



SLAUGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting Minutes Thursday 5th December 2019 at 7.30pm in the Sports Pavilion, Recreation Ground, High Street, Handcross

Sally Mclean - Clerk to the Council

Email clerk@slaughampc.co.uk Website: <http://www.slaughampc.co.uk>

Present: Cllr's Julia Elliott, Andrew MacNaughton, Bob St George, Lesley Read, David Dunn, Pete Clark, Nick Dale, Lorette Holborn

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** To receive and accept apologies for absence. Cllr Michael Earle, Eric Prescott, Colin Smith
- 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 7th November 2019:** To receive and accept the Minutes – Sevinstone wording change, to include finance figures. Cllr Clark and Cllr Read
- 4. Open Forum - 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 –

Member of Public - Why have County reduced the gritting of some roads - Cllr Dunn advised that it was driven by budget cuts - Cllr MacNaughton added that the trunk roads will be covered as will the High Street, but some other minor roads will not be included. This was announced today and no further detail was available as to which roads were to be excluded. Cllr Clark added that the Parish's grit bins have been filled and should be sufficient however, should there be adverse weather Council will invoke their winter plan and top this up should they need it.

Member of the Public – Are the Council are aware of the appalling comments made on social media with regard to the Preschool being given notice from the Pavilion in Handcross? - Can you advise why notice was given?, not that they have issue with that as they dominated the venue, but would like to better understand - Cllr Clark advised that dialogue with regards to the use of the Pavilion by the Preschool and their future plans and aspirations in line with the growth of the Parish have been in place for some time. However, in January 2019 the Parish Council applied for developer monies from the District Council to refurbish the facility and as part of applications for the monies the District has to be satisfied that the grant is in the interests of, or will directly benefit, the area or its inhabitants so that they can benefit from an improved or increased range of services and activities. Council were also advised, that should the preschool remain on site a change of use for the building would be required, which would contravene Councils regulations.

This was discussed with the Preschool at which time they were asked to expediate their plans to find a new facility. Council agreed to support and work with them and their local connections to find them a more appropriate and dedicated facility that would better service their needs, it was during those discussions that a request was made by the Preschool that formal notice be served.

Cllr Elliott added, that it is fair to say that it is not just the length of time that the preschool spend in the building requests were made for modifications to further facilitate their needs, so that they could leave their things out permanently, that meant even when they are not here it made it very difficult to rent the facility out. Allowing more changes will also predispose Council to additional requirements that they as a local authority and the building are not governed by.

Council are very disappointed with regard to the recent activity that has taken place on social media with tags, and references made which were directed to members of this Council. There was much misinformation shared with no understanding of the history, or previous discussions that had taken place, in addition to the fact that the preschool themselves could have offset some of those inflammatory comments and acknowledged that they have been looking for their own facility for some time.

- 5. Matters from District & County Councillors:** to receive verbal reports from representatives of other authorities
 - 5.1. Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC):**
Meetings are currently curtailed at District due to the elections and purdah; Cllr MacNaughton will take questions and response where he can.
 - 5.2. West Sussex County Council County Local Committee (WSCC/CLC) None Present**

6. Committee Reports: to receive and note committee and advisory group updates

The Committee Chairmen will provide an update, Council to consider the RECOMMENDATIONS:

6.1. Finance & Policy:

6.1.1. Budget The Finance & Policy Committee considered the Budget 2019/20 (*Meeting 28th October 2019*), and agreed to RECOMMEND to Council to approve the Budget and set the Precept. (*papers cc'd in advance previously*).
Council are waiting on the tax base from MSDC which to date has not been published – DEFERRED 23rd January 2019

6.1.2. Handcross Enhancement Projects – Update on the initiation of future village centre enhancement projects proposed

- 6.1.2.1. Street Lighting – Ornamental displays / Hanging Baskets
Covert Mead Replacement Columns Quote £8500k to be incorporated into the LCI developer monies
- 6.1.2.2. Refurbishment of the Public Toilets – The Clerk is gathering quotes
- 6.1.2.3. Recreation Ground CCTV – The Clerk is gathering quotes
- 6.1.2.4. Parking / Planters Nymans Bus Stop – Cllr Read has received licence and will be looking at quotes for planters - Email received from Hairdressers re damage to cars parked on the bridge, Cllr Read coordinating a meeting. Parking on the Bridge is also becoming a concern, blocking the pavements. The Clerk advised that County had looked at the areas and responded with the following update:
These locations experience different and complex trends that on their own would not be seriously considered for a Community TRO. There is sense in addressing these as a collective, however even with this ethos we conclude that this would be best tackled via a Community Highway Scheme particularly with regards to potential layby and new footway provision.

