

LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE** held on **THURSDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2021** via Microsoft Team.

The meeting commenced at 7.00 p.m.

Parish Councillors:

Mr. W. Blunden (Chairman)	Mr. S. Henton	Mrs. A. Matthews
Mr. R. Pickett (Vice-Chair)	Mr. R. Plass	Mr. J. Stevens
Mrs. V. Upton	Mr. I. Wilson	Mr. C. Wood

(*) Denotes absence

In attendance: Mr. A. Funnell (Clerk)

188. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

188.1 There were no apologies.

189. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

189.1 Cllr Blunden declared a personal interest in items relating to the Denmans Lane Allotments as he is a plot holder.

189.2 Cllr Matthews declared a personal interest in items relating to the Denmans Lane Allotments as she is a plot holder.

189.3 Cllr Plass declared a personal interest in 208.1ii as he is a relative to the member of the public who contacted the Council.

190 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

190.1 There were no members of the public present.

191 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 26 NOVEMBER 2020.

191.1 The Chairman called for approval of the Minutes of the Environment and Amenities Committee held on Thursday 26 November 2020. These were **AGREED** as being a true record of that meeting. The Chairman would sign the minutes at a later date.

192 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

192.1 The Chairman advised that the Council will look to facilitate residents to take part in 'The Great British Spring Clean 2021'. The initiative will take place over the 28 May to 13 June 2021.

193 ACTION LIST.

193.1 The action list was **NOTED**.

194 ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE BUDGET PROGRESS 2020/21.

194.1 The figures as at 31 December 2020 were:

£34,602	had been spent from the open spaces budget of	£50,200.	This included expenditure of
£3,402	from the Wilderness Field earmarked reserves.		
£1,024	had been spent from the allotments budget of	£2,500.	

195 CLIMATE CHANGE

195.1 Cllr Wood advised that Working Group would be meeting in February to discuss a 5 year plan of ideas that would be incorporated in the Climate Change Action Plan.

It was **AGREED** to authorise the expenditure of up to £100 for an article in the April edition of Lindfield Life.

196 REPORT ON CURRENT MAINTENANCE.

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196.1 The Chairman **REPORTED** that there was nothing to note that had not already been covered under other agenda items.

197 DENMANS LANE PUBLIC TOILETS

197.1 The Chairman reported a faulty lock had been replaced under warranty.

198 DENMANS LANE ALLOTMENTS

198.1 General update – It was reported five fruits trees had been purchased and would be installed by the Village Orderly once they had been received.

199 VILLAGE ORDERLY

199.1 General Update – It was reported that the Village Orderly had been undertaking clearing of mud from the main village footpaths. The office would also be decorated soon and once better weather came then the bollards on the High Street would be redecorated.

200 LINDFIELD IN BLOOM

200.1 There was no update.

201 WILDERNESS FIELD

201.1 General Update - Despite the winter weather the field continues to be well used by the local community. The Council will be contacting various local tree surgeons to provide quotes for the works suggested in the recent inspection report. Most of the trees in the field area are protected so any proposed work will likely require planning consent.

Since the last meeting, the following has taken place out contractor has installed MOT by the gate from Brushes Lane entrance

A report was also received from neighbours that a tree inspection of the site was undertaken in January. This was carried out in error by the District Councils' contractor. MSDC has advised that they will remove the field from their list of asset inspections.

202 LINDFIELD WAR MEMORIAL

202.1 Members were considered a report recommending appointment of contractor to carry out renovation work on the Lindfield War Memorial.

The following resolution was **AGREED**:

- a) That the Parish Council accepts quote 1 for the renovation of the War Memorial
- b) That the Parish Council approves £600 of expenditure for the necessary traffic management to enable the work to be undertaken.
- c) Delegated authority be given to the Clerk, in conjunction with the Committee Chairman and Vice-Chairman to make any decision relating to this matter to ensure the restoration of the War Memorial, including approval of any additional expenditure of up to £1,500.

203 HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE – TO NOTE THE CORRESPONDENCE FROM LINDFIELD PRESERVATION SOCIETY

203.1 Members considered correspondence received from Lindfield Preservation Society. Members were, in principle, supportive of the idea of a heritage trail walk

204 GRASS VERGES TO CONSIDER REPORT

204.1 Members considered a report relating to damage to grass verges in the village. Two separate issues were considered:

a) Newton Road

Members considered a request that the Parish Council should pay for work to be undertaken on the two verges by nos 6 to 28. Members were sympathetic to the request however it was noted that:

- The Parish Council were not the responsible authority for verges and thus had no budget for the requested works in either the 2020/21 budget or 2021/22 budget.

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- West Sussex County Council who were the responsible authority had stated that they did not have funds for the project.
 - That the Parish Council should press the relevant authority for a solution to improve the area.
 - If the Parish Council funded this work it would be reasonable for other residents to expect the same if they may a similar request.
- It was **AGREED** that the Parish Council would not pay for the requested works but would write to West Sussex County Council requesting improvements to the area when their resources permit.

b) High Street

Members considered a request to move an existing Parish Council bollard to protect the grass verge from vehicle damage. The following was discussed:

- Moving the bollard may require an additional bollard to be installed to stop vehicles parking further North of the proposed new location.
- The site is within the Conservation area and thus planning permission maybe required.

It was **AGREED** that further investigation be made into the costings for moving the existing bollard and installation of a new bollard.

205 FESTIVE LIGHTS 2021 – TO CONSIDER REPORT

205.1 Members **NOTED** a report that the trees in the High Street (and Compton Road) where due to be pollarded in 2021. The report drew members attention to problems experience with the sparks lights since the trees were pollarded in January 2018.

206 MSDC COMMUNITY ART SCHEME

206.1 The Chairman reported that MSDC are continuing with the scheme and the Parish Council will await the full details.

207 RISK MANAGEMENT

207.1 There were no risk assessments for approval

208 CLERK'S REPORT

208.1 The Clerk advised the Council of the following items that had been raised since agenda had been issued

i) Grit Bin The residents association of Woodpecker Chase has asked that the Council include their grit bin under our public liability insurance cover. The grit bin would be locked and for the use of the resident of Woodpecker Chase only. The grit bin and grit would be paid for by the residents association.

ii) Litter picking A resident has contacted the Council regarding litter picking in the village. The resident is concerned that with the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions and likely better spring weather we may see a build-up of rubbish on the Common and other areas in the village. This could happen as early as April. They were keen for the local volunteers to be able to safely collect rubbish and dispose of it. The resident believed that local businesses would also be willing to assist. It was suggested that dialogue between the volunteers, local authorities, and businesses needs to take place to try and ensure that village keeps on top of the litter issues that have previously occurred.

Cllrs Blunden, Stephens, & Woods offered to assist the Clerk in looking to this matter.

209 MATTERS ARISING

209.1 No matters were arising.

The meeting concluded at 19:30 pm