

COCKING PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
9 MAY 2023, 6.30PM

PRESENT: Cllrs Miss F Russell (Chair), T Carter (from Minute 4), A Cornwell, Cllr, D Imlach, Mrs J Jackson, W Renney and D Summerfield (from Minute 4).

IN ATTENDANCE: G Burt, Clerk to the Council
3 Members of the Public

1. To elect the Chairman of the Council and to receive the Declaration of Office

The Council **RESOLVED** that Cllr Miss F Russell be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year. Cllr Miss F Russell then signed the statutory declaration of acceptance of office.

2. To elect the Vice Chairman of the Council and to receive the Declaration of Office

The Council **RESOLVED** that Cllr D Imlach be elected Vice Chairman of the Council for the ensuing municipal year. Cllr D Imlach then signed the non-statutory declaration of acceptance of office.

3. To consider any applications for co-option (x2 vacancies)

Tim Carter and David Summerfield had applied to be considered for cooption to the Council. Applications had been circulated. **RESOLVED** that Tim Carter and David Summerfield be coopted to the Council accordingly. They then signed the Statutory Declaration of Office and joined other Councillors at the table.

4. Apologies

None

5. 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.

Cllr D Summerfield declared an interest as a resident with a gate onto Cowdray-owned land, ref. correspondence relating to a footpath.

6. Questions from Visitors

A resident commented on the path between The Croft and the Recreation Field; some time ago, CPC had asked for landlord's consent to make it more permanent which had been refused. This inadvertently had alerted the landlord to some gates that some residents had created in their boundary fences onto the adjoining land. They had written to the said homeowners accordingly. Meanwhile, the gate at The Croft end had been padlocked, but had then been unlocked to enable residents to access the Field for Coronation events. The tenant

farmer commented on the danger of residents accessing unfettered active farmland where machinery may be being used. Ongoing.

A resident commented on a flowering plant that had appeared at Bumblekite; it may well have always been there but no one had noticed it before because possibly because it had never flowered so profusely!

7. To receive reports from County & District Cllrs.

None

8. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the 3 April 2023, previously circulated were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

9. Matters Arising from the Minutes

None / covered elsewhere.

10. Planning

There were no planning applications to consider.

11. Highways Updates

- a. Footpaths & Footways – The gravel put on the path near Bumblekite required topping up.
- b. Cycleways – We had been advised not to apply to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund at the moment for improvements to the route from Cocking Hill into the village via-Bumblekite.
- c. Traffic Calming – Community Speedwatch – ongoing.

12. Updates on Parish Matters

- a. Playground – works planned or underway to bring it all up to date.
- b. Village Hall – Broadband now in situ and working.
- c. *Village Spring Clean* – Members commented on the success of the day. There had been much less litter to collect, and a good effort had been made on clearing part of the footway alongside the A286. Cty Cllr Tom Richardson had been asked to bring pressure to bear on WSCC to clear the rest of the footway northwards.
- d. New Platinum Jubilee Noticeboard – original contractor now unable to undertake project; new contractor being sought.
- e. Sagging bench at Play Area – as per d. above.
- f. Croft Bus Shelter – rainwater goods had been vandalised exacerbating flooding problem.
- g. Play Area Bus Shelter. Bunting and flower basket had been added for the Coronation. Pressure washing the shingle roof had been *too harsh* and other methods were being looked at.
- h. Seat at Crypt Lane – English Woodlands had kindly donated the timber and Cllr Mrs Jackson had written to thank them. Rebuilding could now be undertaken.

13. Finance

- a. Payments since last meeting were **RESOLVED** and any receipts NOTED – Appendix A.
- b. Bank Reconciliation to 31 March 2023 was **RESOLVED** – Appendix B and the corresponding bank statement was subsequently initialled by the Chairman.
- c. Grant Applications

RESOLVED that an application for a grant of £100 to 4Sight Vision Support be supported, in accordance with S137 of the Local Government Act 1972.

14. To confirm appointments to outside bodies

The following appointments were **RESOLVED** accordingly.

Chichester District Association of Local Councils (CDALC) – Chair & Vice Chair.

West Sussex Association of Local Councils (WSALC) – Chair & Cllr W Renney

Village Hall Committee – Cllr Imlach

Landfill/Gravel Liaison Group - Cllr Imlach.

Midhurst Area Cycling (MAC) – Cllr Imlach.

PathWatch – Mr R Marks and Mr P Craig.

Defibrillator monitoring – Cllr T Carter

Police Liaison – Cllr A Cornwell.

15. To reaffirm the Council's Standing Orders.

RESOLVED

16. To Reaffirm the Council's Financial Regulations.

RESOLVED

17. Any Other Matters for Information

Cllr Imlach reported on some SCAM tradesman offering tree services in the area, purporting to be council workers.

18. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 5 June 2023 6.30pm

The meeting closed at 7.28pm

Chairman:

Date:

APPENDIX A

INCOME & EXPENDITURE SINCE LAST MEETING TO 9 MAY 2023						
EXPENDITURE						
				NET	VAT	GROSS
27/04/2023	Clean & Glossy	1038	Playground jet washing	-£420.00		-£420.00
09/05/2023	Home Start Chi & Dis.	815	Grant	£100.00		£100.00
09/05/2023	WSALC Ltd	816	NALC + SSALC sub 22-23	£152.97		£152.97
09/05/2023	G Burt	817	Spring Tidy - refreshments	£28.71	£4.78	£23.93
			Clerk salary - April	£241.85		£241.85
09/05/2023	HMRC	818	Clerk Tax - April	£61.40		£61.40
09/05/2023	David Imlach	819	Reimb for play area jet-wash	£420.00		£420.00
			Bunting	£10.00	£1.66	£8.34
			Play area paint	£22.00	£3.67	£18.33
09/05/2023	Andrew James	820	Recreation Field Grass cuttir	£260.00		£260.00
				£876.93	£10.11	£866.82

APPENDIX B

BANK RECONCILIATION				
CASHBOOK				
Balance brought forward as at 01/04/2022		£13,622.40		
Add Total Receipts		19,998.67		
Less Total Payments		(23,943.34)		
TOTAL		£9,677.73	◀	
BANK				
Lloyds Treasurers A/C (31/03/2023)		10,620.66		
Less unrepresented cheques				
1033	£60.40			
1034	188.06			
1035	£180.72			
1036	£48.00			
1037	£45.75			
1038	£420.00			
		-942.93		
Plus unrepresented deposits				
		-		
TOTAL		9,677.73	◀	

TALLY