

## LINDFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Minutes of the meeting of the **ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE** held on **THURSDAY 6 OCTOBER 2022** held at King Edward Hall.

The meeting commenced at 8.00 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)

### **361 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

361.1 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Pickett, Stevens, & Wood. The reasons for absence were accepted.

### **362 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

362.1 The following declarations of interest were recorded:

- a) Cllr Blunden declared a personal interest in item 372 as he is an allotment holder.
- b) Cllr Matthews declared a personal interest in item 372 as she is an allotment holder.

### **363 QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.**

363.1 No members of the public were present.

### **364 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE HELD ON 4 AUGUST 2022.**

364.1 The Chairman called for approval of the Minutes of the Environment and Amenities Committee held on Thursday 4 August 2022. These were **AGREED** as being a true record of that meeting. The Chairman would sign the minutes at the end of the meeting.

### **365 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

365.1 The Chairman made the following announcements:

### **366 ACTION LIST.**

366.1 The action list was **NOTED**.

### **367 ENVIRONMENT AND AMENITIES COMMITTEE BUDGET PROGRESS 2022/23.**

367.1 The figures as at 31 August 2022 were:

#### **Expenditure**

£22,566	had been spent from the open spaces budget of	£55,900.
£2,204	had been spent from the allotments budget of	£2,500.
£1,500	had been spent from the reserves.	

#### **Income**

£880 had been received for allotment rental.

### **368 BUDGET 2023/24**

368.1 Members considered the draft budget report. Discussion took place regarding whether to increase the budget for next year in the current economic climate. Queries were raised regarding a water refill station and inclusive play equipment.

It was **AGREED** that:

- a) Authorise the Chairman and Clerk to meet to further consider the committee budget
- b) Authorise the Chairman to meet with the other Committee Chairman, in conjunction with the Clerk, to discuss the overall budget

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- c) Provide Full Council 10<sup>th</sup> November with a draft budget which would include an earmarked reserve to cover projects that were discussed including inclusive play equipment.

### 369 CLIMATE CHANGE

- 369.1 Report by Cllr Wood. Cllr Wood was not able to attend the meeting. The Clerk gave a brief report on the last meeting of the working group. The main item to report was the meetings with other groups regarding sustainable gardening.
- 369.2 Sustainable Gardening. Members considered a report regarding the proposed Sustainable Gardening initiative. The project aims to bring together groups, individuals and businesses within the village to encourage sustainable gardening practices to: reduce garden waste, improve biodiversity, protect wildlife, and promote alternatives to harmful chemicals. It was **AGREED** that:
- i) the Council supports the proposal.
  - ii) The Clerk, in conjunction with the Climate Change Working Group, be given authority to progress this project including submitting any articles on behalf of LPC
  - iii) Agree that the Climate Change projects budget can, if necessary, fund up to £300 of expenditure to promote the scheme
- 369.3 To approve expenditure. There was no expenditure to approve.

### 370 REPORT ON CURRENT MAINTENANCE.

- 370.1 Quotes were being obtained for the replacement wooden slats. Grit bin inspections had been inspected. A query was raised about when the Village Orderly role.

### 371 DENMANS LANE PUBLIC TOILETS

- 371.1 General Update – A meeting was being arranged with our contractors to go over some issues that had been raised by members of the public.
- 371.2 To approve expenditure – none required. Quotes were awaited for some replacement parts for one of the doors. A query was raised about whether a local cleaning company could be used or whether the cleaning could be undertaken by a member of staff.

### 372 DENMANS LANE ALLOTMENTS

- 372.1 General update – There were no items to note except that an alternative arborist would be required as the existing arborist had retired.
- 372.2 Approval of Expenditure – Members were asked to approve £1000 of expenditure for a replacement shed. It was **AGREED** to instruct the Clerk to purchase a new shed up to the value of £1000 (including the use of the debit card).

### 373 WILDERNESS FIELD

- 373.1 General Update – There were no items to note except that an alternative arborist would be required as the existing arborist had retired
- 373.2 Approval of Expenditure – None required.

### 374 VILLAGE ORDERLY

- 374.1 General Update – The Village Orderly had removed excess epicormic growth earlier this year on the trees in Compton Road and High Street. Further removal would be taking place soon.
- 374.2 Approval of Expenditure – None required.

### 375 VILLAGE CLEAN EVENTS

- 377.1 The Autumn Clean was due to take place on Saturday 8 October. Members were encouraged to attend. It was hoped that there would be a good turnout and favourable weather.

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### 376 LINDFIELD IN BLOOM

378.1 Cllr Steven was not in attendance.

### 377 LITTER BINS

377.1 Dog Waste Bin – Request from MSDC to pay for additional weekly collection. Members noted the request from MSDC. The bin in question was not owned or paid for by the Parish Council. The collection of waste from the bin was the responsibility of the MSDC. Concerns regarding precedent were raised by members if the Parish Council agreed to pay for the additional collection. It was **AGREED** that the Council would not pay for an additional weekly collection.

379.2 Issues relating to two public waste bins in Sunte Avenue. Members considered a report detailing issues relating to two litter bins on Sunte Avenue. Members of the public had raised concerns that foxes were removing the rubbish from the bins which were often overflowing. A request had been made for the Parish Council to install fox-proof litter bins. The Clerk had investigated but had been unable to find any bins that were marketed as fox-proof. Bins with some protection against birds and rodents had been found but these were not deemed to offer the desired outcome. Members noted that the waste was the issue and that the collection service provider should ensure that they are regularly emptied. It was **AGREED** not to replace the existing bins and that MSDC be asked to ensure that the bin is emptied regularly.

### 378 RISK MANAGEMENT

380.1 There were no risk assessments to be reviewed at this meeting.

### 379 CLERK'S REPORT

379.1 The Clerk advised that the two trees to be planted will mark the Jubilee and the sad passing of Queen Elizabeth II.

379.2 The work on Lindfield Pond has now commenced. The Parish Council had agreed to contribute £4,500 towards the work.

379.3 Father Christmas would not be in attendance at this year's event.

### 380 MATTERS ARISING

380.1 There were no matters arising.

The meeting concluded at 21:11pm

### 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 such time as they are confirmed as a correct record at the subsequent meeting.