

## EBERNOE PARISH COUNCIL

The Ebernoe Parish Council Meeting was held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 in Holy Trinity Church, Ebernoe.

Present: Councillor Mrs A. Tyrrell (Chairman), Councillor Miss F. Abraham, Councillor Mr. J. Harvey, Councillor Mrs S. Kendall, Councillor Mrs. S. Nyfield and Councillor Mr P. Simmonds.

In attendance: Mrs J Duncton (County Councillor), Mrs H. Scott (Parish Clerk).

**197** The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**198 Apologies for absence received** – Councillor Mr. G. Evans and Councillor Mr I Parkinson. Councillor Parkinson also confirmed he was moving to Devon in the New Year and would not be attending any further meetings this means there will be vacancy for Councillor. The Clerk advised that notices re vacancy will need to be displayed for 14 days. If no nominations put forward the council will need to co-opt a new councillors. Members present agreed that the notice should be displayed as soon as possible. Chairman to write letter of thanks on behalf of the Parish Council.

**199 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting** held on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2021 having previously been circulated, were approved and signed. Proposed by Councillor J Harvey and seconded by Councillor P. Simmonds

**200 Matters arising** – Broadband update – working progressing on London Road gigabit scheme. Balls Cross scheme submitted to Openreach.

Telephone Kiosk – proposed to start refurbishment in the Spring.

Memorial seat – no further action.

North East Parishes Group – Ebernoe parish council unable to provide financial support.

Bonfire and Fireworks – the parish council were unanimous in thanking Peter and his team for the brilliant bonfire and fireworks display which was outstanding. Special thanks also go to the anonymous donors who made substantial donations for the provision of the fireworks.

Next community events will be Carols on the Green on 12<sup>th</sup> December and the tradition Carol Service at Holy Trinity on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

**201 Queen's Celebrations 2022** – CDC are considering awarding grants of up to £250 towards the Queen's Jubilee celebrations. Parishes will be notified in due course. A suggestion was put forward to replace the notice board at Colhook in celebration of the Jubilee. Councillors agreed to allocate £500 towards the cost and apply for grant funding and donations.

It was agreed to hold community event, on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Working party to be set up in the New Year.

**202 Finger Post – Balls Cross** – Request received from parishioner for the WSCC 'Heritage' sign in Balls Cross to have the finial at top of sign to incorporate the words Balls Cross beneath WSCC to be in keeping with other similar signs in the locality. Also included a request for the sign to be cleaned/refurbished. West Sussex County Council's Highways Department are responsible for the maintenance of these signs. Councillor Janet Duncton volunteered to contact Highways department on parishioner's behalf.

**203 Chairman's Report** – update received from Councillor Sue Nyfield re the two defibrillators in the parish. These units are checked regularly on 6 monthly basis. It was also suggested that an update be a regular feature in parish magazine.

**204 County Councillors Report** – New Lego Brick Wonders exhibition to opens on 4<sup>th</sup> December at the Novium Museum

The A285 is still closed at Duncton, the latest information is that in early December they hope to open one lane controlled with traffic lights. Before Christmas they hope to have the whole road open. It's been a difficult job but is now being worked on 7 days a week so hopefully will be open by Christmas.

The first of our 3 childrens' homes that have been refurbished is now officially open and up and running. The other two in the Worthing area are also ready. There are 2 in Crawley that are in need of refurbishment and work will start on these soon.

Childrens' services are moving in the right direction – we have had several OFSTED inspections during the time that we didn't have a good rating but the last one was encouraging as it shows we are improving. It is slow and difficult but we will get there and when the final OFSTED comes we will get a minimum of good. The new Fire Station at Broadbridge Heath is getting nearer to a start date and when this is done it will be a great training Station for other Fire Services to make use of and be part of our income.

Together with our Districts and Boroughs the County has been taking care of refugees as required. Of course the Districts and Boroughs can provide housing which County does not have but we coordinate and provide social services and education.

Trading Standards have been busy and it has resulted recently in 3 rogue traders in the building trade being

prosecuted and receiving sentence.

South Downs National Park – we have a site visit on the Barlavington Estate which is hoping to get a Whole Estate Plan known as WEP. SDNP has now purchased the Seven Sisters Country Park from Eastbourne Borough Council. From before the final papers were signed we had plans for improvement which are now already moving forward.

Budget – currently holding budget workshops and things are tight but at this moment in time I am not expecting too many cuts in Services for 22/23 but we do know there may be further information from the government on fairer funding and don't know how this could affect budgetary planning.

