RINGMER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday 9th August 2022 at 19.30
In the Parish Rooms, Lucy Stone Room

Present:			
Cllr Matt Crisp (MC)	**Cllr Margaret Crompton (MC)**	**Cllr Johnny Denis (JD)**	**Cllr David Duke (DD)**
Cllr John Kay (JK)	**Cllr Sarah Phillips (SP)**	**Cllr Gordon Sims (GS) - Chairman**	**Cllr Richard Turner (RT)**
Cllr John Whitlock (JW) – Chairman of Planning			
Attendance:	**Annie Hazzard (AH) - Clerk**	**Cllr Emily O'Brien (EOB) - Lewes District Council**	**Gail Metcalfe (GPM) - Administrator**
Members of the public:	8		

1.	**To receive and accept apologies for absence** Apologies were received from Cllrs Tara Barber (TB), Gavin May (GM), Marcia Morgan (MM) and marked as absent was David Terry (DT).	
2.	**Declarations of Interest:** Disclosure by Councillors of their personal interests in regard to matters on the agenda, and whether the councillor regards their interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct. JD declared an interest in item 10.1 (Swimming Pool). JK declared an interest in item 13.6 (LW/22/0472). RT declared an interest in item 13.1 (LW/22/0255) and item 13.6 (LW/22/0472).	
3.	**Dispensation requests** None received.	
4.	**Minutes of previous meetings:** To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2022. The minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2022 were accepted and signed by the the Chairman.	
5.	**Public questions or comments:** Up to 15 minutes (3 minutes per person) will be available for the public to make representations or questions. Please note that under Data protection regulations we ask members of the public to only state their name if they agree to their name being recorded. A member of the public spoke on the second application on the proposed estate LW/22/0472. She said that the developers, Gleesons, have a reputation for submitting an initial application which is destined to fail which allows them to make a second application which looks like they have made a compromise. She said much will be made on the reduction of the number of houses (75) but this is probably the number they were thinking of from the beginning. She asked for RPC's support in resisting this consistent assault on the village and to seek confirmation that these houses are to cover the whole site as, if so, this application should be rejected on the basis of underuse of land alone. The resident who has an application at item 13.2 (LW/22/0432) announced her presence and GS said JW would call upon her if necessary when this was being discussed.	
6.	**If the Committee wishes to exclude the public for a particular agenda item, the following resolution must be passed:** 'That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.' No exclusion required.	
7.	**Reports from District and County Councillors (Up to 15 mins)** Maria Caulfield, MP's report – this report was noted. East Sussex County Councillor – JD provided a report and asked to be contacted with any queries. Lewes District Council - EOB flagged up a few issues: **Petition launched re. HGVs** - She highlighted the petition that has been launched to route HGVs away from the village and urban areas and to keep to trunk and "A" Roads. The link is:	OFFICE

