

Ditchling Parish Council

Minutes of the Statutory Council Meeting held in the Lower Hall, Ditchling Village Hall, Lewes Road, on Monday 17 December 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs McBeth (Chairman), Leaver, Madden, Ingham, Orme, Smith, Guggenheim, Robinson, the Clerk Mrs Michelle Warner, the Deputy Clerk, Mr Derek Blackhall

Public Participation:

Two members of the public were present.

1. Declarations of Interest: None.
 2. Apologies for absence. Cllr Farrands, unavailable.
 3. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26 November having been circulated, were **agreed** as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.
 4. New play equipment and recreation ground master plan. Standing orders were suspended in order that Mr Bolton from Ditchling Tennis Club could address the Council. The tennis club AGM was to be held on Thursday. The club need to know whether the council would be prepared to take over the tennis courts. The courts will need re-surfacing in the next 12 months. The new surface should last for 20-25 years. The club has funds of £15,000 which should cover the cost. Membership has dropped off recently and brings in funds of £1,000, each member pays an average of £15. There are approximately 60 members. The public consultation for the recreation ground will be a good test of how many residents would be in favour of retaining the court. If income falls the tennis club cannot fund; insurance, repainting, general maintenance, nets, insurance etc. The junior section or school involvement would be required to attract funding. Plumpton Tennis club coaches for two afternoons a week at the school, the club is not able to take the children off site under current regulations. Cllr Smith proposed that the council should take forward the proposal to take ownership of the court. Standing orders were resumed. The public consultations will take place on 12th & 19th January with posters to go up in the New Year.
 5. Planning applications
 - 5.1 SDNP/18/05770/HOUS Section 73A retrospective application to retain boundary fence, 71 East End Lane Ditchling. **Object-** the fence should be moved back from the boundary so that it sits behind the hedge, rather than in front of the hedge. The fence is not suitable in the conservation area.
 - 5.2 SDNP/18/05405/HOUS Enlarge structural openings at the east side elevation, widening of patio doors to the south to include a window opening and installation of a double glazed PVC units. Alford's Old Barn, 2 Brangwyns Acre, East End Lane, Ditchling. **No comment.**
 - 5.3 SDNP/18/06089/TCA Removal of a single yew tree. Land rear of 16, North End, Ditchling. Re-development of the site is viewed positively, the tree officer is best placed to make a recommendation, **no comment.**
 - 5.4 SDNP/18/04155/FUL Update on consultant's reports. The Lewis and Co report should be amended in respect of the final page, it should be made clear that even if there is not a 5 year housing supply in Lewes District the benefits of a new dwelling need to outweigh the negative impact of a development. The report will then be circulated to members of the planning committee and the planning officer. The report from BBM has not yet been received but will be circulated once received and the forwarded to the planning officer and members of the planning committee.
- Standing order were suspended as the Neighbourhood first team; Steve and Nicky arrived to introduce themselves. The team deal with fly tipping, signs, bus stops, abandoned cars are other areas of concern in the community. Standing orders were resumed.
6. Parish magazine The February edition is almost ready, some articles are expected by the end of the month.
 7. Car park update. The county solicitor has been asked to forward the contract to for the S38 requirements for the pavement and change to the 30mph zone in order that this can be agreed.
 8. Neighbourhood Plan reports, a meeting with each of the three-council chairman has taken place. A further meeting will take place in 3 months.
 9. Highways working party reports. The feasibility study for Spatham Lane regarding a change in the speed limit to 40mph has not yet been carried out by ESCC. Discussions on the Jubilee path continue there are some queries regarding land ownership. Three consultants have quoted to produce a transport study. Two were close in price and three members of the working party will meet with these consultants in the New Year to discuss the quotes further. Copies of S106 agreements relating to funds for the B2112 are required to consider the scope of capital works that could be included.
 10. To agree meeting dates for 2020. To agree to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on 10 May 2019. The dates circulated were **agreed.**

11. The 2019/20 budget with projected income of £206,128 including loans; projected expenditure of £269,599 and a precept of £85,978 was **agreed**. The budget includes capital works to the car park and playground and a loan of £100,000.
12. It was **agreed** that a contribution to Ditchling Village Hall in respect of a new door and windows installed in the Parish Office at a cost of £2,544, would be made.
13. Finance matters
 - a) The bank reconciliation for November was **agreed** and has been authorised by Cllr Guggenheim
 - b) Payments totalling £2,484.91 were **approved**.
14. Correspondence
There were no items requiring action.
15. Written & verbal reports by representatives.
 - a. Village Hall Management Committee – none
 - b. Ditchling Pavilion Club – A large bill for repair to the boiler has been paid. The club may request a contribution from the Council.
 - c. Ditchling Village Association – none
 - d. Lewes District Association of Local Councils – none

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

**Ditchling Parish Council
Expenditure Dec 2018**

Date	Ref	Value (incl vat)
17/12/2018	Tesco (stamps)	4.02
17/12/2018	Fasthosts	73.20
17/12/2018	Fasthosts	6.59
17/12/2018	BT Phone	147.48
17/12/2018	Lock Assist	120.00
17/12/2018	Ditchling Village Hall	32.00
17/12/2018	Salaries	757.74
17/12/2018	Easycopiers	42.00
17/12/2018	East Sussex Pension Fund	207.20
17/12/2018	Ashdown Supplies (plaque)	130.09
17/12/2018	SSALC (recruitment)	540.00
17/12/2018	Fasthosts	14.99
17/12/2018	Peter Western	35.00
17/12/2018	HMRC	374.60
		2,484.91