

CUCKFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Queen's Hall, High Street, Cuckfield, RH17 5EL



Minutes of the Meeting of the Full Council held at 7.30pm on 13th June 2019

Present: Mr A Burton (Chair), Mrs J Butler, Mr J Dickie, Mrs A King, Mr S Oversby-Powell, Mr A Podmore, Mrs H Schan-Martyn, Mr M Sheldon and Mr A Symonds

In Attendance: Mrs S Heynes (Clerk)

FC035. Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr C Mercer.

FC036. Declarations of Interest

None.

FC037. Public Question Time

None.

FC038. To approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 16th May 2019.

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th May 2019 were taken as read and confirmed as a true record.

FC039. To receive a report regarding any matters arising from the minutes not included elsewhere on the agenda

There were no matters arising.

FC040. To receive reports from the District Councillor and County Councillor.

Apologies received from Cllr Salisbury.

FC041. To receive a report from the Chairman.

Cllr Burton felt the Business Planning meeting held earlier in the week had gone well and requested all Councillors to feedback with any additional items they wanted to have considered. Two further items were mentioned, one was to have more benches throughout the village for people to sit on, and the other was to consider merging the Annual Parish Meeting with ISOC and CuckSoc to encourage more people to attend.

FC042. To note the Full Council Action List

Items were noted.

FC043. To note and approve the Internal Auditor's Report

Full Council resolved to approve the Internal Auditor's Report.

FC044. To note and approve the effectiveness of the Audit Plan and the Council's Internal Control Procedures

Full Council resolved to approve the Audit Plan and Council's Internal Control Procedures.

FC045. To ratify the recommendation made at F&GP Committee to approve the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2019, Section 1 – Annual Governance Statements 2018/19

Full Council resolved to approve the Annual Governance Statements 2018-19.

FC046. To ratify the recommendation made at F&GP Committee to approve the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2019, Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2018/19

Full Council resolved to approve the Accounting Statements 2018-19.

FC047. To consider the request for suggestions of local organisations to support the MSDC pilot summer outreach activity programme in Cuckfield

The Clerk had already contacted several local organisations. Further suggestions were Archery, Gardening and a Teen Yoga Class. The Clerk was instructed to put an appeal on Cuckfield's Facebook page.

FC048. To consider the Grants budget required for 2020-21 to enable Cuckfield Preschool to recover their costs for hiring the Village Hall as per the Transparency Act, and to form a new working party to meet with Cuckfield Preschool on a regular basis.

Council resolved to increase the Grants budget to £8,000; the Clerk was instructed to incorporate this into the Precept budget planning for 2020-21. The grant would be paid in instalments, with frequency of payments to be agreed with Preschool at the working party meeting. The new Working Party was formed of Cllr King, Cllr Schan-Martyn and Cllr Symonds.

FC049. To consider the latest plans for the regeneration of Burgess Hill and feedback.

Council feedback was that the new plans look very segregated, as the new area and the older area were not connected for pedestrians. It was felt this would deter shoppers from visiting the existing shopping space, causing a reduction in business for the shops located there. Council also noted that the public open space had been reduced, and there was a severe lack of additional car parking allocated for the increased footfall desired. Finally, the installation of parking for bicycles would be helpful.

FC050. Confidential Business

None.

FC051. To note items arising after the preparation of this Agenda which the Chairman agrees to take as urgent. Such matters will be for noting only or deferral to a

future meeting only.

Council suggested that the Assets, Community and Environment Committee be renamed so the acronym would be ACE. This would be added to the next agenda for ratification.

Cllr Butler attended the Rural and Community Led Housing event in Bolney run by Sussex Community Housing Hub. They work with communities to put together a viable way to purchase small plots of land to build affordable or Shared Ownership housing, for rent or sale on the open market. Long term guardianship is put in place to look after the properties, with lease holders who obtain revenue from the properties to offset the outlay. If housing was sold, initially it would be advertised to local people only at a capped cost. Bolney had built 12 units which have been impressive as they are all low energy properties, triple glazed with heat pumps as there was no gas supply in the village, they are low cost to run. If there was a parcel of land that would benefit from such an initiative the Parish Council could form a Community Land Trust and obtain their help to proceed.

Cllr Burton provided an update regarding the Pelham House Care Home planning application which had been approved without a definition of scale. When challenged, MSDC had been able to provide an answer to this. A member of public had taken this complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman, who dismissed the case. Ultimate this meant MSDC have no definition of scale in relation to planning applications. Cllr Burton will share the LGO response with Full Council for review.

Meeting closed 8.45pm.

Signed _____