	https://bit.ly/VillageHGVs. She said that the petition did not cover the issues of speed and the number of HGVS going through the village but was specifically to ask for a strategic approach to traffic routing. She invited people to join her for a protest and photocall on the Village Green on Tuesday 13th September at 1pm to get press coverage for the campaign and raise awareness with the aim to start a conversation with the County Council. **Campaign for HGVs to use commercial SatNavs** – She said they currently tend to use Googlemaps for the up-to-date traffic information but this does not take into account the appropriateness of the route i.e. their size and weight. She has been working alongside the Local Government Association which is the national voice of Local Government which means that local can be complimented by some national asks which will be helpful. She wished to remind people of the existence of various Groups such as: **North Ringmer Residents Group -** She highlighted the amazing work that Sy Morse Brown has done re. the Bovis Development in that there are no major issues and this is testament to the work that he has done. **Caburn Liaison Group** – She said there were a number of ongoing issues having an impact on local residents one being the fencing not being finished off which is now being rectified. **Planning:** **Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill -** She has been campaigning nationally on this. She said that Maria Caulfield, MP, has been contacting Parish Councils stating how positive this is but EOB highlighted that there is nothing addressing housing numbers or the 5 year rule. She said she would continue to flag up how important these things are and how important it is to introduce them. **LW/22/0282, Lower Lodge Farm (Thakeham) -** She thanked the Lewes District Planning Committee for unanimously rejecting this on Wednesday 3rd August 2022. She said she had worked with Ringmer Against Green Field exploitation and had listened to residents' views. She said it had been a joint effort but it was really fantastic that so many residents had attended and written in. She expressed the need to celebrate the moment before the next stage, whatever this would be.	
8.	**Policies for Review and Adoption** i. Grants Policy - DD said at points 12c, d, e there is no specific process of checking how the organisations have spent the money. GS said it depends on the grant amount and the conditions put on that grant. MC said that it was procurement and that a lot of the organisations will not have the money upfront. It was suggested that 2 or 3 be selected for a review of their accounts. a) **ACTION: Random review to be added to the policy.** (Added at point 6.e - The Parish Council reserves the right to request that applicants provide proof of legitimate use.)	CLERK
	ii. Internal Audit Policy – adopted.	
	iii. Procurement Policy – adopted.	
9.	**Governance Matters**	
9.1	**Swimming Pool –** To consider options for funding further literature to promote Save Ringmer Swimming Pool Group (SRSPG) and to receive an update. GS proposed to agree to give SRSPG £250.00 for further literature. He said by coincidence the Parish Council had been offered £250.00 (plus two cherry trees) by Paul Templeton who wants to run a drain at the back of 39 Sadlers Way. Everyone was in agreement to pass this money on to the SRSPG. **ACTION: Clerk to organise.** JD provided an update saying he had met with Rob Cotterell (RC), Chief Executive of Lewes District Council and Eastbourne Borough Council and Wave Leisure which had been useful and informative. He said he was waiting for a proposition to come back to us which will then be sent to East Sussex. He said he had chased RC for this as the deadline is fast approaching 15th August 2022.	CLERK JD

9.2	**Strategy Day** – Update on setting up a meeting with Trevor Leggo (TL). GS explained that a Strategy Day was to do with asking what people want the village to look like in 20 to 30 years time. He said TL had previous experience and had offered his services at a cost of £200.00. GS suggested an evening when all Cllrs could attend (or as many as possible). Everyone was happy to proceed. JD asked where the £200.00 would be coming from. **ACTION: Clerk to allocate a financial pot this can come from and organise.**	CLERK/ O&F AGENDA
9.3	**RPC Assets of Community Value –** To receive an update. AH confirmed that the swimming pool was now a community asset and we are awaiting decisions for Anchor Inn and Anchor Field Car Park. It was explained that the point of registering assets of community value is that once they are registered if the owner wishes to get rid of them there is a window of opportunity for the Community to put forward a proposition for them.	
10.	**Highways Matters** - To receive an update. SP said there was no update. She advised as to a rumour that the work at the Gliding Club is due to complete in August and they would be applying for retrospective planning. It was reiterated that this would at least give RPC the opportunity to vent.	
11.	**Parish Road and Drains** – To discuss Burwash Common & Weald Residents' Association (BCWRA)'s email of 22nd July 2022. It was agreed that RPC fully support their report and recommendations and share their concerns. **ACTION: Council leader to write to the Lead Member for Transport at ESCC, Cllr Claire Dowling, and to the local County Councillor, to express RPC's views and to support this initiative for better road and drainage maintenance.**	CLERK/GS
12.	**Open Spaces and Related Matters:**	
12.1	**Parish Council's Assets Survey and bin audit** - To receive an update. AH confirmed that the bin audit is now complete and she thanked the volunteers for their assistance with this. She said the office was investigating whether we are paying for the correct number of bins to be emptied. She said it would appear not.	OFFICE
12.2	**The Bus Shelter at The Cock Inn** - To receive an update. AH confirmed that we are awaiting an installation date.	
12.3	**Skatepark** –to receive an update. JW confirmed he would ask for a revised quote once possible. **ACTION: JW to contact Wendy Davies at Bendcrete to ask her to revisit the quote once the application has been validated.**	JW
12.4	**War Memorial Posts –** to receive an update. 11 posts have been installed by Tony Read at a cost of £285.00	
12.5	**Field House** – To receive an update. GS confirmed that the executors are still awaiting probate and he would provide an update as and when.	
12.6	**Anchor Field** – To receive an update. GS confirmed that this was ongoing.	
12.7	**Village Green – To receive feedback on Play Park Grand Opening.** GS stated that this had been a roaring success with Kompan providing ice cream, goodie bags and balloons. He said the play park was being well-used.	
12.8	**Norlington Lane and Wellingham Lane Conservation Area** – To receive an update and Office to confirm the budget for BNP @ £20k. SP advised that Jenny Martin had been asked to accelerate the timetable for Norlington Lane and that her response had been vague. **ACTION: Clerk to chase Jenny Martin and put on O&F agenda to look at the finances.**	CLERK/ O&F AGENDA
12.9	**Tree at Scout Hut –** To receive an update on the removal of this. AH confirmed this was scheduled for the first week of September 2022.	
12.10	**Branching Out Fund** – To discuss and decide. It was agreed that a tree should be put up in the Jubilee Gardens for the Queen's Jubilee and to replace the tree being removed (at item 12.9). JK suggested a Whitebeam. **ACTION: Office to investigate best make of tree and to start by asking Southern Water.**	OFFICE

