

SLAUGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting MINUTES

Meeting held on the Thursday 27th January 2022 at 7.30pm – Handcross 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.
- if you have been instructed by the NHS to self-isolate.
- you have recently returned from travel abroad and should be either self-isolating or quarantining.

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

- wearing a face covering, unless exempt, until seated.
- maintaining some distance from others.
- using the hand sanitiser provided upon entrance to and exit from the meeting room.



Present: Cllr's Julia Elliott, Eric Prescott, Lorette Holborn, David Dunn, Jane MacNaughton, Colin Smith

- 1. Apologies for Absence:** To receive and accept apologies for absence Cllrs Michael Earle, Lesley Read & Bob St George
- 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 held on 25th November 2021:** To receive and accept the Minutes Cllr David Dunn & Cllr Jane MacNaughton – APPROVED
- 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.
Please note all COVID guidelines must be adhered to: NONE
- 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 COVID updates cc'd in advance

Site Allocation Development Plan Documents - Following hearing sessions held in June 2021 and the completion of Action Points, the Inspector has provided suggested modifications to the Council's Site Allocations Development Plan Document (Sites DPD), which were subject to consultation from November 2021 to January 2022. At this stage the Inspector has **only** issued the Main Modifications and **not** a Report setting out his conclusions.

The Council received almost 300 responses to the consultation. The responses have been collated and made available to view on the [Sites DPD examination page](#). The responses have also been sent to the Inspector to inform his final report. Should the Inspector conclude that the Sites DPD meets legal and soundness requirements, it will be considered by the Council for adoption in Spring 2022.

Mid Sussex District Plan - The Scrutiny Committee for Housing, Planning & Economic Growth, at its meeting on 19th January, agreed to pause consideration of the draft District Plan review.

The Council is mandated by national policy and by the Planning Inspector who examined the current District Plan to undertake a five year review which is now due. The results of this review have now been published so the community can understand the scale of the challenge we face in Mid Sussex.

It is now sensible to press the pause button given the significant issues which impact the Council's planning. Cllr Johnathan Ash Edwards is writing to the Secretary of State, Michael Gove, calling for the housing targets to be reset to a level more consistent with our environmental and infrastructure constraints. The Levelling Up White Paper will be published shortly, and MSDC hope the Government uses this as an opportunity to review the housing numbers currently set for parts of the South East. An updated timetable for the preparation of the Plan review will be published in due course.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Relevant paragraphs for AONBs

Paragraphs 176 and 177 of the NPPF specifically relate to National Parks and AONBs.

Paragraph 176: Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which have the highest status of protection in relation to these issues. The conservation and enhancement of wildlife and cultural heritage are also important considerations in these areas, and should be given great weight in National Parks and the Broads. The scale and extent of development within all these designated areas should be limited, while development within their setting should be sensitively located and designed to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the designated areas.

Paragraph 177: When considering applications for development within National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, permission should be refused for major development⁶⁰ other than in exceptional circumstances, and where it can be demonstrated that the development is in the public interest. Consideration of such applications should include an assessment of:

- a) the need for the development, including in terms of any national considerations, and the impact of permitting it, or refusing it, upon the local economy;
- b) the cost of, and scope for, developing outside the designated area, or meeting the need for it in some other way; and
- c) any detrimental effect on the environment, the landscape and recreational opportunities, and the extent to which that could be moderated.

The footnote (⁶⁰) to this paragraph advises that whether a proposal is major development is matter for the relevant decision taker, taking into account its nature, scale and setting and whether it could have a significant adverse impact on the conservation or enhancement of the AONB.

More information can be found <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework/15-conserving-and->

- 5.2. **West Sussex County Council County Local Committee (WSCC/CLC)** – Press Release/s COVID updates *cc'd in advance*
Mid Sussex County Local Forum replaces the CLC's. The next one is planned for the 10th March:

www.facebook.com/midsussextalkwithus

Cllr Forbes and Highways Officer Richard Speller wrote to the school for update on the parking and traffic and do have a date to meet with them.

6. **Committee Reports:** To receive and note committee and advisory group updates: To ratify all decisions made at the following informal meetings held online under scheme delegation, and approve the minutes issued *cc'd in advance*
The Committee Chairmen will provide an update, Council to consider the RECOMMENDATIONS:
- 6.1. **Finance & Policy** The Committee met on the 20th January & 26th January Minutes/Briefing Notes *cc'd in advance*
Proposed Cllr David Dunn & Cllr Lorette Holborn
- 6.1.1. To review and approve the Income and Expenditure Year Ended 31st March 2021 **APPROVED**
- 6.1.2. To review and approve Trial Balance Current Year **APPROVED**
- 6.1.3. To review and approve the proposed Budget for 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023 **APPROVED**
- 6.1.4. To approve Precept 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023 Increase of £10k £113K to £123k which represents a decrease by 11p Band D £76.27 - £76.16 see below: **APPROVED**

Actual Amount to be billed 2021/22						
Year	Total Precept	Council Tax Base	Annual @ Band A	Annual @ Band B	Annual @ Band C	Annual @ Band D
2021/22	£113,000	1481.5	£50.85	£59.32	£67.80	£76.27
Current	2021 / 22	2022 / 23				
Tax Base 2022/23	1,481.50	1,615.00				
Actual Amount to be billed 2022 23						
Year	Total Precept	Council Tax Base	Annual @ Band A	Annual @ Band B	Annual @ Band C	Annual @ Band D
2022/23	£123,000	1615	£50.77	£59.24	£67.70	£76.16

