

Clerk's Report - July 2023

Agenda Items

10.3 Picnic on the Green, Monday 28th August 2023, 12.30pm-5pm

Costs are as follows:

Bands	First Aid	Marquee
£150.00	£158.40	£1,000

We have applied to close North Road for the event. It has been suggested that advertisement boards be allowed on the Green. There is currently an events budget of £1158 and it has been suggested that any stall holders and bar will donate a percentage of their profit to the costs.

10.5 Allotments:

- i. **Allotment Inspection** - This historically happens annually and involves noting any problems and writing to plot holders that are not keeping their plots to a satisfactory standard.
- ii. **Allotment Water Leak** - Beeney & Co Ltd are instructed to replace damaged water pipe for **£2,360.00** excl. of VAT. This was instructed by the Clerk and authorised by the Chairman in accordance with our Financial Regs. As this report is published we are investigating options to mitigate the cost of the lost water, and will aim to provide a further update at the meeting. The farmer has advised that he intends to harvest in August after which time we can access the field for the repair to take place.

13. **Defibrillator** – The office is investigating various funding options.

14. **Meet the Councillors** – See Feedback on pages 3-5.

General

- 1. **Assets of Community Value** - The Cock Inn application has been made and a decision is due on 14/08/23. The Green Man application was successful wef 4th July 2023.
- 2. **Bench on the Village Green** - Target delivery date from Broxap is 14/08/23.
- 3. **Broyle Close Playground** - Playsafe Playgrounds repaired the wet pour on 3rd July 2023. Ref FC Meeting 13.06.23 min 13.6
- 4. **Caburn Field** - Newly planted Trees. JK advised that 2 are looking very unwell. Have reported to Tony Bonnington of Riverdale who advises that they will be replaced. We have agreed that this work should be undertaken in autumn and the office will monitor.
- 5. **Damaged Fingerpost** - The fingerpost at the junction of Moor Lane and the B2124 has been damaged. JAKKs have been asked to quote for repair.

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6. **East Sussex Highways** - Our second (and last) SLR meeting of the year has been booked in for Wednesday 27th September 2023 at 10am.
7. **Financial** - New laptop purchased. This to be used for planning presentations, planning inquiries (the old was no longer fit for purpose) and will be utilised by the office staff. Cost £250.00 excl of VAT.
8. **Fingerpost Field Update to Playground** – We have organised a consultation with pupils of the two Ringmer schools for 17th July 2023 at 2pm at the office to seek the children’s opinion. Any available Councillors are welcome to attend.
9. **Rushey Green** - We received 3 responses from residents all in favour of a new Commemoration Memorial Tree so I will be organising this for the autumn. As this is a small open green area which is very popular for young children to play on, careful consideration will be given as to its location on the green and necessary protection until it becomes established.

Meet the Councillors – 15th June 2023
Ideas and Feedback

Aesthetics – How do you want the Village to look?								
Members of the Public	Revitalise the shopping precinct – make more welcoming/green/a destination to stay and socialise	Keep its rural character	Bistros, restaurants, rather than all takeaways, a place to sit and enjoy	Shopping area needs to become centre of Village, hedges to be cut back to boundary not over pavement	Smarten up the shop area – it needs trees and colour	Footpaths trimming	Keep its rural characteristics	Trees – can never have too many and always create a sense of place
RPC	Christmas lights	Revamp the shopping precinct		Village Gateway Signs		Village Green additions – seating/BBQ		

Building a Community – how would you like us to do this More Public Events/Community Activities?				
Members of the Public	A Welcome to Ringmer info leaflet for all newcomers	Community Noticeboard for local groups	Community Noticeboard shared with RPC	Tour the Wilding
RPC	Family events on the Green – games/races/activities	Fun runs, Community Tournaments	Outdoor film screenings	Provision for the elderly – Community Hub, wheelchair to borrow

Development – Village Infrastructure	
Members of the Public	Should all Parish Council matters be set in the Village Hall? A common central meeting venue
RPC	More community buildings

