



Working for the Community in Rotherfield, Mark Cross,
Eridge Green, Boarshead and surrounding areas

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ROTHERFIELD PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON TUESDAY 21ST JUNE 2022
IN THE PARISH COUNCIL ROOM AT ROTHERFIELD VILLAGE HALL AT 19:30**

PRESENT

Cllr R Harris (Chair)	Cllr D Hiles	Cllr J Richardson
Cllr B Johnstone (Vice-Chair)	Cllr N Wickenden	Cllr P Beach
Cllr J Cahan	Cllr J Kitchenham	Cllr P Kember
Cllr A Martin		

COUNCILLORS ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

Adam Hardy (Parish Clerk) and 11 members of the public.

1. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING: -

a) Public Forum:

None

b) Apologies for absence (LGA 1972 s85):

Apologies had been received from: Cllr G Watson-Smith, Cllr L Henrick & Cllr L Buck.

It was **RESOLVED** that their reasons for absence be accepted.

c) Declaration of personal, prejudicial, and disclosable pecuniary interests on items on the agenda, and updates to members' register of interests.

None

2. RECEIVE, DISCUSS & NOTE INTERNAL AUDITORS FINAL REPORT FOR 2021/2022.

Clerk presented the Internal Auditors report to the council. The contents of the report were noted by the council.

The Chair thanked the Clerk for his work on preparing the documents and accounts for the end of year process and audits.

3. REVIEW, ADOPT AND SIGN SECTIONS 1 & 2 OF THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE RETURN.

The Clerk presented the completed AGAR to the council and explained why Box 4 had to be marked as 'no' for the 2021-2022 year.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Chair sign the AGAR.

Clerk to send signed AGAR and associated documents to the external auditors.

Clerk: Adam J Hardy, 3 Trinity Mews, Mill Crescent, Crowborough, East Sussex TN6 2QU
Tel: 07969512099. **Email:** clerk@rotherfieldparishcouncil.co.uk
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4. DISCUSS AND AGREE PURCHASE OF SPEEDWATCH SIGNAGE.

It was **RESOLVED** to purchase ten lamppost signs for Community Speedwatch support at £10 each. **Cllr Martin** to arrange purchase and submit invoice for reimbursement.

5. DISCUSS AND RESOLVE QUOTE FOR A REPLACEMENT LAPTOP FOR THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL.

A quote had been received for a laptop for a replacement laptop for £375.00+VAT. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase the laptop. **Clerk** to arrange purchase and set up for Cllr Harris.

6. APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE HIGHWAYS, LIGHTING & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE FOR THE NORTH STREET JUNCTION RECONFIGURATION TO BE THE MATCH FUNDING APPLICATION FOR 2022-2023.

Cllr Kitchenham outlined the project and history of the proposal to the members of the public present. The overall aim being to improve safety for road users and pedestrians.

Cllr Kitchenham reminded all present that the aim was to make the pavements safer for all users by creating a safe crossing place. Cllr Martin reminded those present that it had been discussed multiple times in committee since before the pandemic and minutes had been published on the council website and social media pages.

The members of the public expressed the following concerns:

- The lack of communication with residents in North Street and surrounding roads regarding the proposals.
- The real issue is the need for the policing of parking on the North Street Junction.
- Feasibility Studies would have been carried out at times when traffic is light and should have been carried out during school drop off and collection times.
- The cars parked currently provide a barrier against speeding traffic preventing damage to properties in the square.
- The 1993 design that this project is based upon is out of date and does not represent the traffic and parking situation 29 years later.
- The widening of the pavement will make turning into North Street even more complicated and dangerous at peak times.
- Bollards along pavements would be a better use of council money.

Cllr Richardson reminded those present that information regarding the proposed scheme had been published in a previous parish council newsletter.

Cllr Martin reminded councillors and members of the public that any works would be subject to a Road Traffic Order from East Sussex County Council and residents would be consulted as part of this process.

It was **RESOLVED** to return this matter to the Highways, Lighting & Transport Committee for further discussion. **Deputy Clerk** to add item to 19th July Highways, Lighting & Transport Committee meeting.

Clerk reminded councillors that the deadline for Match Funding application is December 2022.

7. TO CONSIDER AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS AND OTHER PLANNING MATTERS.

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- a) **WD/2022/0987/F**- Quern, Mill Lane, Mark Cross, TN6 3PL
Extension to front porch.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Wealden District Council that this application be **APPROVED**. The council had no further comments on this application.

8. TO RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING FROM WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

i. Decision notices.

- **WD/2021/2149/F** - Rotherfield Village Hall, North Street, Rotherfield, TN6 3LX
Erection of vertical extension of stage roof.

No comment made by this Council and application **APPROVED** by Wealden District Council.

- **WD/2022/0532/F** - Owlsbury Depot, Hadlow Down Road, Crowborough, TN6 3RG
Replacement and extended industrial building.

Recommend for **APPROVAL** by this committee and **APPROVED** by Wealden District Council.

ii. Planning correspondence.

None

iii. Any Enforcement, Conservation or appeal matters

- The Clerk reported that a parishioner had raised concerns regarding possible development and occupation of a plumbed in caravan at Cottage Hill. **Clerk** to raise with Wealden District Council.
- Cllr Harris reported that Cllrs Johnston & Kember had drafted a letter to Wealden Planning regarding lack of enforcement on planning issues, especially in relation to planning applications and breaches at Court Farm. **Clerk** to circulate to all councillors for comment before the signing by the Chair and then being sent to Stacy Robins, Head of Planning & Environmental Services.

9. TO RECEIVE NOTICE OF DATE OF NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

Parish Council Meeting: Thursday 30th June 2022 in the Parish Council Room at Rotherfield Village Hall

Planning & Building Meeting: Tuesday 12th July 2022 in the Parish Council Room at Rotherfield Village Hall.

10. TO RECEIVE DETAILS OF ANY URGENT ISSUES FOR NOTING OR INCLUSION ON FUTURE AGENDA.

- Cllr Beach sent apologies for the 30th June 2022 Parish Council Meeting.
- Cllrs Cahan, Hiles & Kember sent apologies for the 28th July 2022 Parish Council Meeting.

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Chair declared the formal business of the meeting closed at: **20:21**

.....Chair.....Date

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