

Ditchling Parish Council

Minutes of the Statutory Council Meeting held in the Lower Hall, Ditchling Village Hall, Lewes Road, on Monday 26 November 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs McBeth (Chairman), Leaver, Madden, Ingham, Orme, Guggenheim, Farrands, 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 Jones, at another meeting; Cllr Smith, unavailable.
3. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 19 November having been circulated, were **agreed** as a correct record and were signed by the Chairman.
4. Planning applications
 - 4.1 SDNP/18/04155- the application had gone before the Design Review Panel on 20 November. It was noted by the panel that the proposed building would represent incongruous development in a sensitive environment. It would damage the landscape and the Ditchling Conservation Area. The proposed building does not display truly outstanding or innovative design credentials; it does not meet the high standards of architectural and landscape design required in the National Park. It was noted that planning consultants were preparing a preliminary report for the Council. It was noted that the DRP had made little comment on the sustainability claims in the application. Cllr Orme proposed that BBM Sustainable Design be engaged to write a critique of the application, unless the SDNPA were engaging a similar expert. Seconded Cllr Ingham, and **carried**.
5. Parish magazine Cllr McBeth will act as editor. It was noted that articles will be received by 31 December for publication in early February.
6. New play equipment and recreation ground master plan. The tennis club committee have sent a comprehensive note regarding maintenance and raised the possibility of the Council taking over responsibility for the court. It was agreed that monthly sweeping of the tennis courts could be included in the schedule for maintenance of the recreation ground by the Council's contractors. A representative from the tennis club will attend the December meeting. The draft poster for the public consultations taking place in January was reviewed.
7. All councillors present signed a declaration of acceptance of agendas by electronic means
8. Car park update. The contract of sale required that the buyer's solicitor tidied up the Title to the land that is removed the overage clause on the land. Once the buyer's solicitor has completed this task, the transaction to purchase the land can complete.
9. Neighbourhood Plan reports, a meeting with each of the three-council chairman is to be arranged for 14 December 2018, following the traffic working party meeting.
10. Appointment of Clerk. The recruitment panel have interviewed all 4 applicants and have selected Sarah Mamoany an experienced, qualified clerk. The council **agreed** that Sarah Mamoany would be offered the post of Clerk.
11. Grant expenditure in the draft budget is £5,000 with applications for grants in the year received totalling £400. It was noted that applicants still had a few more days to make grant applications and emergency grants would be available during the 2019/20 financial year and so no change was made to the draft budget.
12. Finance matters
 - a) The bank reconciliation for October was **agreed** and has been authorised by Cllr Guggenheim
 - b) Payments totalling £6,033.46 were **approved**.
 - c) The Notice of Conclusion of Audit was **received** it has been displayed on the village notice board and is now shown on the website also.
 - d) The report from the Internal Auditor has been **received** and the recommendations reviewed.
13. Correspondence
 - P1 Request for £400 grant for maintenance Church Clock for 2019/20 financial year- this grant was approved and will be paid in the 2019/20 financial year.
 - P2 Request for memorial tree from Belinda Gordon for Camilla Walsh. It was agreed that a cherry tree could be planted along the side of the burial ground driveway.
 - P3 Geoffrey Miller – request to have a poodle design included on plaque at garden of remembrance. This was agreed providing the inscription made it clear that the remains were for a person and not a dog and the poodle image was discrete.

14. Written & verbal reports by representatives.
- a. Village Hall Management Committee – none
 - b. Ditchling Pavilion Club – none.
 - c. Ditchling Village Association – none
 - d. Lewes District Association of Local Councils –none

It was noted that complaints regarding licensed events at Macs Farm should be made to the licensing authority. It was noted that ESCC are aware that the vegetation needs cutting back at the bus stops at St Georges Park and the road surface is poor. It was noted that the very deep potholes in the village hall car park are due to be repaired on 3 December.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Chairman

**Ditchling Parish
Council
Expenditure Nov
2018**

Date	Ref	Value (incl vat) £
27/11/2018	HSS Hire	406.56
27/11/2018	HSS Hire Deposit	293.44
27/11/2018	Royal British Legion	17.00
27/11/2018	Locks & Cobblers	7.20
27/11/2018	Cleaning Supplies	4.00
27/11/2018	Grant Ditchling Hort. Soc	2,000.00
27/11/2018	Simon Woodley -grounds	250.00
27/11/2018	Salaries	2,200.31
27/11/2018	Hall hire	56.00
27/11/2018	Dog poo bags	170.40
27/11/2018	Screwfix	61.97
27/11/2018	Fasthosts	17.99
27/11/2018	Postage	2.36
27/11/2018	Website	35.00
27/11/2018	One Drive	1.99
27/11/2018	Easycopiers	42.00
27/11/2018	Lighting logs	5.00
27/11/2018	Mulberry & Co	269.04
27/11/2018	Surrey Hills Solicitor	193.20
		6,033.46