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| **SIDLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  **Minutes of Parish Council Meeting**  **Held on Wednesday 12th March 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, T Tull, Cllr P Montyn (WSCC), Cllr D Johnson (CDC) Mr N Robson (Treasurer to SCA), Mrs L Bromley (MHWT|), 1 member of the public & the Clerk. | | | | |
| **1.** | **Welcome & Apologies for Absence** – Cllr L Ramm | | | | |
| **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 12th February 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** | **Devolution/Consultation** – Cllr Montyn confirmed forwarding to us the latest update regarding this in which there is a link to the Consultation to be completed by the 13th April 2025, which he recommended we answer on behalf of the Parish Council. The Chairman asked for volunteers to put together our response and Cllr Tull offered. The Chairman looked for additional volunteers. Cllr Johnson interceded to state that at this stage there was to be no impact on Parish Councils, although it has been suggested it may increase their powers.  Cllr Montyn informed the Parish Council that on the 17th March there are to be road improvements on B2145 between Rotten Row and Lockgate for one day.  Cllr Montyn also informed the Parish Council that he recently met with Southern Water and asked again for information as to the Sidlesham Treatment Works but has received no response yet. He will continue to chase this. Although there has been work completed, unfortunately not in Sidlesham. Cllr Montyn then left the meeting. | | | | |
| **7.** | **Presentation by MWHG** – Dr L Bromley proceeded to give a presentation about the proposed Sidlesham Pollinator Highway, for the southern section of the Paddock Straight. Questions were raised to clarify the situation and at the end of the presentation the Chairman asked for a vote in favour or against. It was agreed in favour by a majority to one and the Clerk was asked to notify our grass cutting contractor for the Paddock Straight not to cut the grass in this section. Also to advertise this event in the Parish magazines and website. A suggestion was also given to set up a natural habitat at the Memorial Ground and it was agreed to investigate this further.  Dr Bromley confirmed that they now have funding to restore the ponds at Willow Glen & Florence Road. | | | | |
| **8.** | **CDC Councillor Update:** | | | | |
| **8.1** | **Local Plan** – Cllr Johnson stated she had nothing to report at this stage. | | | | |
| **8.2** | **Melita** – Cllr Johnson confirmed that she is still waiting to hear back from Planning and has chased this up. She suggested inviting our MP to our Annual Parish Council Meeting and stated that she has advised Mr Moore from the MP’s Office to contact Planning directly to discuss the Appeal and our response. Cllr Parsons confirmed to Cllr Johnson that they are still advertising rental of the caravans on the website and Cllr Johnson asked that this information be passed to her. Cllr Johnson spoke about the issues and stated the way forward is to look at trying to obtain changes to the NPPF and legislation. Cllr Johnson then left the meeting. | | | | |
| **9.** | **Sidlesham Memorial Recreation Ground.** | | | | |
| **9.1** | **Business Update (P & L + Activities Forecast)** - Mr Robson went through his report. A question was raised about insurance and Mr Robson confirmed that they had now been able to obtain insurance cover which will start next week. Mr Robson confirmed they had been unsuccessful with the Ferry Farm Grant and Cllr Wade reiterated the need for SCA to contact Ferry Farm who have offered a free consultation to look at the heating issues and to discuss with them the best option moving forward.  Mr Robson confirmed that he had spoken to Fishbourne PC, and they have not received any correspondence regarding rates. The Chairman put forward that a meeting is held at the end of March with SCA to discuss this issue by which time hopefully they will have more information from surrounding parishes. It was suggested to contact South Mundham. | | | | |
| **9.2** | **Trees** – The Chairman confirmed the work had been completed and if any councillor wished to collect the wood, they could do so. The Chairman stated the contractor had made a very good job of the work. | | | | |
| **9.3** | **Floodlights** – The Chairman stated a meeting had been held with RKEC (the contractors) to discuss the next stage. RKEC suggested that if the remaining lights were renewed at the same time a saving of around £1,000 would be made. After discussion it was agreed to go ahead with this work, which was unlikely to be carried out until June. A discussion as to where the extra finance would come from can be confirmed later. | | | | |
