

BODIAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Please note these are draft minutes until formally approved at the next Parish Council meeting.

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 15th April at 7.00 p.m. in Bodiam Parish Room

Present:

For Bodiam Parish Council: Councillors, Vice Chairman Richard Mitchell, Graham Peters, Barbara Napper, Linda Stevens and Clerk Christine Burgess.

For Rother District Council: Councillor S Prochak.

63/2019 Apologies for Absence : Councillor Geoffrey Goodsell, County Councillor Angharad Davies and District Councillor Graham Browne

64/2019 Disclosure of Interests.
 Cllr Peters declared an interest as the Chairman of the Parker & Ashcombe Trust.
 Cllr Peters declared an interest as he swims at Claremont School

65/2019 Minutes
 The minutes of the meeting held on 25th March 2019 was signed as a true record.

66/2019 Matters Arising: Litter
 The emails concerning Litter have been forwarded on to Ewhurst Parish Council and are on the Agenda to be discussed on 16 May at the Arthur Herdman Pavilion, Village St, Ewhurst Green, 7.30pm.

67/2019 Councillors Meetings with Outside Bodies
 Cllr Stevens and the Clerk had been to the Nat West Bank to remove old signatories and to add Cllr Stevens to the Bank account. No bank statements have been received since December and Cllr Stevens has been assured by the bank yet again that they will be sent.

68/2019 Planning
(a) Applications : None
(b) Decisions
RR/2019/279/P 8 Northlands, Bodiam, Single story side extension and porch canopy
Permission granted with conditions.

Minutes signed as a true record.....Dated.....

69/2019 ESCC Report

Councillors had received the previously circulated report from ESCC.

At the last full Council meeting they were visited by members of the **East Sussex Youth Cabinet**. They described their aims for 2019, the top 3 being: 1) Knife crime, 2) mental health 3) homelessness. They were keen on voting from the age of 16 and they were pleased and proud to be involved in the process of democracy.

Knife crime was the subject of the People Scrutiny Committee, there has been a significant increase in the past two years and this will be discussed at again at a future meeting.

Recent changes have been made to the terms of reference of the **Health and Wellbeing Board**. This Board was set up in 2011 at ESCC in the early stages of ESBT (East Sussex Better Together) in order to bring about change, focussing on health priorities directly related to local people's health needs. A review was carried out as a result of some criticisms made by the CQC in their local system reviews of health and social care integration in 2017. Comparisons were also made to other authorities. Changes made as a result of these enquiries should move us forward in the programme of development of East Sussex Better Together.

70/2019 Rother District Council Report

The last cabinet meeting had been cancelled so nothing to report. Vice Chair Cllr Mitchell thanked D Cllr Sue Prochak for all her hard work over the last 16 years. Due to re-organisation in Ward districts Cllr Prochak will be moving on to new Parishes.

71/2019 Parish Assembly

The Parish Assembly was held on the 21st of March. This item to be put on the agenda again for the May and the October meeting for further discussion and ideas to discuss the possibility of encouraging more people by using local websites. Clerk to send invitation by email to Liz Moore to the next Parish Meeting.

72/2019 Environment**(a) School Parking**

The Council has received a letter from Claremont School in reply to a phone call from the Clerk regarding the parking and use of buses. Mr Dickie (head of Senior School) explained the use of buses has nothing to do with the building work taking place currently. Up until recently students were transported to and from school on minibuses, with pickups/drop offs taking place inside the school site. More than 100 boarders are transported to residential houses in Battle and St Leonards. In the past this involved six or more minibuses every evening and morning, but it has been clear for some time that the financial and environmental costs of this arrangement are not sustainable.

Unfortunately, coaches are unable to access the main school site hence the necessity of picking up outside the exit gate. The evening pick up is probably the area of greatest concern for villagers given the longer waiting time.

Councillors are concerned that the Coaches are parking up on the pavements and causing a blockage. Also because of works happening at the Claremont Primary School,

Minutes signed as a true record.....Dated.....

children are being bused over to Bodiam to use the all surface pitch at the Senior School.

Cllrs suggested a SLR (sustaining local relation) meeting, which would be between the Parish Council, the Highways Department and any interested parties, in this case the Schools. Clerk to arrange date with East Sussex Highways for mid June if possible, not to clash with any school holidays.

(b) Dog Fouling in Levetts Lane
 To be put on the next Agenda in May.

73/2019 Bodiam Bridge

The Parish Council was asked by a resident whether they were aware of any issues with the Bridge. The bridge is apparently ‘twisting’ and if left as is may collapse altogether. ESCC highways were contacted and they informed the Council that the bridge is monitored every three months. All bridges and structures across the county are regularly inspected and in the case of the Bodiam Bridge the last structural inspection was carried out by a structural consultation in 2017. In addition to that the most recent of which was two weeks ago, when the structural engineers check for bridge movement, no movement was recorded. They are aware that Bodiam bridge is twisted and it has been since it was originally constructed and has been repaired and reinforced on many occasions. The Structures team will visit and they'll get back to us when visit completed with the results.

74/2019 Caretaker Cleaner Wages

An error was discovered when Mrs P Marsh put in her invoice for her wages to date. At the Budget meeting in January it was thought that Mrs Marsh was being paid £9.25 per hour when in fact it was actually £9.75. To increase the wage by 25p this must increase to £10 per hour and not the £9.50 as previously stated. Proposed by Cllr Peters and Seconded by Cllr Napper. Clerk to pay arrears of £1.25.

75/2019 Bodiam P C Website

Rother District Council is in the process of changing their website provider and hosting a new website, so subsequently will not be able provide a platform for the site in its current set-up.

The new RDC website will not go live until March 2020, so we have been contacted to provide some options before support is withdrawn next year.

Rother may still be able to help with the website and be able accommodate it, however there will be some associated costs, which will need to be determined at a later date.

They would like to know by the end of June 2019 what we would like to do going forward with the new website. Cllrs felt that staying under the RDC “umbrella” would be perhaps best but would like to know the associated cost as soon as possible.

Clerk to send email RDC Web Department.

76/2019 Trees and Footpaths

Minutes signed as a true record.....Dated.....

Nothing to report.

77/2019 Crime and Disorder

Nothing to report

78/2019 Recreation Ground

(a) Upkeep and Inspection

The Grass has been cut recently and everything is clean and tidy in the Pavillion. The water has now been switched on for the Summer. The Electrician has been asked to update the electrical test on the Pavillion.

(b) Bookings

Bodiam C of E Primary School have asked for a Reserve day to their booking of the next day Wednesday 19th June 2019

79/2019 Finances

(a) Receipts

25 Feb 2019	Parish Assembly, wine	100355	£4.75
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(b) Payments

Payee		Chq no	£
E SALC	Subscription2019/2020	1867	119.32
Information Commissioner	Data Protection fee	1868	40.00
P Marsh	Caretaker/Pavillion	1869	1.25
Clerk	Salary (4weeks)	1870	420.00

(c) Monthly Finance Report

The Clerk/RFO reported that no Bank Statement had been received. Cllr Stevens initialed the payments in the Receipts & Payments book. Cheques and invoices were signed by the Councillors.

80/201 Information for Councillors

Cllr Stevens suggested a welcome pack for new Residents, to be put on the Agenda for the next meeting

81/2019 Date of Next Meeting –

May 13th 2019 in the Bodiam Parish Room.

There being no further business, the Vice Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

Minutes signed as a true record.....Dated.....