

Glynde & Beddingham Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF GLYNDE & BEDDINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER 2020

Present: Councillors: J Denis (Chair*), L Gribble (Vice Chair*), L Jolly, R Phillips, J Pratley and D Sadler

In Attendance: Maria Caulfield MP, District Cllr E O'Brien, S Mills (Interim Parish Clerk)

GBPC 2021-038 1. **Public Question and Statements**
No members of the public were present.

GBPC 2021-039 2. **Parish Councillor Apologies**
There were no apologies to note.

GBPC 2021-040 3. **Declarations of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest to note.

GBPC 2021-041 4. **Chair's Welcome**
The Chair welcomed everybody to the virtual meeting and thanked Maria Caulfield MP and District Councillor Emily O'Brien for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend.

GBPC 2021-042 5. **Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd July 2020 were **AGREED** and signed as a true record. The Clerk will liaise with Cllr Pratley regarding play area signage, all other matters arising are addressed within this agenda.

GBPC 2021-043 6. **District/County Councillor/MP Reports**

- Maria Caulfield MP provided the following update:
 - Has been working with Cllr Denis and Southern Rail regarding trains not stopping at Glynde Station for school children meaning children were being either very early or late for school. The stops have now been added and are on the timetable.
 - Residents in Ranscombe Lane have been in contact; when the A27 was done many years ago, the residents state that they were promised screening for noise and sound-proofing. They have been liaising with Highways England to no avail. Ms Caulfield asked if the Parish Council would be able to look into obtaining CIL funding or pots for tree planting with her support.
 - Addressed rumours about the A27 and confirmed that no decisions have been made and no plans are likely to be moving forwards within the next 5 years. Full engagement regarding any proposed plans will take place with all the options put forward.
 - Housing Whitepaper consultation – there is no legislation timetabled but an announcement on the results of the current consultation is expected before Christmas. Ms Caulfield has fed back her concerns into the consultation process and is happy to put forward any concerns from the district and parishes.
- District Councillor E O'Brien provided the following update:
 - The District Council is very busy at the moment focussing on recovery and supporting local businesses.
 - Has been working with Cllr Denis to address the many concerns of residents around speed and potholes. Has written to the County Council asking how they assess potholes as some residents are impacted by the noise and vibration of traffic going over shallower potholes but impact on residents isn't currently a criteria when assessing potholes for repair.
 - The District Council is putting together strong representations to the two planning reform consultations currently being undertaken focussing on the impact on local democracy and local decision making.
- In his capacity as District Councillor, Cllr Denis provided the following update:
 - The District Council has been working on the best way to reset the economy to stimulate it for local businesses. A Cabinet Meeting is scheduled for tomorrow to look at the next steps.
 - ESALC are having a planning briefing which the District Council will look to share with local Councils.

- The District Council is setting out its Equalities Plan for the coming year which addresses inequalities within the district.
- The Community Safety Plan, being devised jointly with Eastbourne, is looking at how to tackle issues such as anti-social behaviour, speeding and violent crime. Priorities are being reframed and shared with the County equivalent partnership to direct focus to the key issues. Speeding has been highlighted and Cllr Denis met with Jo Shiner [Chief Constable of Sussex] and Katy Bourne [Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner] who are keen to support community speedwatch and to make the whole process of how speed limits are set and enforced more accountable.
- Cllr Denis addressed concerns that rent increases in Glynde are leading to gentrification of the village. Maria Caulfield raised that the Ringer Community Land Trust [www.ringmerareact.org] is asking for land to be donated to build housing for local people which may be of interest. Cllr Denis will raise the issue at an upcoming meeting with Glynde Estates.

