

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE (E&A)** held on **THURSDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2024** at King Edward Hall.

The meeting commenced at 8.00 p.m.

Parish Councillors:	Mr. W. Blunden (Chairman)	Mr. S. Nisbett (Vice-Chair) *	Mr. I. Wilson
	Mrs. I. Burns *	Mr. R. Pickett	Mr. C. Wood *
	Mrs. A. Matthews	Mrs. V. Upton	Mr. D. Woolley

(*) Denotes absence

In attendance: Mr. A. Funnell (Clerk)

79 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

79.1 Apologies had been received from Cllrs Burn, Nisbett and Wood. The reasons for absence where accepted.

80 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

80.1 The following declarations of interest were recorded:

- a) Cllr Blunden declared a personal interest in item 11, as he is an allotment holder.
- b) Cllr Matthews declared a personal interest in item 11, as she is an allotment holder.

81 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

81.1 There were no questions.

82 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE E&A COMMITTEE HELD ON 30 NOVEMBER 2023.

82.1 The Chairman called for approval of the Minutes of the E&A Committee held on Thursday 30 November 2023. These were **AGREED** as being a true record of that meeting. The Chairman would sign the minutes at the end of the meeting.

83 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

83.1 There were no announcements.

84 ACTION LIST.

84.1 The action list was **NOTED**.

85 ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE BUDGET PROGRESS 2023/24.

85.1 The figures as at 31st December 2023 were:

Expenditure

£ 32,634	had been spent from the open spaces budget of	£54,975.
£ 1,297	had been spent from the allotments budget of	£2,500.
£ 2,850	had been spent from the reserves.	
£ 3,430	had been spent from the general reserves.	

Income

£ 1,135 had been received for allotment rental.

86 CLIMATE CHANGE

86.1 Report by Cllr Wood. The following report had been submitted by Cllr Wood:

- The group met on Tuesday 16th January.
- Fairer World Lindfield had arranged a meeting in the Stand Up regarding the Weald to Waves initiative.
- Two representatives from each of the local councils would meet to discuss good practice regarding the environment and climate change.
- Cllr Grace provided an update on Greener Lindfield. Articles were planned up until July. A seed and plant swap event would take place in April at the Lindfield Repair Café. This would include an activity for children.
- Cllr Nisbett and the Clerk would be looking at improving the Climate Change page on the Council's website.

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- Cllr Woolley would assist in looking at solar panels for the Denmans Lane toilets.
- The next Lindfield Repair café will be on Saturday 3rd February.
- On Sunday 4th February between 10 am and 12 noon, the new Friends of Eastern Road group will be meeting to lay down mulch and carry out various tasks on the reserve. All are welcome to come and lend a hand.

86.2 To approve expenditure. – No expenditure was required.

87 REPORT ON CURRENT MAINTENANCE.

87.1 It was noted that quotes were being obtained to repair a broken bin.

88 DENMANS LANE PUBLIC TOILETS

88.1 General Update.- There were no points to note.

88.2 To approve expenditure. – No additional expenditure is currently required.

89 DENMANS LANE ALLOTMENTS

89.1 Plot Rates for 2025/26 – It was **AGREED** to raise the plot rates for 2025/26 to £7 per rod. Further consideration will be given to how the Council seeks to fund the allotments. This would include considering how much allotments should be funded and whether they should be run on a cost-neutral basis.

89.2 General Update – Quotes were being obtained for the repair of fencing around the perimeter. Tree work had been undertaken in early January. A contribution of £90 towards the shared gravel driveway would be made by the Council.

89.3 Approval of Expenditure – It was **AGREED** to authorise the expenditure of £300 to repair the footpath between Pond Croft and Denmans Lane.

90 WILDERNESS FIELD

90.1 General Update – The Wilderness Field Working Group met last week at the field. The group undertook a site inspection and various items were discussed.

90.2 Approval of Expenditure – None at present.

91 FOOTPATH BETWEEN BRUSHES LANE/DUKES ROAD AND THE WILDERNESS FIELD

91.1 Members considered a report on whether the Parish Council should contribute towards adding type 1 MOT to the footpath between Brushes Lane/Dukes Road and the Wilderness Field. Members considered the poor condition of the footpath in the winter months. It was felt that it was worth trying to install type 1 MOT on the footpath even though there was mixed advice as to whether it would work.

It was **AGREED** to proceed with the proposals outlined by The Monday Group to spread MOT along the path, subject to the finalisation of costs, also recognising the likely contribution from the Lindfield Society.

92 PLAN 23-27

92.1 Members **AGREED** that the Clerk would contact all Committee members to ask members which objectives they would like to be assigned to.

93 LINDFIELD IN BLOOM

93.1 No report was provided.

94 VILLAGE CLEAN EVENTS

94.1 It was **AGREED** that:

- a) The Council undertakes a spring and autumn village clean event.
- b) Delegate authority to the Clerk to organise the events.
- c) Authorise the Clerk to incur expenditure for hall hire, advertising and purchasing any required equipment for the events of up to £500 (including use of the debit card).

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95 RISK MANAGEMENT

95.1 No risk assessments were submitted for review.

96 CLERK'S REPORT

96.1 Members were made aware that an advertisement had been placed in the January edition of Lindfield Life for a volunteer archivist. No responses have been received so far. A further advert would be included in the Council's next newsletter.

97 MATTERS ARISING

97.1 Cllr Woolley raised two queries:

- King Edward Hall clock light – The clock light did not appear to be working. Cllr Picket confirmed that this would be addressed.
- King Edward Hall Cycle Rack – An update on the installation of the proposed bike rack was requested. Cllr Blunden advised that the King Edward Hall Committee had instructed a contractor to install the bike rack.

The meeting concluded at 20:36.

DISCLAIMER

The attached minutes are DRAFT minutes. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information, statements and decisions recorded in them, their status will remain that of a draft until they are confirmed as a correct record at the subsequent meeting.