13.	**Planning Matters:** To consider responses to Planning Applications	
13.1	**LW/22/0255 - Lane Between The Broyle and Round House Road, Ringmer, East Sussex (By 25.08.22)** Erection of 53 no dwellings (mix of houses and flats) and associated landscaping, car parking, access and ancillary works (Amended Description – reduction in number of units, removal of third-storey from flats, additional car parking, removal of street lighting). **RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - Still oppose this. JK to provide objection**.	JK
13.2	**LW/22/0432 - 6 The Green, Lewes Road, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5QG (By 10.08.22)** Two storey side extension and demolition of rear outbuilding and conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension. **RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - No objection.**	
13.3	**LW/22/0443 - Pippins, Bishops Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5LD (By 18.08.22)** Erection of detached single-storey dwelling and detached garage/store with associated access. **RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - No objection.**	
13.4	**LW/22/0458 - Diplocks, Yard, Bishops Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5LD (By 11.08.22)** Discharge of Conditions 4 (Flood Exceedance) 6 (Maintenance Plan) 7 (Drainage System Photos) 11 (Asbestos) 13 (Contamination verification) and 17 (Archaeology) in relation to approval LW/16/0704. **RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - No comment.**	
13.5	**LW/22/0462 – The Stable Yard, Lower Lodge Farm, Laughton Road, Ringmer, BN8 NQ (By 17.08.22)** Variation of condition 14 (existing dwelling) relating to previous approval LW/21/0702 – to use the former stables as a holiday let on completion of the new development. **RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - No objection (subject to a condition for private drainage being provided).**	
13.6	**LW/22/0472 Land East of Harrisons Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex (By 25.08.22)** Land East of Harrisons Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex Proposal: Outline application with all matters reserved except for access for the demolition of an existing residential property and erection of up to 75 residential dwellings including affordable housing with the provision of vehicular access onto Harrisons Lane and pedestrian and cycle access onto Potato Lane alongside public open spaces, biodiversity enhancement, sustainable urban drainage systems, landscaping, infrastructure and earthworks. **RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - Still strongly objects. JW to provide revised wording.**	
13.7	**LW/22/0483 - Busy Bee Garage, Ringmer Service Station, Lewes Road, Ringmer (By 18.08.22)** Retrospective application for the use of land to display motor vehicles for sale. **RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision – Supports**.	
13.8	**Planning Matters: For Discussion:** **LW/22/0451 – Land East of Neaves Lane, Ringmer -** Per JK's email of 01/08/22. JK said he just wanted to point out that RPC had supported this application and that this was the right decision, but it had been made on the wrong information. He said that 4 horses would be incinerated here a week but they would not be dealing with any stock. SP said that they would be storing around 50 dead animals and that 2 or 3 times a week these would be taken to a larger incineration facility.	JK/ALL
13.9	**Planning Matters: All Decisions:**	
13.10	LW/21/0559 - Old Chapel Farm, Green Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5AD - **Approved** LW/21/0986 - Land East of Harrisons Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex **- Refused** LW/21/0999 - 1 Cattle Pen Way , Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5GE **- No decision type** REG5/22/0006 - Land adjacent to Upper Clayhill Farm, Uckfield Rd, Ringmer, BN8 5RR **- No decision type** LW/21/0970 **-** Upper Broyle Farm, Broyle Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex BN8 5AB – **Approved** LW/22/0230 - Land Rear of Shepherds Mead, Lewes Road, Ringmer, BN8 5ES **-Approved** LW/22/0232 - 1 The Denes , Laughton Road, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5NG - **Approved** LW/22/0290 - 7 The Broyle, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5NP – **Approved** LW/22/0273 - Elm Tree Cottage, Lewes Road, Ringmer, East Sussex BN8 5NE **– Approved** LW/22/0316 - Honey Hse, Laughton Road, Ringmer,BN8 5NH **– Approved** LW/22/0366 – Raystede, The Broyle, Ringmer, East Sussex - **Approved** LW/22/0450 **–** Land East of Moor Lane, Ringmer, East Sussex **- Approved**	