## **205 District Councillors Report –**

### **District Councillor Address**

#### **Local Updates**

##### **Lagoon 3**

In my last address I gave a detailed update of the most recent meeting held regarding Lagoon 3 with the Environmental Agency and Chichester District Council. This is to confirm that the next meeting will be held on 11th January 2022, and I will provide a full update in the new year as to the progress being made here. Rest assured I am keeping on the pressure to get this situation resolved as quickly and safely as possible.

##### **Loxwood Claypit**

At the time of writing I was awaiting confirmation whether the claypit application would be heard at the WSCC planning committee meeting on 30th November. I will update on this in my next update when I know more

##### **Concerns over Water Supply and Planning permissions**

Parish Councillors across the ward have raised concerns with me over the water supply and lack of robust action by Chichester District Council.

On 27th October the District Council issued a Media Release “Water abstraction issues in north of District will impact on planning decisions”.

There is now also advice on the Chichester District council website at

[www.chichester.gov.uk/waterresources](http://www.chichester.gov.uk/waterresources)

This includes

- A copy of the Position Statement
- “FAQs” and additional data.
- Joint study - The council is working on a joint study with neighbouring authorities to quantify the scale of the issue and identify proposed mitigation schemes to address this issue. Part A is now posted on the site.

My group and I have further requested that:

1. All documents produced by Chichester District Council (CDC) are on official CDC headed paper and should be signed by an officer (or the Cabinet Member for Planning)
2. All relevant Parish Councils are officially sent this correspondence to share with their local communities.

My group and I are not satisfied that the emails and “advice” are sufficient evidence to demonstrate the Councils commitment to upholding the Natural England Position Statement.

At the time of writing this I had not received a positive response on this subject and my group and I have therefore now formally written to the Cabinet Member for Planning, reinforcing our concerns.

### **Chichester District Updates**

#### **Free Trees**

More than 8,000 free trees will be planted in the Chichester District this winter as part of a scheme to increase tree planting across the district. The scheme, which is funded by The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), is testing ways to increase tree cover in rural and urban areas. CDC are one of five local authorities in England taking part in the £2.5 million tree planting pilot. You can find out more here: <https://www.chichester.gov.uk/article/35918/More-than-8000-trees-to-be-planted-in-theChichester-District-this-winter>

#### **Enabling Grant 2021**

The second round of funding has now closed. CDC have received over 74 applications from across the district, which is encouraging as it shows that people are still planning to invest in their businesses. There are a good amount of varied responses between start-ups, website and capital grants. The applications will be reviewed and successful applicants informed by mid November. I can report on this in the next District Councillor update

### **Finance**

The pandemic has had a financial impact on everyone, including the council. Last year CDC, produced a three year plan to save nearly £2 million. The CEO has confirmed that this year they are making good progress towards this target. Over £900,000 has been saved this year, and CDC have a further £864,000 of planned savings to achieve over the next couple of years. This has been achieved through reducing costs and bringing in additional income.

Although this is really positive, CDC's financial situation is still very uncertain. CDC are waiting to see what their settlement will be for the next year from the Government. CDC were hoping that the Government would tell them what funding they are likely to receive over the next three years. However, it seems likely that they will only plan for one year. CDC's income levels aren't returning to the same level that they were pre-pandemic. CDC also have a pay and national insurance increase that they were not expecting. Due to all of this it is very likely that further savings will be required and I will update as I know more.

### **Test and Trace Support Scheme**

The Test and Trace Support Scheme (which pays eligible residents up to £500 to self-isolate) has been extended up to 31 March 2022. For further information please visit <https://www.chichester.gov.uk/helpwithfinances>

### **Household Support Fund**

Vulnerable households across the country will be able to access a new £500m support fund to help them with essentials over the coming months as the country continues its recovery from the pandemic. The new Household Support Fund will support millions of households in England and will be distributed by councils in England, who know their local areas best and can directly help those who need it most, including for example, through small grants to meet daily needs such as food, clothing, and utilities.

Cash was made available to Local Authorities in October 2021. CDC are working with West Sussex County Council on the criteria for this scheme who are responsible for the administration of the Household Support Fund.

As soon as the scheme is developed our website will be updated to reflect this.

For further information in the meantime please visit

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/governmentlaunches-500m-support-forvulnerable-households-over-winter>

### **Financial Help for Residents**

We have been asked to share this website for anyone who may benefit from financial support and/or checking that they are receiving everything due. For further information please visit <https://www.chichester.gov.uk/helpwithfinances>

### **Gatwick Airport Consultation**

The owners of Gatwick Airport are consulting on proposals (ending 1 December 2021) to bring the existing northern runway into use for smaller aircraft alongside the main runway.