GBPC
2021-044

7. Friends of Glynde Station

Helen Sadler from Friends of Glynde Station gave an update on the project which has progressed with the help of the Sussex Community Rail Partnership. The ramp has been cleared and £900 worth of plants are ready to be planted. Six tonnes of soil have been delivered and a planting event is planned for this Sunday to plant hundreds of bulbs. Pesticides will no longer be used on the station and the Network Rail team will work with FOGS four times a year to plan work rather than strimming and hacking back. Plants and beds are sorted on the Brighton side ramp end and under the bridge on the Eastbourne side. In the longer term, the area behind the ticket office will be cleared back and the diseased Ash trees will be removed, fencing and lighting will be added with plans for new picket fences, a large screen and projector, wireless booster and phone charger. Finances for an art project for children to design a steam train have been approved and large metal sculptures are being made based on local children's artwork. The bee friendly project are no longer providing a free hive and the team are looking to local organisations to fund this. The Chair thanked Mrs Sadler for all the hard work of the FOGS team and confirmed that the Parish Council do have a small grant fund available for local projects. The Clerk will forward details of the grant application process.

8. Planning Reform

Members reviewed two current consultations regarding planning reform, 'Changes to the current planning system' and 'Planning for the Future'. Areas of concern discussed were the way in which housing targets are calculated and the binding nature of these, the changes to affordable housing thresholds and clarification over proposed growth, renewal and protected zones.

It was **RESOLVED** for Cllr Denis to compose a response to the consultations based on Councillor and Parish feedback provided.

9. Trevor Arms

The Clerk provided an update from Glynde Estates confirming that efforts continue to source a suitable operator to run the pub. Councillors raised that the Trevor Arms is an issue that is frequently raised by residents. The Chair asked Councillors to email any questions, suggestions or concerns from residents regarding the pub to the Clerk for inclusion on the next liaison meeting.

Members **NOTED** the updated.

10. Traffic

10.1. Community Speedwatch

Members received an update from Cllr Phillips. There are now seven Members in the group including Cllrs Phillips and Denis and there have been three monitoring sessions in the last week. So far, 37 letters have been sent out to speeding drivers and the police have held two enforcement sessions outside of rush hour with one driver found to be doing 67mph down Lacey's Hill. A concern was identified regarding speeding tractors hauling building waste through the village and a lack of signage alerting heavy vehicles to the weak bridge.

Members **NOTED** the update. Cllr Phillips will speak with East Sussex Highways and report back at a future meeting.

10.2. Sussex Safer Roads Partnership

Members received an update from the Chair regarding the operational group Sussex Safer Road Partnerships. The new Chief Constable Jo Shiner is keen to review how the group makes its decisions. The Chair will keep Members updated on progress.

Members **NOTED** the update.

GBPC 11. Play Area
2021-045

11.1. Play Area Improvement Project

a) **Replacement surfacing and slide removal**

The slide has now been removed and contractors are in the final stages of repairing and replacing the safety surfacing under the swings and around the roundabout to be fully completed by the end of the week.

Members **NOTED** the update.

b) **Purchase of goal**

Glydne Estates have requested details of the size and material of a semi-permanent goal that can be removed for events. A location will be agreed between the Council and the Estate.

Members **NOTED** the update.

c) **Quotes for further remedial work**

Members reviewed quotes for the painting of the swings, replacement of bolts in the witches hat and for the replacement of the worn bearings on the roundabout.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the replacement of bolts in the witches hat at a cost of £50 and to add the estimated £1,000 costs for the repair of the roundabout into the additional funding discussions being discussed under item 11.1e 'Slide Replacements'. The Parish Council will undertake the painting of the swings internally.

d) **Working Day**

In light of current social distancing restrictions, and to ensure the work does not clash with the upcoming FOGS work, it was **RESOLVED** to schedule a working day to repaint the swings and re-stain wooden play equipment to be completed by the end of Spring 2021.

e) **Slide Replacement**

Members reviewed methods of funding the new slide and roundabout repair against the current playground budget and reserve levels.

It was **RESOLVED** for the Clerk to prepare a flyer to consult residents on a proposal to apply for a loan from the public works loan board of £10,000 to purchase the slide and to complete associated works, with results to be fed back to Council. Cllr Sadler was authorised to go through the required paperwork with the Clerk to present to the Council at the next meeting.