1/ Enqs: 33753 & 2470316 Bridge / Footway parking has been reported claims the Hairdresser business staff and customers contribute to this trend. This parking had been pushed out of the Pub car park after Pub proprietor experienced abuse of his/her car park. Upon my own observations the Church activities also create similar parking trends at the other end. Bollards as a solution would help prevent footway parking but would not stop parking on the bridge, also due to the bridge deck a bespoke bollard may be require with shallow foundations to enable this being an option worth exploring. This will potentially create a displacement impact.

2/ Enqs: 2433706 & 433649 Nymans overspill parking during peak season. I am aware Nymans were seriously looking at introducing an additional 100 plus car park spaces within their own grounds, which in my view would dramatically help the seasonal demands, however local residents still describe issues which I have not seen evidence of. This would create seasonal / event displacement.

3/ Enq: 2432457 Local business Hardabin Consultancy Ltd, has an existing DYL that covers half of their private vehicle access and an APL protecting the other half, the request is asking the extension of the DYL to fully protect their access to avoid obstruction. This would have minimal to no displacement issues.

4/ Enq: 326513 Private access adjacent to Picnic Sandwich shop located opposite the Hardware Store, enquirer wishes to extend DYL from existing junction removing approximately 1 car space capacity.

Trends 3 and 4 are simple cosmetic solutions that on their own fall short of meeting the Community TRO criteria, however associated with other locations would be their best hope. Trend 2 is complex in that locals are requesting a 24/7 solution for a seasonal event trend, need more evidence to establish severity of problem. Like trend 2, bridge / footway parking are more complex situations to rely on a TRO alone to solve, hence our recommendation for a Community Highway Scheme, which could include laybys and/or footways where verges permit the adequate space.

Cllr Elliott suggested guide lines on the pavement to indicate sensible/appropriate parking, the planters will stop parking by the bus stop. Cllr Read to raise with Highways officer.

6.2. Recreation:

6.2.1. To update members on Playground Works

- 6.2.1.1. Slaugham Playground – The Clerk advised the following:
DP/19/0060 Slaugham Manor - Planning permission granted under reference DM/16/2531 for a hybrid planning application that seeks full planning permission for the conversion of Slaugham Manor into 9 flats and outline consent for the demolition of a number of associated outbuildings at the site and their replacement with 15 houses. A subsequent reserved matters application was approved under reference DM/18/1499.

Below are the play space contributions due from this development

- Kickabout £6,105.00 Kickabout provision at Handcross Rec - Payment prior to the Occupation of the first Dwelling
- Play space £21,543.00 - Play equipment at Handcross Rec (£11,543.00) and on the upgrade of play equipment at The Street playground (£10,000.00)

The Parish Council questioned the usage of the playground along with its accessibility to the wider Parish. Cllr MacNaughton asked how long was the lease, the Clerk advised 25 years granted in 2004 with 9 years remaining. The Clerk was instructed to draft a letter to the Society with a view to discussing

the use, lease and future of the playground.

6.2.2. Handcross Sports Pavilion-

Snagging - plug socket in the main hall. Additional drainage works required outside the changing are, the Clerk is obtaining quotes.

The contract for the building was £141k with changes/alterations to the layout made to inc changing area final costs £169k, with the total budget set at £225 to inc the playground works of £46k. Totalling £215k to complete the refurbishment at the Pavilion and new Playground at Handcross. Additional works fencing to be recouped through enhancements monies, along with fencing at the Playground, the new drainage to be engrossed.

Cllr Read and MOP raised the possibilities of a bench on the recreation ground. Cllr Read to raise with the Handcross RA who have some funds set aside.

To update members on the Preschool future use of the Handcross Sports Pavilion – Cllr Clark discussed the relocation of the Preschool into the Primary School with the Chair of Governors who will be taking it to his committee next week. Cllr St George advised that this would be good news and was the vision for the Preschool some 4 years ago.

