

CATSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 1st March 2017 in Hermon Cottage

Present: Cllr. John Overall (Chairman) Cllr. Martin Holgate 3 Members of the public Cllr. Chris Thomas Mrs Carol Hodgson (Clerk/RFO) Cllr. David Scott County Cllr. Kathryn Field		Apologies: Cllr. Julian Goodliffe District Cllr. Gary Curtis
Item	Agenda Item	
1.	To receive apologies for absence. Cllr. Julian Goodliffe and District Cllr. Gary Curtis.	
2.	To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 8th February 2017 RESOLVED: That the Chair of the meeting is authorised to sign the Minutes for 8th February 2017	
3.	To receive declarations of interest on agenda items. Cllr. Scott declared a personal interest in item 19.1.b as beneficiary of the payment.	
4.	To receive any external reports. County Cllr. Kathryn Field reported that County Council had agreed to increase Council Tax by 2% + 3% for Adult Social Care precept. A new National Funding formula for schools is being introduced. The DfE had launched stage 2 of the consultation. ESCC is hoping it will mean an increase to their overall Education budget but are concerned that the planned reduction to lump sum funding will affect small schools. The Community Match Funding pot was also being increased for 2017/18. Parish Council's funding application had gone to a closed meeting at County Council on 20 th February. Cllr. Field would try to attend the Leader meeting in March / April when the final decision would be made. The recent initiative proposed by Costain to plant bulbs and wildflower was a part of a community gesture and would not affect central funds.	
5.	Matters arising a. To receive any applications for the casual vacancies on Parish Council. A further enquiry had been received and details had been sent to the interested candidate. b. To consider a request from the Catsfield Good Neighbour Scheme to support and match fund a grant application to the Rother DC Community Grants Scheme. The Chairman closed the meeting to allow Members of the public to speak. Mrs. Tottman gave an overview of the nationally recognised Good Neighbour Scheme which is a community based service that offers services to local people that assist them at a time of need. This could include transport, lifts, befriending, visiting, shopping or other errands, household tasks, gardening, form filling and letter writing. The Catsfield Good Neighbour Scheme was currently being set-up by herself and 3 other Committee members from the village. The start-up costs for insurance, VBS checks, mobile phone and general administration amounted to £500. Rother Voluntary Action had advised applying to the Rother Community Grant fund for financial support. The application would require support and match funding from the Parish Council. Mrs. Tottman asked if Parish Council would consider donating £200. The Chairman reconvened the meeting and Members considered the proposal. RESOLVED: To grant a one-off donation of £200 subject to receiving a copy of the groups Constitution and an annual update of the scheme. c. To receive an update on adopting the BT Kiosk on The Green – opposite the Village Shop. An email had been received from BT advising that following the consultation with Rother District Council they had objected to the removal of this kiosk. This meant that the Kiosk was no longer available for adoption. Cllr. Field agreed to contact Rother DC regarding their response. d. To receive information on East Sussex Highways proposal to 'Plant bulbs and Wildflowers' amongst communities in East Sussex. Cllr. Field advised that the new contractors Costain had a 'Social Value' pot set aside for this type of initiative, separate from the main Highways funding. Councillors were concerned that the project would result in even less cutting and maintenance of local verges. RESOLVED: Parish Council would not be taking-up the offer from East Sussex Highways to Plant bulbs and wildflowers along the verges.	
6.	Planning	
6.1	To consider response to planning applications. As at 23 rd February 2017 there were no new planning applications.	
6.2	To receive advice of decisions on previous applications. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RR/2016/3073/P - Birch Cottage, Marlpipts Lane, Catsfield TN33 9LE Proposed roof infill and flat roofed dormer windows. 	