	LW/22/0470 - Lower Barn Farmhouse, Lewes Road, Ringmer, BN8 5NB **– No decision type** These were noted**.**	
14.	**Communications Matters** – To receive an update. DD informed that a monthly newsletter is now being produced which goes in the Ringmer Church and Village News magazine and the Parish noticeboards. He said the deadline he works to is the 20th of the month should anyone wish to ask for any submissions. He said there had been a small item in the Sussex Express about the opening of the play park although they had not used his wording or any photographs. He said he would work on contact with them. He requested new noticeboards for the Parish. GS said this would need to be looked at before next year's budget is agreed. DD was thanked by the Chairman for his work on this. **ACTION: Add to next O&F Agenda: to consider obtaining new noticeboards.**	O&F AGENDA
15.	**Finance Matters:**	
15.1	To receive the latest Financial Reports – accepted and signed.	
15.2	To approve the latest bank reconciliation – accepted and signed.	
15.3	To approve the list of payments – accepted and signed.	
16.	**Untreated Ringmer Sewage -** To receive an update. AH confirmed the meeting on 15th August 2022 at 11am.	
17.	**Reports, Correspondence, Questions and Future Agenda Items** To consider any correspondence received after this agenda has been published for noting or action. **Anti-social behaviour on the Green** - MC said that the pub had been broken into and that the police had arrested someone. JD said that the current Operation Anti-Social Behaviour closes at 10pm and that the savvy culprits arrive after this. The police have put up a surveillance camera on the lamppost outside the pub which can be operated remotely. MC said he had emailed the PCSO and the Neighbourhood Policing Team about sending us a report for each full Parish meeting explaining the issues and what they are doing about them. He said he would chase this up. JK said that people needed to provide detailed reports with times and specific details to the police as they base it on the number of reports received ie. police response is data-driven. **ACTION: MC to chase PCSO and Neighbourhood Policing Team for a report.** **Anti-social Residents in Broyle Close -** RT said several residents had reported anti-social behaviour from neighbours in one of the Council houses. He said Adrian Walsh (Housing) was sending a special team in.	MC
18.	**Urgent items at the Chairman's discretion requiring decisions which cannot be held over until the next meeting** No urgent items.	GS
19.	Meeting closed at 20.40.	

THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS HAVE A RIGHT AND ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Date of Next Council Meeting Tuesday 13th September 2022 **at 19.30**

in the Parish Rooms, Lucy Stone Room

Signed:		Chairman
Date:		