas could be tweaked. It was also explained that a decision on whether dog waste should be collected separately was being considered but would not be formally reviewed until the Serco contract renewal was up in 2028.*

9. **Finance Matters:**

9.1. **Payments and receipts** The Committee is asked to RESOLVE to approve: Bank Reconciliation for month December 2023 Approval in line with scheme delegation (*Ref: Bank Payment November part cc'd in advance*) **RECOMMENDATION:** The Committee approves the schedule of payments for December PART 2023 January 2024 previously distributed. APPROVED Proposed Cllr Dunn, Second Cllr St George RESOLVED

Date Paid	Payee Name	Reference	Amount Paid	Authorized Ref	Transaction Detail
27/12/2023	SSE Energy Supply	DD	424.37		Street Lighting Energy
01/01/2024	British Gas	DDR	255.62		Mac Hall Gas
05/01/2024	Adobe Product	DDR	19.97		Adobe IT Product
10/01/2024	Land Registry	DD	9.00		Land Registry
12/01/2024	Foster Landscapes Ltd	BACS	675.66		Playground Inspections x 3
23/01/2024	Direct Technical Services	BACS	919.74		Street Lighting Main Repair
23/01/2024	Netcom IT Solutions	BACS	1,031.04		IT Support Contract
23/01/2024	West Sussex County Council	BACS	6,406.75		Staff Salaries December 23
23/01/2024	Parish Office	BACS	123.50		Parish office
Total Payments			9,865.65		

Bank Statement Account Name (s)	Statement Date	Page No	Balances
Treasurers	29/12/2023	101	1,000.00
Business Investment	29/12/2023	71	108,454.44
Unrepresented Payments (Minus)			Amount
			0.00
Unrepresented Receipts (Plus)			
			0.00
Balance per Cash Book is :-			109,454.44
Difference is :-			0.00

10. Correspondence/Information Items/Publications/Consultations: *(Correspondence cc'd in advance to members)*

11. Highways/Footpaths: to review highways projects/items: To update members of the following:

- 11.1. Preliminary Enquiries TRO Old Brighton Road/Cotsford/Barn Close - Introduction of controlled parking zones, yellow lines etc. TBA
- 11.2. Highway/Green damage land fronting the Heritage, Park Road, Slaugham – TBA

- The PROW over the ouse in Slaugham have now been repaired.
- Highways have confirmed that the cat eyes on Horsham Road, Handcross installed erroneously are to be removed.

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:

The Council is being asked to consider installing additional village gates in Pease Pottage. Cllr MacNaughton will explore potential locations.

14. Date of next meeting/s –

Signed: _____ Date: _____