| **9.4** | **Infinity** – The Chairman apologised this item was not on the Agenda, but after a meeting held yesterday with Infinity, himself and Cllr Wade, he wanted to report back. At that meeting Infinity had put forward proposals for their future hoping to work closely with the SCA as well as the Parish Council. Some of the minor projects, e.g. the footpath and stands will be funded by themselves. To access funding for major projects, e.g. pitch & facility improvements they need to give evidence of a ten-year contract with a one-year break either side. They would also like to change their name to IFC Sidlesham to show their commitment to the community. After further discussion, the Chairman asked the Councillors if they agreed to this in principle. It was agreed and the Chairman will respond to Infinity accordingly but to include a no penalty clause and the caveat regarding rates and the possible impact of that, plus a copy sent to SCA. The SCA have been advised through Mr Robson of this discussion and the PC’s agreement. | | | | |
| **10.** | **Sidlesham Memorial Recreation Playground** | | | | |
| **10.1** | **Sand –** After discussion it was agreed to go with Jewson’s for the sand. The Clerk will order and let Cllr Hall know about delivery. | | | | |
| **11.** | **APM Meeting –** Dr Bromley was asked if she would be able to attend and give a presentation. Dr Bromley said she would be happy to, and the Clerk will send her details of the date etc. Discussion then ensued regarding the delivery of notification of the APM. The Chairman suggested the Councillors do this, but it was a split decision, therefore the Clerk was asked to seek quotes in readiness for the next meeting. | | | | |
| **12.** | **Presentation by Mr P Bedford**- Unfortunately, Mr Bedford was unable to attend due to illness and due to shortness of time, it was agreed for the Clerk to circulate his report he had sent in. | | | | |
| **13.** | **Correspondence Received** | | | | |
| **13.1** | **VE Day** – The Chairman confirmed we had been successful in our application for a grant and the Clerk had researched into a flagpole. The Clerk will now order this, and Cllr Wade asked for details to be sent to him in order to see what the requirements will be for its instillation at the grounds, position to be determined. Cllr Wade & Mr Robson will survey the best place. The Clerk confirmed with Mr Robson that they will be purchasing the flag.  The Chairman informed the Parish Council that they have approached the Sidlesham Primary School to ask them to produce a design for a flag for which there will be a winning gift for the chosen design.  Mr Robson stated they had plans to include after the memorial service, a meal in the Memorial Hall, possibly themed. The date is Thursday, 8th May. | | | | |
| **13.2** | **Telephone Box** – The Clerk confirmed she had spoken to BT and they will be carrying out the repairs to the telephone box as well as cleaning it. Our interest has been registered, and we await hearing from Planning as to whether we are successful. | | | | |
| **13.3** | **Melita** – Cllr Parsons stated she had received a letter regarding Melita in which they had made a complaint to CDC who had replied that they could not find any fault. Cllr Parsons will forward this to the Clerk and write to planning. | | | | |
| **14.** | **Matters of Urgent Public Importance –** None | | | | |
| **15.** | **Schedule of Receipts/Payments**  Cllr Harland proposed, and Cllr Tull seconded the summary of income and expenditure at 15.1.1 to 15.2.14 be accepted. All agreed.  Balance of Unity Current Account as of the 28th February 2025 is £20,569.95. Total of all accounts is £63,124.59.  The year to date accounts were discussed briefly and the Clerk confirmed a full set of accounts will be available for the April meeting. | | | | |
| **15.1** | **Schedule of Account for Receipts Including Monies refunded from SCA\*** - | | | | |
|  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Ref** | **Who** | **What** | **Amount**  **£** | | 15.1.1 | SMRG | Pitch & Grounds – White Line Paint | 19.97 | | 15.1.2 | Ferry Farm | Grant for the Floodlights | 4,471.97 | | **Total** |  |  | **4,491.94** | | | | | |
| **15.2** | **Schedule of Account for Payment** | | | | |
| Ref | | Who | What | Amount  £ | | |
| 15.2.1 | | Unity Trust Bank | Bank Charges January | 7.20 | | |
| 15.2.2 | | St Wilfred’s Hospice | Donation | 250.00 | | |
| 15.2.3 | | Chestnut Tree House | Donation | 250.00 | | |
| 15.2.4 | | Sage House | Donation | 250.00 | | |
| 15.2.5 | | Ms A Colban | Salary | 1,315.10 | | |
| 15.2.6 | | Ms A Colban | Expenses | 29.80 | | |
| 15.2.7 | | SCA | Grass Cutting at SMRG | 475.00 | | |
| 15.2.8 | | Cllr M Mellodey | Topsoil – SMRG Grounds | 32.00 | | |
| 15.2.9 | | CDC | SMRG – Emptying of Bins | 58.50 | | |
| 15.2.10 | | Scanstation | Black & Colour Cartridges x 3 | 38.99 | | |
| 15.2.11 | | Cllr N Wade | Expenses Melita Appeal – Car Parking | 17.28 | | |
| 15.2.12 | | Cllr M Mellodey | Expenses at SMRG for removal of Dog Bin | 12.99 | | |
| 15.2.13 | | Access by Design | Website Assistance for adding links to Website | 24.00 | | |
| 15.2.14 | | Unity Trust Bank | Bank Charges February | 7.20 | | |
|  | | **Total** |  | 2,768.06 | | |
| **18.** | **Requests for Future Agenda Items** - None | | | | |
| **21.** | **Date of Next Meeting**: 9th April at 7.30pm. | | | | |

Meeting ended 21.20 pm

Alison Colban, Parish Clerk, Sidlesham Parish Council