- 6.1.5. Appointment of Internal Auditor 2021/22: The Council is asked to review the requirement for the appointment of Internal Auditor (*Internal auditor schedule cc'd in advance*) Proposed Cllr David Dunn & Second Cllr Eric Prescott **APPROVED**
- 6.1.6. To consider the Income and Expenditure Report/s and Financial Monitoring **RECOMMEND** Proposed Cllr David Dunn & Second Cllr Eric Prescott **APPROVED**
- 6.2. **Recreation:** The Committee met on the 5th October: The Committee to provide updates and/or recommend the following works:
- 6.2.1. Security gate improvements Handcross Recreation Ground – No current advancement awaiting on quotes – This will come back to the Council for approval
- 6.2.2. The replacement of Pease Pottage Bus Stop – Funding approved and the quote has been accepted with the supplier. The installation date is currently May but might come forward.
- 6.2.3. Benches / Planters Handcross and Pease Pottage – To receive update on order/installation – the Clerk to look at placing the order.
- 6.3. **Neighbourhood Planning:**
- 6.3.1. Land at St Martin Close - The Neighbourhood Plan indicates that the site is suitable for development between 2017 – 2022 – To update Council on meetings held the options and considerations, site updates and next steps
As previously advised the site has a complicated and complex history that is currently being worked through. In addition to this the East and West site have agreements that overlap each and in order to maximise value, delivery commitments etc for both sites the Council are working with the adjacent site to resolve these nuances with the assistance of our appointed agent and solicitor.
- 6.3.2. **Planning – DM/21/3959** | Change of use and conversion of estate buildings from Residential to D2 (Assembly and leisure) and A3 (Restaurants and cafes). Lydhurst Estate Warninglid Lane Warninglid Haywards Heath West Sussex RH17 5TG
It is the Committees view that the “change of use” from residential to assembly and leisure to include a restaurant with 80 covers alongside a cookery school, wellness centre and treatment area; yoga studio gym, craft centre, children's area, offices, staff facilities and additional guest accommodation is a significant leap from the current use will have detrimental transport impacts on a designated Conservation Area. The current and what appears to be the continual access to the estate will be via The Street which is entrenched with 16th century buildings that has significant architectural and historic interest. It is with regret that the Council cannot support the application in its current form and asked that the LPA with Highways look at the access and the implications on the village. The Council recognising that whilst progress can be a force for good, it must not be to the detriment of the village, its residents, and the surrounding area.

- 6.4. **Planning Committee:** Members to consider updates
7. **Chairman's Report:** to receive verbal report from the Chairman
8. **Clerks Report** – to receive Clerk *updates/reports*
9. **Finance Matters Payments and receipts** The Committee is asked to RESOLVE to approve: Bank Reconciliation for month November & December 2021- Approval in line with scheme delegation (*Ref: papers attached*)
APPROVED

RECOMMENDATION Approve The Committee approves the schedule of payments for December 2021 & January 2022 **APPROVED** Proposed Cllr David Dunn & Cllr Lorette Holborn

Total Payments:

December 2021 Total Payments £8,044.85 VAT £583.84 Net Expenditure £7,461.01

January 2022 Total Payments: £6,973.68 VAT 418.59 Net Expenditure £6,555.09

10. **Correspondence/Information Items/Publications/Consultations:** (*Correspondence cc'd in advance to members*)
- 10.1. Nymans are hosting an evening event called Ignite. Ignite will run from 11 February until 6 March. Ignite will be run by leading events promoter Raymond Gubbay Limited (RGL), a division of Sony Music, and Nymans will be one of three National Trust hosts.
- 10.2. PCI-22 I OFCOM REVIEW OF POSTAL REGULATION - The Office of Communications (OFCOM) has recently launched a consultation into its review of postal service regulation from 2022-2027. The aim of the review is to support the financial sustainability and efficiency of the universal postal service, promote competition and improve protection for consumers. The main consultation document can be downloaded [here](#).
- 10.3. District Plan (DP) Review and Update 11th January 2022
- 10.4. MSDC to investigate options to provide modern, fit for purpose Community Facilities on Clair Hall Site - 20th December 2021
11. **Highways/Footpaths:** to review highways projects/items
- 11.1. Traffic SID/VAS Management Project – Sub committee to manage the VAS's / SIDs update
12. **Police / NHW Report / Resilience Group Reports**
- 12.1. Crime Reports cc'd members – Updates issued to members in advance
- 12.2. EPLG Meetings/Updates – Updates issued to members in advance
- 12.3. Parish Winter Emergency Resilience Plan Review – Members to consider draft plan (*cc'd in advance*) Proposed Cllr Prescott, Second Jane MacNaughton ADOPTED
13. **Any other matters that the Chairman wishes to raise for future discussion:**
- Bench outside St Mary's Church on the Green, Slaughtam needs replacing.
- Crash barrier - Cllr Smith is getting nowhere with Highways. WSCC would be a good place to raise this as an issue Cllr Smith to forward his correspondence to Cllr Bruce Forbes for assistance.

Meeting Closed at 21.04pm

Date of next meeting/s – 24th February 2022

Signed: _____ Date: _____