**Minutes of Wadhurst Parish Council full council meeting held at The Pavilion, Sparrows Green Recreation Ground, Wadhurst on Thursday 12th October 2023.**

**Present:** Cllrs S. Gadd (Chair), P. Smith, I. Anderson, J. Edwards, M. Ramsden and A. Tincombe.

**Absent:** Cllrs C. Moore, P. Moore, D. Shairp and J. Crawford.

**Public:** Cllr Glynn-Ives (WDC) and Cllr Stanley (ESCC).

There was one member of public present.

**In Attendance**: Emma Fulham (Locum) Clerk to the Council.

1. **To** **receive apologies and reasons for absence.**Cllrs C. Moore, P. Moore, D. Shairp and J. Crawford.
2. **To receive declarations of personal, prejudicial and disclosable pecuniary interests on items on the agenda and updates to members’ register of interests.**Cllr S. Gadd 9.9(i) and Cllr I. Anderson 10.5.
3. **Public Forum – time limit 15 minutes.**

There was one member of the public. There were no questions or comments.

1. **County Councillor and District Councillor reports.**County Cllr Stanley had circulated his report prior to the meeting. He highlighted the ongoing increasing costs of Children’s Services andthe shortage of foster carers in the County.Cllr Glynn-Ives report had been circulated. The Wealden District Council grant forrural community spaces was highlighted as the deadline was 27th October.  
   **It was unanimously agreed to progress a grant application for an accessible walkway round the pond.**
2. **To consider, and approve if appropriate, which agenda items are sufficiently confidential as to warrant exclusion of members of the press and public under the provisions of the Public Bodies (admissions to meetings) Act 1960.**None.
3. **To approve the minutes of the parish council meeting held on 7th September 2023 as a true reco****rd.  
   Proposed by Cllr P. Smith seconded by Cllr M. Ramsden majority vote with one abstention.**

**To approve the minutes of the extraordinary general meeting held on 21st September 2023 as a true record.**

**Proposed by Cllr S. Gadd seconded by Cllr P. Smith and approved by a majority vote with two abstentions.**

1. **To determine matters arising from the meeting on 7th September 2023 for updating and noting.**None.
2. **Correspondence List.**This had been circulated prior to the meeting there were no actions.
3. **Finance items for decision and allocation of resources**

**9.1 To approve the updated September 2023 payment list**

* 1. **To approve the payment list for October 2023**
  2. **To approve the bank reconciliations for August 2023**
  3. **To receive the RBS finance reports for August 2023**
  4. **To approve the bank reconciliations for September 2023**
  5. **To receive the RBS finance reports for September 2023**  
     **Items 9.1 – 9.6 were taken as one item.  
     Cllr S. Gadd proposed Cllr P. Smith and all items were unanimously approved.**
  6. **For members to acknowledge the audit engagement letter from Mulberry & Co and note the terms of their appointment.**  
     **Cllr S. Gadd proposed Cllr P. Smith and were unanimously approved.**
  7. To review and approve the following documents:

WPC Standing Orders

WPC Financial Regulations  
**This was deferred to the November meeting.**

* 1. **To consider the following grant applications:**

1. **WIHF**

***(Please note this item was deferred in the running order till Cllr Tincombe arrived at the meeting – See later note).***

1. Cousley wood Christmas event - **Cllr S. Gadd proposed the grant request for £1200.00 seconded by Cllr P. Smith and unanimously approved.**
2. Wadhurst Warriors Christmas plans. **Cllr S. Gadd proposed the outline grant request for £1500.00 pending further details on expenses Cllr I. Anderson seconded and unanimously approved.** 
   1. To adopt the minutes of the Planning Committee meetings held on 19th August 2023 and 2nd September 2023 and 30th September 2023.   
      **Cllr S. Gadd proposed Cllr I. Anderson seconded and all were unanimously approved.**
   2. To consider the request for ‘Happy to Chat’ sign to go on the bench outside of Carillon Cottage.

**Cllr I. Anderson proposed the Council accept the request Cllr P. Smith seconded and unanimously approved.**

* 1. To consider and decide upon the request from the Planning Committee to subscribe to NIMBUS Maps for gaining planning and land registry information – budget up to £1,500 per annum – Planning Committee.  
     **Cllr S. Gadd proposed Cllr P. Smith seconded and this expenditure was unanimously approved.**
  2. Remembrance Sunday
     1. To note any updates on the plans/road closure request.  
        The schedule for timings were outlined and the road closure was agreed for 30 minutes and Cllr I. Anderson would co-ordinate the parade. The Clerk was asked to send a note to all Cllrs to save the date and for them to liaise with Cllr I. Anderson to help on the day.
     2. To consider if the Council would like to purchase any additional products from the RBL Remembrance Sunday range.  
        **It was unanimously agreed that no further items were required at this time.**