6.3	<p>Outcome: APPROVED CONDITIONAL as per decision notice 17-Jan-17 Noted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RR/2016/160/P - Covertside, Powdermill Lane, Catsfield TN33 0SZ Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of new two storey detached 4 bedroom house and double garage. Temporary caravan for the duration of the construction works. Outcome: APPROVED CONDITIONAL as per decision notice 06-Feb-17 Noted. <p>To receive advice on current enforcement orders. ENF/11/17/ASH – Burnt Barns Farm, Freckley Hollow, Ashburnham Breach of condition relating to condition 3 of RR/2013/829/P Current Status: Information requested.</p>	
7.	<p>Local Action Plan</p> <p>a. To receive an update on the Catsfield ‘Local Action Plan’ (Re: The Catsfield Parish Survey). There were no further updates to report.</p>	
8.	<p>Newsletter</p> <p>a. To receive any updates. The Clerk apologised that the Newsletter had not been distributed to all the Village. Due to time constraints and deadlines on the DaSA the delivery was focused around the central village in areas where the proposed sites for housing development would have the most impact. Rother DC will be holding a further consultation and residents will have an opportunity to comment on the 'Submission Version' of the plan, which is planned for autumn 2017.</p>	
9.	<p>Emergency Plan</p> <p>a. To receive any further updates. RESOLVED: To remove the item from the agenda until further information is available.</p>	JG
10.	<p>Highway Matters</p> <p>a. Church Road: To receive any updates on the traffic calming project outside Catsfield School. Cllr. Scott reported that he was waiting to hear the outcome of Parish Council’s application to the ESCC Community Match Fund.</p> <p>b. The Green: To receive any updates on traffic calming measures for the zebra crossing area. Cllr. Scott reported that several traffic problem areas were being identified through the Village by various sources and it would be of benefit to pool all the information and coordinate a meeting with ESCC Highways. RESOLVED: To contact the local Highway Steward and arrange a meeting with Highways. Regarding the land behind the White Hart, to contact Ben Lenton - Senior Highway Engineer at ESCC - to discuss the practical access to the site should it be developed and the positioning of the current Zebra Crossing.</p> <p>c. The Stream: To receive any updates on improving the road signage. A further update had been received from a Catsfield Stream resident that ESCC had accepted their Contractors estimate for the improvements on the B2204 which included cleaning the existing signs including the signs and bollards on the two traffic islands and some additional 40mph repeater signs and roundels on the road to help remind the drivers of the speed limit. They would also be refreshing the ‘SLOW’ markings on the bends in the road and will be introducing a 7.5m long 40mph roundel for north eastbound drivers at the beginning of the speed limit. They would also be cleaning the chevrons and verge marker posts on the bend in the road near Highrise Cottage and cutting back the vegetation that is obscuring the signs. The B2204 was currently ranked 12th in priority based on the ‘killed and serious injury’ crash rate and is likely to be investigated more carefully to agree the most appropriate measures for the route along with other A and B roads in the County that had been identified to be of higher priority. Once ESCC has identified the most appropriate safety improvements for all the higher priority routes they will be able to decide if there is sufficient funding available for any further improvements on the B2204 in the 2017/2018 financial year.</p> <p>d. To receive any other reports. There were no further reports received.</p>	DS DS DS
11.	<p>Community Speed Watch</p> <p>a. To consider a request to purchase a Headcam and accessories to assist with reporting reckless driving to Operation Crackdown. Jan Jung - Senior Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator at Battle Police advised. ‘Photos or videos that identify drivers or passengers for SPEEDING purposes is not allowed. However, dashcam footage is allowed, even encouraged to identify dangerous driving. The reasons being</p>	

	<p>a) photos/videos for speeding purpose cannot be verified as an aide only to remember registration number/colour, make, etc. and not retained afterwards.</p> <p>b) dashcam footage submitted to Operation Crackdown is overwhelmingly shots of the rear of offending vehicles. In conclusion, he could not really advise except that they are not allowed to be used for Speedwatch purposes.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To approve a budget of £200 to purchase a headcam and accessories to assist with reporting reckless driving to Operation Crackdown, but not for use with speed monitoring.</p> <p>b. To receive any reports. There were no further reports received.</p>	
12.	<p>Playing Field and Pavilion</p> <p>a. To receive an update on providing seating and a handrail rail outside the Pavilion. The seating had been ordered. Cllr. Scott would reconfirm the details of the handrail.</p> <p>b. To receive an update on the proposal for a sheltered seating area by the Children’s Play Area. Cllr. Scott reported that he was waiting the outcome of the planning application.</p> <p>c. To receive an update on proposed storage facilities at the Recreation Ground for the Catsfield Triangle Committee. Cllr. Scott reported that he was waiting the outcome of the planning application</p> <p>d. To consider a hiring request from a local Youth Sports Club. RESOLVED: To invite representatives from the Youth Sports Club and Catsfield Football Club to a meeting with Parish Council to discuss the proposals.</p> <p>e. To receive any other reports. There were no further reports received.</p>	<p>JG/DS</p> <p>JG/DS</p> <p>DS</p>
13.	<p>Playground Sub-Committee</p> <p>a. To receive the latest Recreation Ground Inspection. Cllr. Thomas reported that the roundabout was still being affected by the winter and not running as smoothly as it should. All the play equipment was in good working order. Parish Council had mentioned the mud on the pavilion steps to the football clubs and this had noticeably improved. Councillors had collected around 2.5 bags of rubbish during their inspection. It was noted that a lot of mole hills had appeared. RESOLVED: To obtain advice and a quote from a ‘Mole Catcher’.</p>	MH,CT
14.	<p>Hedgerows and verges</p> <p>a. To receive any reports Cllr. Thomas had no issues to report.</p>	CT
15.	<p>Open Spaces</p> <p>a. To receive any reports. There were no reports received.</p>	DS
16.	<p>History Centre</p> <p>a. To receive any reports. Cllr. Overall reported that the History Group were continuing with preparations for their Exhibition.</p>	JO
17.	<p>Village Hall Car Park</p> <p>a. To receive an update on the external lighting requirements in the Village Hall Car Park. Cllr. Goodliffe was not available to report.</p> <p>b. To receive an update on Signage, Rules and regulations and a Risk Assessment Cllr. Goodliffe was not available to report.</p> <p>c. To receive an updated on the repair work required to the perimeter fencing in the Car Park Littlewood Fencing had confirmed they would be undertaking repairs this week.</p>	<p>JG</p> <p>JG</p> <p>JG</p>
18.	<p>Village Hall</p> <p>a. To receive any reports. Cllr. Goodliffe was not available to report. The Village Hall Committee would be holding their AGM on 2nd March 2017.</p> <p>b. To appoint a representative to the Village Hall Charity Committee for the ensuing year Cllr. Goodliffe had advised he was willing to continue on the Village Hall Committee. RESOLVED: To appoint Cllr. Goodliffe as Parish Council’s representative to the Village Hall Charity Committee for the ensuing year</p>	JG
19.	<p>Finance and Audit</p> <p>19.1 To approve and sign the following cheques:</p> <p>a. Surewaste (Sussex) Ltd Waste collection Recreation Ground £ 70.20</p>	