A report is going to Cabinet on 2 November 2021 with the council's suggested responses to the consultation questions. <https://www.gatwickairport.com/businesscommunity/future-plans/northern-runway/>

### **Petworth Vision**

Petworth Vision is progressing the CDC part-funded creation of a dedicated website for the Petworth Heritage Partnership, with the design of the logo. The website is going live mid -November. The partnership comprises the following organisations: St Mary's Church; United Reformed Church; The Leconfield Hall; Sacred Heart Church; The Old Railway Station; Petworth & District Community Association; Petworth

Vision CIC; The Petworth Society; Petworth Business Association; and, the Petworth Town Band.

The aim is to promote the organisations together on one dedicated website to help showcase Petworth's large number of heritage sites in a more efficient way, encourage greater community engagement and increase visitor numbers. The ongoing maintenance of the new website will be funded by donations raised during the Heritage Weekends and throughout the year. Petworth Vision is also progressing the CDC part-funded scheme of setting up and running computer training at the United Reform Church for residents of Petworth and the surrounding areas. It is being presented as an IT café and training will range from online banking and shopping, to using Zoom and Skype and IT security.

The sessions run every Tuesday morning and will finish in September 2022. The IT café is being promoted through Facebook/Instagram/leaflets/ the Petworth Business Association website and an article in the Midhurst & Petworth Observer

### **Full Council Meeting**

The next full council meeting will take place on Tuesday 23rd November 2021

### **206 Precept**

(See appendix 1)

Precept discussed and approved by councillors. Proposer Councillor Harvey and seconded by Councillor Abraham.

### **207 Financial Report -**

#### **Present bank balances:**

Current Account	£ 711.51
Deposit Account	£ 5703.24 (includes precept below)

#### **Expenditure to be approved**

WSCC Parish Online Subscription 2021-22	£ 60.00
Mr. P. Melleresh Annual rent – Bus Shelter	£ 15.00
Mr. J.C. Wadey 1 <sup>st</sup> Winter Maintenance	£ 100.00
Mrs H Scott Annual expenses	£ 482.39

#### **Income received**

CDC precept (September 2021- March 2022)	£ 1003.00
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It is proposed to transfer £1500 from business account to current account.

Financial report approved unanimously - proposer Councillor Harvey and seconded by Councillor Simmonds

**Broadband** – An application has been made by resident representatives to Openreach on behalf of a number of residents in Balls Cross.

#### **Grants for Queen's Jubilee**

Chichester District Council are planning to make small grants available (up to £250) to assist with local celebrations. Preliminary information e mail circulated to councillors prior to meeting.

#### **Planning Update**

SDNP/20/05011/FUL – Bittlesfield, Balls Cross – Demolition of 1 No. existing dwelling, garage and outbuildings, replaced with 1 No. detached dwelling and 1 No. Detached garage/storage including access; driveway/parking and amenity space.

SDNP/20/05206/HOUS – Redhill Farm, London Road – proposal for a two storey side extension to the dwelling with the relocation of the front door and porch. **Permit**

EN/21/00453/FUL – Brook Cottage, Balls Cross – New Access to the highway and associated driveway/parking area.

SDNP/21/03666/LDP – Siblands Farm – repair work to roof barn. **Permit**

#### **Correspondence**

All correspondence has been previously circulated via e mail.

#### **Parish Website**

The parish website is fully operational and can be accessed via [www.ebernoeparish.co.uk](http://www.ebernoeparish.co.uk).

**208 Any other matters from councillors present** – Thanks given to Councillor Nyfield for taking the lead on all matters relating to Gatwick Airport. The Clerk confirmed that the parish council's objections to Gatwick's latest plans had been submitted to the relevant site. Chairman advised that Clerk working on policy relating to protocols re Senior Royals as suggested by Chichester District Council. Similar work is being carried out by PCC at Holy TA draft will be circulated to Councillors for comment when draft

completed.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance.

**Date of next meeting**                      **22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022**

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

**Appendix 1**

<b>EBERNOE PARISH COUNCIL</b>		
<b>Proposed</b>		
<b>Precept 2022-2023</b>		
Proposed expenditure		
ground rent for bus shelters		30
Internal Auditor		60
Clerks expense reimbursement		450
Stationery, postage etc		50
Room hire		40
Sussex Association of Local Councils		74
Parish Online Subscription		50
Insurance plus 3%		300
Section 137 payments	estimate	150
Winter management storage costs		300
Website and email		120
Queen's Celebration		250
Maintenance - benches and bus shelters		100
Contingency		100
<b>Total</b>		<b>2074</b>
current precept		2006
increase from 2021-2022		<b>68</b>
Reserve Account estimate at year end		<b>5445</b>
Helen Scott		
Parish Clerk		
22/11/21		