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| **SIDLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL****Minutes of Parish Council Meeting****Held on Wednesday 12 February 2025 @ 7.30 pm****The Parish Rooms, Church Farm Lane** |
| **Present:** Cllr M Mellodey (Chairman), N Wade (Vice Chairman), Cllrs A Harland, D Guest, C Hall, M Monnington, T Parsons, L Ramm, T Tull, Cllr P Montyn (WSCC), Mr N Robson (Treasurer to SCA), the Clerk.  |
| **1.** | **Welcome & Apologies for Absence** – Cllr D Johnson (CDC) |
| **2.** | **Declaration by Councillors of Personal Interests of Items on this Agenda** - None |
| **3.** | **Questions from the Public.** (Except Subjects on the Agenda) - None |
| **4.** | **Minutes of the last Council Meeting.**  |
| **4.1** | Cllr N Wade proposed, and Cllr T Tull seconded, that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 15th January be approved and signed. All agreed. |
| **5.** | **Matters arising from the above minutes not dealt with in separate items below** - None |
| **6.** | **WSCC Councillor Update:** (Cllr P Montyn) |
| **6.1** | **TRO** – Cllr Montyn confirmed receiving an update from Mr King (WSCC Highways), which has been received by us that he is now waiting for a report from the Police and the costings before reporting back to us.**Anchor Bend Query** –Cllr Montyn confirmed can do nothing further until Mr Hart responds to Highways but will chase the matter. |
| **6.2** | **Devolution** – Cllr Montyn reported that that WSCC, ESCC and Hove & Brighton’s request to be fast tracked had been granted and must respond by the 21st March as to next steps. Cllr Montyn reported that the reorganisation of the Councils was a separate matter and gave a brief resume about how the Mayor and Unitarian authorities will be formed but stated that exactly how this will work has not be formulated yet. At this stage he confirmed the Parish Councils will remain as they are although it is not known if any further powers, funding etc will be delegated down to them. Cllr Montyn confirmed elections will be postponed until May 2026.Cllr Montyn reported that on Friday WSCC will be holding their next year’s financial Budget meeting and was pleased to announce that they had not reduced any services and stayed within last year’s budget without having to spend any of their reserves. He informed us that the Agenda is on their website if anyone wished to review. Cllr Montyn then left the meeting. |
| **7.** | **CDC Councillor Update:**  |
| **7.1** | **Local Plan** – The Chairman reported the Local Plan had been returned from the Inspectors but had heard nothing further.  |
| **7.2** | **Rates** – Discussed below.  |
| **8.** | **Sidlesham Memorial Recreation Ground.** |
| **8.1** | **Business Update (P & L + Activities Forecast)** - Mr Robson reported they were having to look for another insurance broker as their previous one had stopped supplying insurance for charity organisations and will keep us informed on their progress. Other insurers were suggested. Mr Robson confirmed that it would appear the letters regarding rent increases has not been received by all associations or parish councils. The Chairman confirmed the Clerk had found this to be so too. Mr Robson confirmed will continue to investigate and report back. The Chairman suggested Mr Robson raise this with Cllr Johnson. Mr Robson went through his report confirming the relationship between the SCA and Infinity was very positive and that they are an important entity for the continuation of the SMRG/SCA. Cllr Parsons asked about whether Infinity had progressed with applications to the FA for grant funding. Mr Robson reported it had been asked but nothing yet had been forthcoming but will continue to chase and report back at the next meeting. Cllr Ramm requested that the PC was updated on SCA’s strategic plans and Mr Robson confirmed they had a meeting this weekend and will report the outcomes in March. Mr Robson stated that the next two months would be crucial to the future of the SMRG/SCA as the question of rates is ascertained.  |
| **8.2** | **Trees** – The Chairman confirmed the work had been started, but due to the wet ground conditions they were unable to be completed. However, when the ground firms up, the contractor will complete the work.  |
| **8.3** | **Ferry Farm Grants/Floodlights** – Cllr Wade reported that we had been successful in our bid for a grant for the floodlights, but unfortunately SCA had not been successful in their bid due to a lack of detail as one of the reasons. However, Cllr Wade reported that the Ferry Farm Grant organisation had agreed to pay for a consultant to meet with Mr Robson and Mr Ryder to look at the heating issue and advise as to the best way forward. Cllr Wade also confirmed the Church had also received their grant for a bicycle rack. Cllr Wade was thanked by the PC for all his hard work. Mr Robson was thanked for his hard work and left the meeting. |
| **9.** | **Sidlesham Memorial Recreation Playground**  |
| **9.1** | **Sand/Maintenance Agreement** – The Chairman reported that the Agreement was in place, and we now have a parishioner who not only will complete the weekly checks but will carry out any minor repairs. Cllr Hall stated that the sand needs to be ordered now for the playpark and after discussion it was agreed to place an order at the beginning of March, weather dependent.  |
| **9.2** | **Swings** – the Clerk reported these had now been replaced and Mr Turner was hoping to sort out the slide issue this weekend. |
| **10.** | **CIL Monies** – After discussion it was agreed that these monies be used towards the payment for the tree work at SMRG and to complete the Finger Posts and Bus Shelters. |
| **11.** | **Grass Cutting Contracts** – It was agreed by all to continue with our present Grass Cutting Contractors. |
| **12.** | **Neighbourhood Plan** Cllr Wade confirmed the NP Survey had been distributed, and replies were being received which the Clerk was collating together in readiness for a meeting in the forthcoming few weeks to review them and go through the NP.  |
| **13.** | **Forum of Local Businesses** Cllr Monnington stated that it would not be possible to do anything until September and asked what we felt was the focus. After lengthy discussions, it was agreed to organise a date for September to coincide with an open day for the SCA to encourage anyone to attend, businesses requested to set up a display and we facilitate applying for funding to support this as well as a network. Cllr Ramm confirmed he would be happy to assist Cllr Monnington in this venue. Cllr Wade mentioned we had hoped for something sooner as businesses will be an integral part of the NP and he was hoping to obtain their views and suggestions to incorporate within it. The Clerk suggested putting the list together for us to contact them regarding the NP as soon as possible. It was agreed for the Clerk to apply for the grant and compile the list with support from Cllrs Monnington and Ramm. |
| **14.** | **Correspondence Received** |
| **14.1** | **Sidlesham Pollinator Highway Scheme –** The Chairman reported having received an email regarding this proposed Scheme sited along the Paddock Straight and was attending the meeting at 11 tomorrow morning and will report back at the next meeting. After discussion, the PC although liked the idea, were against the location. |
| **14.2** | **VE Day** – After discussion, it was agreed for the Clerk to apply for the grant and all ideas to be forwarded to the Clerk by Friday.  |
| **14.3** | **Telephone Box** – After discussion it was agreed the PC would buy the Box and suggested it be used to house a defibrillator and seek support from local businesses. |
| **14.4** | **Defibrillator Training** – Cllr Hall confirmed organising a session with the British Heart Foundation but requires a minimum of 15 people to attend otherwise costs will be incurred. It is on Friday, 2nd May at 7pm at the Memorial Hall. Several Councillors stated they would be able to attend. Cllr Hall confirmed it has been circulated to the SCA, WI and Church. |
| **15.** | **Donations to Charities** After discussion it was agreed to support, The Chestnut Tree House £250.00, Sage House £250.00, and St Wilfred’s £250.00. |
| **16.** | **Matters of Urgent Public Importance –** None |
| **17.** | **Schedule of Receipts/Payments** Cllr Harland proposed, and Cllr Wade seconded the summary of income and expenditure at 17.1.1 to 17.2.13 be accepted. All agreed. Balance of Unity Accounts as of the 31st January 2025 was £64.422.59 including reserve/saving accounts.  |
| **17.1** | **Schedule of Account for Receipts Including Monies refunded from SCA\*** -  |
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| **Ref** | **Who** | **What**  | **Amount****£** |
| 17.1.1 | Unity Trust Bank | Interest for Playground A/C (October) | 22.42 |
| 17.1.2 | Unity Trust Bank | Interest for Reserve A/C (October) | 83.91 |
| 17.1.3 | Unity Trust Bank | Interest for Mowing Equipment Fund (October) | 27.70 |
| 17.1.4 | Unity Trust Bank | Interest for SMRG Maintenance Fund (October) | 123.85 |
| 17.1.5 | Unity Trust Current A/C | Transfer to Playground A/C | 2,500.00 |
| 17.1.6 | Unity Trust Current A/C | Transfer to Mowing Fund | 500.00 |
| 17.1.7 | Unity Trust Current A/C | Transfer to SMRG Maintenance Fund | 2,500.00 |
| 17.1.8 | Unity Trust SMRG Maintenance Fund | Transfer to Unity Trust Current A/C for Floodlights | 1,103.37 |
| **Total** |  |  | **6,861.25** |