*(Cllr A. Tincombe arrived at the meeting 7:55pm).*

**Item 9.9 (i) This item was returned to Cllr S. Gadd abstained from the discussion and handed the meeting to the vice chair Cllr P. Smith who opened the meeting to get some information from John Mitchell as the hall representative. The meeting was then closed to the public.**  
**Cllr A. Tincombe proposed to approve the grant request for £6786.00 seconded by Cllr P. Smith and approved with one abstention.**

* 1. Lengthsman – to approve for the contract to be extended for a further year.  
     Cllr I. Anderson abstained from the discussion due to a pecuniary interest.   
     **Cllr A. Tincombe proposed the extension seconded by Cllr P. Smith and approved with one abstention. (Cllr I. Anderson – pecuniary interest).**
  2. Jardin d’Aubers lease from ESFR.  
     No update available.
  3. St Georges Hall purchase.   
     Cllr S. Gadd reported on the correspondence to the solicitor outlining the advice a discussion on terms would be finalised at a future meeting.
  4. To re consider the quote for the mini scooter park at Sparrows Green Recreation Ground suspending the Standing Orders/Financial Regulations for this project to progress.  
     **The Council wanted to review this more fully with more options and quotes. Cllr A. Tincombe agreed to progress the project. The item would be deferred to a future meeting when further work had been completed on this to get more quotes.**
  5. To approve the quote for the installation of grass matting for the bench at Jubilee play area.  
     The expenditure of up to £1000 including VAT was reviewed.   
     **Cllr S. Gadd proposed the expenditure   
     (Cllr I. Anderson abstained due a pecuniary interest.**)
  6. Christmas event – to consider the plans and a budget for any additional items (in excess to the grant authorised at September 2023 full council meeting for the Christmas Grotto.  
     **The expenditure for expenses was approved up to £700.00.  
     Charity collecting elves at the event were agreed.   
     The Council would require a risk assessment for the event. The Clerk would liaise with Cllr S. Gadd.   
     Cllr S Gadd proposed Cllr P. Smith seconded and unanimously approved.**
  7. To approve expenditure for bedding plants at the war memorial and costs for the lengthsman to plant them.  
     **Cllr S. Gadd proposed the initiative Cllr P. Smith seconded approved by majority vote.**  
     *(Cllr I. Anderson abstained due to a pecuniary interest).*
  8. To consider transfer of plants from Weald Hall – Cllr Gadd.  
     **Cllr S. Gadd proposed that this be progressed although it was unsure where the plants could go until an inspection had been completed Cllr P. Smith seconded and it was unanimously approved.   
     Cllr A. Tinscombe agreed she would liaise re the type of planting available and then appropriate licenses would then be required if planting was to take place on ESCC land.**
  9. To consider planting at Commemoration Hall – Cllr Gadd.  
     **Cllr S. Gadd proposed expenditure of £500.00 Cllr P. Smith seconded and this was unanimously approved.**
  10. To consider the report from Broadoak Tree Consultants and decide upon what works are to be carried out. **This item was deferred to the next meeting once three quotes had been received and a management plan would also be required.   
      The report would be sent to three tree surgeons for quotation for the trees which were on WPC land. Cllr Anderson would send the risk form to the Clerk to send to the third tree surgeon.**
  11. To consider the quote for the refurbishment of the telephone kiosk and associated ground work. (At time of publication awaiting quote).   
      **This item was deferred to a future meeting.**

*(Cllr Stanley left the meeting 8:55).*

* 1. Pétanque – to decide upon the best location for the parish council to install a Pétanque pitch – Cllr Crawford.

**This item was deferred   
The Council wanted to know if the other possible pétanque pitch was progressing in the village before committing to a location and / or expenditure.**

* 1. To consider signing up to the Civility and Respect pledge. (NALC/SLCC).

**Cllr S. Gadd proposed Cllr P. Smith seconded and this was unanimously approved.**

*(Cllr A. Tinscombe left the meeting 8:45).*

* 1. Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Update.   
     There was no further progress to report at the current time.
  2. Items for noting or inclusion on a future agenda.
  3. The registration of the land at Tapsells Lane has now been received by the Parish Council.  
     The Clerk reported the drains had been jetted and permanent lids added by ESCC.   
     **Action: The Clerk was asked to liaise with Cllr C Moore and the solicitors acting on the registration about possible registration of the adjacent land.**
  4. Next Meeting Date 2nd November 2023.

**Meeting Closed at 8:55pm**

WADHURST PARISH COUNCIL 2023-06-01 FULL COUNCIL MINUTES