Employment – What would you like to protect and what opportunities should be provided?	
Members of the Public	<p>A charity shop providing an outlet for recycling and work/volunteer while: Helping the community</p> <p>Work experience for young and old</p> <p>Social destination for familiar faces</p> <p>Increase footfall in shopping precinct</p> <p>Encourage visitors</p>
	Definitely be open to employment opportunities ie. small scale start ups

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RPC	Apprenticeships	Entrepreneurs' competition	Promote more local employment options			
Health and Wellbeing – What would help?						
Members of the Public	Area to socialise outside shops, trees	Better pharmacy	Cycling routes	Improved pharmacy asap	Sports facilities for young people	Swimming Pool
RPC	Exercise	Hobbies, sport, leisure		Outdoor activities		

Leisure - What does the Village need?						
Members of the public	Anchor Field – small play equipment for young children	Cycle friendly areas	Footpaths and cycle ways clearly indicated	Maps to show footpaths and cycle paths	No more housing	Small child play area south of the main road
RPC	Fingerpost Field – new play park		More cafes/restaurants		Village Broyleside off-road cycleway	

Policing – What would you like to see from the PCSO?						
Members of the public	Car parking policed	Encourage neighbourhood watch schemes – to set up etc.	Get out of car!	More visible patrols	Police on foot not blue lighting through at 70mph!	Would be very nice to see a PCSO around the village regularly
RPC	Attending PC meetings		Provide solutions			

Sustainability					
Members of the public	Cycle paths	Encourage installation of roof solar panels	Engagement between community and Village orchard	Map of public footpaths and cycle paths	More re-wilded areas in the Village

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RPC	Climate change	Dark skies	Less car use/better public transport	Safe connectivity around village ie. path widening Grounded Café to Green Man	Longer term Wildflower Ringmer support	Tree planting
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Transport – What services do we need?										
Members of the public	More buses to Tunbridge Wells/Uckfield			More frequent buses		Reestablish the No.29B through Ringmer			Update Ringmer Footpath	
Fingerpost Field - Feedback										
. Really like ideas – hopefully would be used by whole community so I would suggest a walking/cycling access plan alongside. Plus zebra crossing in that area.										
Shopping Precinct Revamp - Feedback										
A revamp is long overdue – try trees, large tubs, colour	Beds for flowers/ bushes (wildflowers?) with seating (to create social destination)	Central focal point required Softening with planting. Must be a want to go place	Comfortable seating	Community Noticeboard to inform community & visitors of events Show community engagement to visitors Opportunity for new audiences for events	Create area for markets (occasional) ie. farm market stall, Christmas market, craft market etc. Site for community events	New furniture at the café!	Plant trees by Anchor to block shops from Green!	Planting to soften view. Events Noticeboard	Trees! To block the view of flats/soften the precinct/encourage birds and other wildlife in spring (welcoming!)	Tree planting to create a focus & pleasant place to sit – but with careful thought re. species and who looks after any planting
Skatepark – Feedback										
Non-invasive lighting for safety/security or CCTV?					Much needed for young people					
What have we missed?										
Reinstate the walkabout the Village										

Planning Appeals

Appeal	Planning Application Ref	Appeal Ref	Hearing or Inquiry	LDC Case Officer	Planning Inspectorate Case Officer	Predicted Length of Hearing	Deadline & Hearing/Inquiry Dates	
Ashill Regen (John Kay)	LW/22/0255	3318089	Inquiry	Marc Dorfman/ James Smith	Robert Wordsworth	4 days	Statement of Case	16/05/23
							Case Management Conference	23/05/23
							Proofs of Evidence	12/07/23, 12pm
							Inquiry Date	01/08/23

Thakeham Homes (John Whitlock)	LW/21/0694	3313204	Inquiry	James Emery	Harrison Coles	4 days	Statement of Case	27/07/23
							Case Management Conference	07/08/23
							Proofs of Evidence	04/09/23
							Inquiry Date	03/10/23

Awaiting Decision

Gleeson Land Ltd (John Kay)	LW/22/0472	3314192 & 3315235	Inquiry	James Smith	Tim Salter	6 days	Statement of Case	24/03/23
							Statement of Common Ground	09/05/23
							Case Management Conference	04/04/23
							Proofs of Evidence	16/05/23
							Planning Proofs of Evidence	19/05/23
Inquiry Date	13/06/23							