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| **17.2** | **Schedule of Account for Payment** |
| Ref | Who | What  | Amount£ |
| 17.2.1 | Unity Bank  | Bank Charges for October | 8.40 |
| 17.2.2 | Scanstation  | 2 x Black Ink Cartridges (December) | 26.00 |
| 17.2.3 | CDC | Emptying Bins SMRG (November) | 58.50 |
| 17.2.4 | Cllr M Mellodey | SMRG Pitch – White Line Paint | 23.96 |
| 17.2.5 | CDC | Emptying Bins (December) | 52.75 |
| 17.2.6 | Ms A Colban | January’s Salary | 841.33 |
| 17.2.7 | Ms A Coban | Clerk’s Expenses includes Printing Costs for NP Surveys and New Playground Swing Seats | 472.05 |
| 17.2.8 | CDC | Emptying Bins SMRG (January) | 64.25 |
| 17.2.9 | Scanstation | 2 x Black Cartridges & Norton 360 Protection & Cloud Storage | 61.00 |
| 17.2.10 | RKEC | Repairs to Floodlights SMRG | 1,324.04 |
| 17.2.11 | SCA | Repairs to Roof | 110.00 |
| 17.2.12 | Harvey Collins | Grass Cutting – Mill Lane Site for November 2024 | 106.80 |
| 17.2.13 | Unity Bank | Bank Charges for December | 8.10 |
|  | **Total** |  | **3,149,08** |
| **18.** | **Requests for Future Agenda Items** Cllr Tull requested that the issue relating to SOSCA be added, but after discussion it was agreed for individuals to write directly.Cllr Parsons requested the Agreement between the PC and SCA due for renewal in November be included next month. However, it was agreed to defer this until after SCA had had their Strategic Meeting and we knew the outcomes. |
| **21.** | **Date of Next Meeting**: 12th March at 7.30pm.  |

Meeting ended 21.14 pm

Alison Colban, Parish Clerk, Sidlesham Parish Council