

**COCKING PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**2 MARCH 2020, 6.30PM**  
**VILLAGE HALL, BELL LANE, COCKING**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Miss F Russell (Chair), D Imlach, R Jenkins and R Marks.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** G Burt, Clerk to the Council  
Dis Cllr G Macara  
1 Member of the public

**1. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs J Jackson and T Waite due to prior engagements. The apologies were noted and reasons given approved.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

Members and officers were invited to make any declarations of pecuniary and/or non-pecuniary interests that they may have in relation to items on the agenda and were reminded to make any declarations at any stage during the meeting if it then became apparent that this may be required when a particular item or issue was to be considered.

Miss F Russell declared an interest as a shareholder in the Bluebell Community Hub.

**3. Questions from Visitors**

None.

**4. WSCC Report**

Cty Cllr D Bradford had sent his apologies.

**5. CDC Report**

Dis Cllr G Macara reported on the CDC Local Plan; a survey being conducted by Midhurst Town Council on a possible Lido; VE Day Grants; Roman Week @ The Novium; Child Exploitation Day on 18 March; Coronavirus planning incl. NDR relief and virtual meetings.

**6. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the 3 February 2020, previously circulated were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**7. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

The Oak tree at The Croft had been reported but Hyde weren't being very helpful.

WSCC had confirmed that a request to reduce the speed limit north of the village from 60 to 40mph, instead of the now approved 50mph, would have failed as it would not accord with their criteria/policy.

8. **Planning**

There were no planning applications to consider.

9. **Bluebell Inn Community Project** – to receive an update if available from the Council's representative.

Cllr Miss F Russell advised that they were hoping to commence offering B&B accommodation from mid-March.

10. **Highways**

a. **Village Gateways – to receive an update.**

Nothing new to report.

b. **Bell Lane TRO.**

WSCC had agreed to look at this but advised that no accidents had been reported; residents had been asked to let the Council know of any unreported incidents etc.

c. **Footpaths and Footways**

The need for ongoing clearance of the footway on the east side of the A286 north to the Heyshott turn was stressed.

d. **Cycleways**

Nothing to report.

11. **Parish Matters**

a. **Playground**

Nothing to report.

b. **Newsletter**

As the combined newsletter was not yet ready to roll, a Parish Council edition would be published as usual.

c. **Village Hall**

Nothing to report.

d. **Village Hall Car Park**

Nothing to report.

e. **Broadband**

The Chairman had attended a meeting on with affected residents and reps. from WSCC who led on rural Broadband matters and BT. There was believed to be 80 houses without Fibre-Broadband. These would be all leafleted (Parish Council would meet cost) to invite residents to apply for a notional voucher provided by the Government. If a minimum number applied, then the vouchers would be used to pay BT to install Fibre Broadband. The Parish Council was happy to *use it offices* to lead any such application, for which there would be no cost implication upon the Council.

f. **Defibrillator**

An application for a grant had been submitted.

g. **War-related Events**

Details of grants of £250 from CDC had been circulated. Support for celebratory events at the Village Hall was suggested. Trees were also suggested, but it was felt that the village had enough already! However, something more lasting was considered desirable and it was agreed that a hedge to separate the Recreation Field and arable land to the north would provide a fitting tribute. Cllr R Marks to obtain cost for native mixed, maybe fruiting hedging. Clerk to obtain permission from Cowdray Estate.

h. **Post Office & Shop**

The Chairman had met with the CEO of the Cowdray Estate, the freeholder of the current premises. She had stressed the importance of the amenity to the village and hoped that terms would be favourable to help attract a tenant. Apparently, there had been several enquiries. She also took the opportunity to highlight the need for some public car parking in the centre of the village, if possible, and the ongoing concern relating to the state of 210 Cocking – a derelict house.

i. **Bus Shelter**

The Clerk would see if WSCC's *Operation Watershed* might be able to fund work to stop this flooding, meanwhile quotes were being obtained. Cllr D Imlach reported on trails of an improved poster-boarding to the rear, to overcome the difficulty in pushing in drawing pins.

**12. Finance**

- a. Payments from 4 February – 2 March 2020 totalling £308.45 as set out in Appendix A, were **RESOLVED** and any receipts noted.
- b. A Bank Reconciliation to the 13 February 20120 was agreed, Appendix B. Cllr R Jenkins initialled the corresponding entry on statement number 71.
- c. **RESOLVED** that a grant be awarded to Midhurst Area Cycling of £100, under S137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

**13. Forward Strategy / Cocking Voice**

Nothing to report.

#### **14. Crest**

As a result of a public appeal for designs for a Council logo, Stonefern Design Studio had kindly sent in a suggestion. Although it was the only design submitted, Councillors were unanimous in their liking and **RESOLVED** that it be adopted accordingly on Newsletters, electronic media etc. and that they be thanked for their excellent design.

#### **15. Correspondence**

The Clerk had submitted a summary of notable correspondence since the last meeting - Appendix C.

#### **16. Any Other Matters for Information**

None

#### **17. Date of Next Meeting**

**Monday 6 April 2020 6.30pm**

*The meeting closed at 7.31pm*

Chairman:

Date:

#### **APPENDIX A**

<b>PAYMENTS: - 4 FEBRUARY - 2 MARCH 2020</b>						
<b>DATE</b>	<b>PAYEE</b>	<b>CHEQUE NO</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>GROSS</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>NET</b>
20/01/2020	Cowdray Estate	846	Hist Column Gd rent	£20.00		£20.00
20/01/2020	G Burt	847	Clerk's Net salary for Feb	£214.85		£214.85
20/01/2020	HMRC	848	Clerk's Tax - Feb	£53.60		£53.60
20/01/2020	Caron Rhyder	849	Broadband flyer printing	£20.00		£20.00
				<b>£308.45</b>		<b>£308.45</b>

#### **APPENDIX B**

<b>BANK RECONCILIATION</b>				
<b>AS @ 13 FEBRUARY 2020</b>				
<b>CASHBOOK</b>				
Balance brought forward as at 01/04/2019		£14,004.86		
Add Total Receipts		13,686.67		
Less Total Payments		(15,049.01)		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£12,642.52</b>	◀	
<b>BANK</b>				
Lloyds Treasurers A/C (13/02/2020)		12,642.52		
<b>Less unrepresented cheques</b>		£0.00		
<b>Plus unrepresented deposits</b>		0		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>12,642.52</b>	◀	

**TALLY**

## APPENDIX C

<b>NOTABLE CORRESPONDENCE TO 28 FEBRUARY 2020</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Action (Forwarded to all Cllrs unless otherwise stated.)</b>
02/02/2020	CDC	Chichester in Partnership - ebulletin January 2020	
13/02/2020	SDNPA	SDNPA Planning Committee - 13 February 2020	
13/02/2020	SDNPA	South Downs National Park Authority - Vineyard Growth Impact Assessment - WORKSHOP	
13/02/2020	SDNPA	SDNPA February newsletter	
13/02/2020	CDC	All Parishes Meeting of Monday 10 February 2020	
15/02/2020	WSCC	West Sussex County Council - Budget Update 14 February 2020	
15/02/2020	DS	New dementia Outreach Service in Petworth	
15/02/2020	SDNPA	Sustainable Construction Supplementary Planning Document	
15/02/2020	SSALC	Agriculture Bill Short Summary	
15/02/2020	SSALC	**Sussex ALC Bulletin**	
26/02/2020	WSCC	PROW parish letter 2019	
26/02/2020	CDC	Chichester in Partnership Bulletin Feb 2020	
26/02/2020	T/Sports	Event Notification - Race to the King 2020	