6.2.3. Pease Pottage Community Centre

6.2.3.1. Snagging Meeting – The contractors are on site currently working through the snagging list and further works required to the changing rooms cc'd in advance– the Clerk has ordered the boot brush stands for both buildings
The Clerk advised Council have received a rates bill for just under £4k from MSDC, she investigated as to why the Council is not exempt to date she has not received a response, however, it would appear that the PC are not allowed more than one discretionary rate relief, Cllr MacNaughton to investigate further.

6.2.3.2. Committee/s Structure – Chair of Recreation Cllr Clark to update from meeting held 26th November on the proposed Management Structure PPCC and HXCC –
They will be a joint management committee for both facilities. We are looking at a booking system for both sites. Cllr MacNaughton suggested a meeting to look at the income and expenditure for the building specifically the PP building. Cllr Clark to organise that meeting and information required to take forward, especially in light of the recent dispensation that hasn't been applied. The Clerk will coordinate the reports required from the booking secretary and treasurer.

6.3. Neighbourhood Planning:

6.3.1. Site Allocations Development Plan Document Consultation – The Committee has made representation on behalf of Council cc'd in advance.

6.3.2. Meeting scheduled for the 12th December to review the plan and triggers as set out in the Examiner's Report – Committee agreed to postpone the meeting until the new year due to elections and shortage of venues.

6.4. **Planning Committee:** Nothing new to report re planning. The Committee structure will change in the new year Cllr Dunn is standing down as Chair and Cllr Prescott is taking over

7. Chairman's Report: to review Chairman's updates

7.1. Land Matters – Common Land Coos Lane - Cllr Eric Prescott and Cllr Pete Clark – Cllrs met on site with the adjacent land owner who admitted that the some materials tipped there from their contractors. Other materials have been there sometime and would be difficult to prove who is responsible. Recommendation to now formalise the boundary realign the fencing, with access to the paddock approved Council can appoint the land surveyor to survey the site. The Clerk was instructed to appoint the surveyor - *Quote previously distributed.*

8. Clerks Report – Committee Reports Item 6

8.1. SPC's Quarterly Magazine – Council to update on publication – Cllr Earle and the Clerk deferred for discussion January 2020

8.2. Standing Orders Review - Members are asked to resolve to accept amendments to the standing orders – the Clerk is waiting on updates from SALC before issuing.

9. **Finance Matters Payments and receipts June 2019** The Committee is asked to RESOLVE to approve: Payments for month (November 2019 £21850.80 VAT £2229.19 Total Payments £19623.41) Final Payment for the Contract Handcross Pavilion Refurbishment £107,286.60 inc VAT (*Ref: Bank Reconciliation 1019 1119 - Payment Analysis 1119 Attached*) RECOMMENDATION: The Committee approves the schedule of payments for November 019 – APPROVED

10. Correspondence/Information Items/Publications/Consultations: cc'd in advance to members - NOTED

11. Highways/Footpaths: to review highways projects/items

11.1. Parish Traffic Calming Project – To report on progress

An update from the Highways - *Contractor now has permission to undertake the works at Handcross, Truckers Hatch beginning from 20th January to 14th February 2020. We currently expect the rest of the works to be undertaken in stages between January to April 2020, subject to Street works approvals which are being affected by other works on the Highway network, and as soon as I have a more programme information, I will update you further.*

11.2. Parking in Handcross – Cllr Clark met with The Manager of Nymans with regards a pilot parking scheme at Chodds Farm, The Clerk and the Chairman are meeting with Nymans on the 11th December to discuss the pilot and what would be involved and how this can be progressed jointly. We will also be discussing speeding on Staplefield Road specifically at the crossing point used by the trust from land on the opposite of the road.

12. Police / NHW Report / Resilience Group Reports

12.1. Crime Reports cc'd members – cc'd to members in advance

12.2. EPLG Meetings/Updates – Nothing new to add

13. Any other matters that the Chairman wishes to raise for future discussion:

Cllr Prescott raised the footbridge at Slaugham Pond needed repair the Clerk to review the boundary map and advise.

Date of next meeting/s – 23rd January 2020

Signed: _____ Date: _____