11.2. Play Inspection Report

Members reviewed the latest play inspection report. The main outstanding issues have been addressed with the works currently being undertaken in the play area.

Members **NOTED** the update.

GBPC 12. Assets of Community Value
2021-046

It was **RESOLVED** to commence the process of nominating the following Assets of Community Value:

- Swimming Pool
- Cricket Field
- Recreation Ground
- Reading Room
- Social Club
- Shop

The Clerk will investigate whether it is permissible to nominate the Forge, allotments, train station and the churches in Glynde and Beddingham.

13. Community Engagement

Members reviewed various methods of engaging with the local community.

It was **RESOLVED** to progress the following:

- Input into the Glynde Estates welcome pack
- Setting up an email mailing list
- Preparing an article for the parish newsletter
- Posting on the Glynde and Around Facebook page

14. Business Plan

Members received an update from the Clerk regarding the draft business plan. Cllr Denis, Cllr Phillips and the Clerk will meet to progress the draft plan and to discuss methods of gaining input from the local community. The Chair requested all Members to submit potential items for inclusion within the plan to the Clerk.

Members **NOTED** the update.

GBPC 15. Finance
2021-047

15.1. Payments and Receipts

Members reviewed the list of payments to be paid this month as detailed below:

Payee	Product/Service	Amount
EDF Energy	Energy bill for July 2020 (paid by DD on 17/08/20)	£78.45
S Mills	Clerk salary for August 2020	£364.78
EDF Energy	Energy bill for August 2020 (paid by DD on 15/09/20)	£78.45
S Mills	Clerk salary for September 2020	£364.78
S Mills	Reimbursement to Clerk for following shared 50/50 with South Heighton Parish Council: McAfee Anti-Virus £24.99; Zoom Virtual Meeting for September £7.20; Mobile Phone for August £3 and September £3.	£38.19
Total:		£924.65

It was **RESOLVED** to approve payments totalling £924.65 and to authorise Cllrs Gribble and Jolly to sign the cheques.

Members **NOTED** the following receipts since the last meeting:

Payee	Product/Service	Amount
HMRC	VAT Rebate	£650.47
Lewes District Council	Precept payment 2 of 2	£5,641.62
Total:		£6,292.09

15.2. Internet Banking

It was **RESOLVED** to apply to set up internet banking for the payment of parish council invoices with all payments requiring 2 signatories and for Cllr Phillips to be added as a signatory. The Chair will visit the bank branch to obtain a list of all current signatories and the Clerk will then prepare associated paperwork to be signed by Councillors.

GBPC 16. Councillor Reports and Items for Future Agendas
2021-048

- Cllr Phillips reported that residents have commented on the mural on the church which nobody knew about.
- Cllr Sadler asked for a representation from the Members of Friends of Firle School to be added to the next agenda.
- Cllr Pratley reported that the swimming pool is now closed following a successful season and the Reading Room is opening on 24th September with covid-19 risk assessments in place.
- The Chair asked for the SCATE model motion to be added to the next agenda and for SCATE and Maria Caulfield MP to be invited.

GBPC 17. Council Meetings
2021-049

The latest advice from NALC to local authorities is to hold meetings virtually wherever possible. Cllr Phillips proposed a hybrid virtual meeting where members of the community without access to technology can attend in person at the Reading Room.

It was **RESOLVED** that the next meeting shall take place on Wednesday 18th November. The meeting shall be run virtually and the Clerk will investigate the logistics and insurance implications of holding a virtual-physical hybrid meeting whilst adhering to current social distancing guidelines and protecting the local community.

The meeting ended at 10:04pm

Signed:

Date:

Print Name:

*The term Chair/Vice Chair refers to the Chairman/Vice Chairman of the Parish Council as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 s. 15(1) and 15(6).