



Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Meeting Held Monday 18 February 2019
8pm, Church Room, Wivelsfield Parish Church

Agenda Item	Description	Resolved
Present	Councillors Dawson (ID, Chair), Stoner (JS, Vice-Chair), Haffenden (IH), Rust (BR) and Martin (HM). Liz Gander (Clerk), two members of the Village Hall Management Committee and a member of the public.	
Open Forum	<p>The member of the public present congratulated the Hall on the successful bid for the CIL grant for the Hall Improvement project. It is understood that the CIL money will not be released until all the money needed for phase one of the project is in place.</p> <p>The same gentleman expressed his frustration at the lack of communication between the Parish Council, Hall Management Committee and residents of Eastern Road who had written in regarding the trees at the perimeter of the Village Hall car park, expressing their anger that the maintenance work done to them had not been more significant. Having not had more than a holding email, they had, two and a half weeks in, taken matters into their own hands and attacked several of the trees with an axe and chainsaw, causing damage to the trees and potentially costing tax payers additional money to make them safe. The gentleman felt that this would have been avoided had a response to their letter come out more quickly.</p> <p>A member of the Village Hall Management Committee said that there was still doubt over ownership of the trees. However, the gentleman argued that the Parish Council clearly felt there was sufficient evidence to indicate that they belong to the Hall grounds and that if the Committee was minded to test it, they should send East Sussex Highways a bill for the work as that would very quickly get a response.</p> <p>It was suggested that, for the sake of a few hundred pounds a year, which the Parish Council might well be willing to cover by way of a grant, the Committee ought to assume responsibility and put an end to it. The key thing however was to get a letter out to residents of Eastern Road.</p> <p>In the meantime, the Parish Council was urged to put some emergency Tree Protection Orders on the trees, so that they cannot be touched further (other than by someone employed by the Council/Management Committee).</p>	
1	<p>Apologies for Absence Councillor Pascoe had sent his apologies owing to work commitments. County Councillor Sheppard and District Councillor Bikson had also tendered their apologies.</p>	The Council accepted Cllr Pascoe's apologies.
2	<p>Declarations of Members' Interests</p> <p>a To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda - Councillor Stoner declared a personal interest on item 4 on the agenda, as her Father is Chair of the Village Hall Committee.</p> <p>b To receive (and grant if appropriate) written requests for</p>	

		dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests	
3		Planning Matters New Planning Application Reviewed at the Meeting	
	a	<u>LW/19/0082 - St Michaels Cottages, Ditchling Road</u> - 4 bed custom built residential property in the side garden of 2 St Michael's Cottage. Other Planning Matters To review and approve the Council's written response to LW/18/0900 (former Beer Piper building), as discussed at the last meeting.	Item to be deferred until next meeting as a key document on the LDC website was blank.
	b	Other Planning Matters To review and approve the Council's written response to LW/18/0900 (former Beer Piper building), as discussed at the last meeting. The letter was agreed subject to a minor amendment to the last point.	Letter agreed subject to one amendment.
4		Financial Matters	
	a	To agree that, having received updated advice indicating that the Council may pay directly for building work on the Hall under its powers to provide Village Halls (Local Government Act 1972 s133), and reclaim the VAT accordingly, the council is willing to do so, rather than to make a grant to the Village Hall.	Agreed.
	b	To agree a list of items that the Council will pay for within the sum of £120k that it is committing to Phase 1 of the Village Hall upgrade.	Deferred pending advice of HMRC.
	c	To approve and sign the letters of appointment for the professional services (Quantity Surveyor, Mechanical & Electrical Consultant and Structural & Civil Engineers) needed to begin the process. It was agreed that, irrespective of whether or not the VAT can be reclaimed for the professional fees above, the Council should use some of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds earmarked for the project to pay for these services, as it is crucial that these services are commissioned in order to progress with the project.	Agreed. Letters to be prepared by the Hall Committee & forwarded to the Clerk to go out on Council headed paper.
5		Items for Noting or Inclusion on Next Agenda	
	a	To ratify to pay the fees of the architect engaged for the Hall improvement project.	
	b	Trees at the perimeter of the Village Hall car park.	
	c	To discuss inviting a representative of the Ouse & Adur Rivers Trust to attend the next SLR meeting.	
	d	Rules regarding nominations to the Council at the local elections in May.	
6		Date of Next Meeting	
	a	Monday 4 March – Parish Council Meeting	
	b	Thursday 14 March – Annual Parish Meeting	