

COLDWALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2022 7.30PM SANDHAM HALL, LONDON ROAD, COLDWALTHAM

Those Present: Cllr G Nelson Chairman
Cllr J Evans Vice-Chairman
Cllr C Dennis
Cllr A Davies
Cllr J Bowler
Cllr A Lane
Cllr K Coughtrey
Cllr O Dudman

C Cllr C Kenyon
D Cllr P Clarke

Mrs LD Sherlock-Fuidge Clerk

Before the meeting there was an opportunity for members of the public present to speak with council. No members of public present.

22 / 28.00 TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Hewer and D Cllr van de Klugt.

22 / 29.00 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS FROM MEMBERS, AND ANY CHANGES SINCE THEIR LAST DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No new declarations were received.

22 / 30.00 TO APPROVE AND SIGN MINUTES

Minutes for the council meeting held on 27th September 2022, and planning meeting held on 4th October 2022 were accepted and signed by the Chairman.

22 / 31.00 FINANCE

22 / 31.01 **Account Summary:** The Clerk distributed the accounts for Parish Council and Alban Head Playing Fields Committee to members prior to the meeting. These are attached as Appendix A & B respectively.

22 / 31.02 **Payments:** payments made since the last meeting, these were authorised for the cheques or payment instructions signed by signatories for:

Newmoss Roofing	Balance paid on behalf of AH	£4,350.00
Sandham Memorial Village Hall	Planning Meeting Fee	£10.00

Further payments were authorised, and cheques signed by signatories for:

Coldwaltham Churchyard	Donation - Local Gov Act 1972 s215 (6)	£300.00
Hardham Churchyard	Donation - Local Gov Act 1972 s215 (6)	£200.00
Mrs LD Sherlock-Fuidge	British Legion & Microsoft Subscription	£99.99
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE Oct to Dec	£63.80
Mark Weston	Sign Maintenance	£120.00
Sandham Memorial Village Hall	November Meeting Fee	£10.00

22 / 32.00 C Cllr Kenyon advised, in the future, parishes will receive a report each month, which will be available for parish meetings. From this month's report she highlighted the following:

- Sussex Police were unsuccessful in their bid for an acoustic speed camera.

- As member on the Communities, Highways and Environment Scrutiny Committee she is looking at speed limits on non-classified roads.
- Speeding - the issue remains the enforcement of speeds, which takes manpower: this is an issue for the police. Local speed watch groups are very useful as it keeps giving data for the police to work from.
- PROW Network looking at the fragmentation of our footpath and bridleway network, trying to link up
- Highlighted the closure of Kithurst Car Park on the South Downs (above Rackham), WSSC not renewing the management agreement.

C Cllr Kenyon left the meeting to attend another meeting.

22 / 33.00 BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR THE 2023/24 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Clerk gave all councillors a copy of the proposed budget for 2023-24 for the Parish Council and is attached as Appendix C.

The Clerk explained the figures in the budget for discussion for 2023/24: highlighting changes to: the Alban Head salaries as the minimum wage rate has not been announced yet, an increase of 5% to £10 per hour has been included this might have to change if the minimum wage is higher than this amount; there will be an External Audit fee. Cllr Nelson included a 5% increase for the clerk's salary too.

Cllr Dennis mentioned about the possible purchase of speed cameras or any such items, Cllr Nelson noted that this was an important issue but would not be covered by this budget increase, highlighting that the PC have very few assets.

RESOLVED: Members agreed the budget of £17029.

The Clerk reminded members how the precept is calculated; the Parish requests an amount, which is then divided by the Tax Base, this will give the amount a Band D household will pay. The Clerk noted that the tax base figures not been received yet, so the calculations are based on last year's figure. The clerk distributed calculations showing various increases.

Members then discussed the Precept, the chair suggested an increase of 3%, Chairman suggested that members continue to consider this and would confirm at the meeting in January.

22 / 34.00 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Nelson updated members regarding the Saxon Weald proposed development in Brookview, noting that no application had been received so it was difficult to speculate on any comment to be made.

The Alban Head Playing Field is currently very wet but is in good order with the roof repaired. Minutes of the recent AHPF meeting are available.

22 / 35.00 PLANNING

The Clerk updated the Council regarding recent applications:

- SDNP/22/01301/HOUS, Mickleham Brockhurst Farm, Watersfield. Permitted
- SDNP/22/03685/HOUS, Hardham Priory London Road Hardham, (Householder Application), Permitted
- SDNP/22/03686/LIS, Hardham Priory London Road Hardham, (Listed Building Consent), Permitted

Cllr Dennis noted that the Waltham Park Road application deadline has been extended into November.

22 / 36.00 ITEMS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL / PARISH CLERK

22 / 36.01

Cllr Evans noted an email from C Cllr Kenyon giving an update on the traffic issues but there doesn't appear to be any progress, it appears to be going round in circles. Cllr Evans suggested a strongly worded letter to the major players involved; **Members confirmed this course of action.**

Cllr Evans agreed that the police have had a greater presence in the parish recently, however when they leave the speeding returns, this is the same affect experienced when speed watch run a campaign, speeding returns after they finish.

Following the suggestion for the use of technology in this situation to tackle speeding in the village, he had approached a company Westcotec, but awaiting costs.

Cllr Dennis noted that the main problem is SPEEDING, which is enforced by the police. However, this is not enforced very frequently, this is not just in Coldwaltham but everywhere.

D Cllr Clarke suggested contacting David Hurst, as the Pulborough Partnership are also looking into the control of speeding options.

22 / 36.02 Cllr Dudman asked if there had been an update regarding changes in the parliamentary constituency boundary, D Cllr Clarke noted that there had been an updated proposal which makes no radical changes in this area. Nothing received officially.

22 / 36.03 D Cllr Clarke highlighted:

- that HDC are expecting to increase their precept by the £5 per household limit,
- other items will also increase; brown bin collection, car parking, fees
- however, food waste collections, which were trialled last year, looks like it will be put on hold.
- Obstructions on pavements, and how this impacts partially sighted and those with mobility difficulties.
- HDC are increasing their use of electric vehicles
- small grants available from HDC with matched funding for business

22 / 36.04 Cllr Lane noted that the hedge between the path and the road from Sandham Hall to Church Lane had been cut, however the hedge on the inside of the path had not been cut back - the Clerk to investigate.

22 / 36.05 Cllr Davies advised that the Tree for the Platinum Jubilee was available for planting, the preferred site on the south side of Arun Vale, just need to check the ownership of the land and for any cabling.

22 / 37.00 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

Next Meeting of Council is on Tuesday 17th January 2023, at 7.30pm, in the Sandham Hall. The clerk distributed the list of dates for the rest of 2023, noting that Sandham Hall had been booked up to the May meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Chairman:..... **Date:**.....

Distributed to those present, also Cllr Hewer, and D Cllrs Donnelly, and van de Klugt.