RINGMER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting
Held on Tuesday 8th August 2023 at 19.30
In the Parish Rooms, Lucy Stone Room

Present:			
Cllr Nick Chaloner (NC)	Cllr Linda Grange (LG)	Cllr John Kay (JK)	Cllr Marcia Morgan (MM)
Cllr Sarah Phillips (SP) - Acting Chair			
Attendance:			
District/County Cllrs	Johnny Denis (JD) Emily O'Brien (EOB)		
Office	Annie Hazzard (AH) - Clerk Gail Metcalfe (GP) - Administrator		
Members of the public	4		

Agenda Items

1.	**To receive and accept apologies for absence** Apologies were received from Cllrs David Duke, Gordon Sims and John Whitlock. Cllr Margaret Crompton was absent.	
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. None.	
3.	**Dispensation requests** The following members of the Jubilee Committee sought dispensation to speak on behalf of the Jubilee Housing Trust at both O&F Committee meetings and Full Parish Council meetings: GS, SP, JK. LG, MM and NC were asked to consider and vote as they are not on the committee. All agreed unanimously that the requests to speak but not vote should be granted.	
4.	**Minutes of previous meetings:** To agree the Full Council minutes of the meeting held on 11th July 2023. **RESOLVED: To accept and sign the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 11th July 2023.**	
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. MOP spoke on item 16.7 asking for the Parish Council's continued support and requested we write a comment in our response. Another MOP wished to thank Cllrs John Kay and Linda Grange for their work on the Ashill Regen appeal. SP expressed the same sentiment and thanked them both profusely.	
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.' Not required.	
7.	**Reports (Up to 15 mins) -** To receive and accept any reports submitted Clerk MP East Sussex County Councillor Lewes District Councillor(s) PCSO	

	JD said it was good news re. the swimming pool and that he was still hopeful of it reopening. He explained that Wave Leisure were keen to manage it on LDC's behalf but that the new contract would be more robust. He did say that he was not aware of a decision date as yet but he had heard the details were just being "tidied up". EOB asked to be invited along to any meetings arranged with Scottish Power re. the proposed Oldhouse Solar Farm. LG asked for details on pre-app discussions LDC had had with Scottish Power but EOB said she was not party to this. The Clerk said this would be covered at item 14.	
8.	**Finance Matters:**	
8.1	To receive the latest Financial Reports - received.	
8.2	To approve and sign the latest bank reconciliation - approved and signed.	
8.3	To approve and sign the list of payments - approved and signed.	
9.	**Co-Option of Councillors** - To consider any expressions of interest in accordance with Parish Council's Standing Orders. None received. SP asked Cllrs to try to recruit possible candidates.	
10.	**Open Spaces and related Matters**	
10.1	**Pump Cottage Bus Shelter -** To consider proposal for a hardstanding and replacement/relocation of the bin. See Clerk's report. SP explained that a decision was needed on where the shelter should go. She explained that as this is a very busy bus stop the idea to leave the bench in place and the shelter to go to the right on a new hardstanding had been floated. The reason for this was to provide more space for people waiting for a bus. All agreed with this arrangement and also that the current small rubbish bin should be replaced with a full sized one. **ACTION: Office to confirm location of the shelter with the contractor & arrange for a replacement full size bin. Office to instruct contractor to put the existing bin on the side of the new shelter in the meantime.**	OFFICE
10.2	**Footpath 9/1 eastern end at Howells Bank** - To consider repairs to the damaged 3x kissing gates. See Clerk's report. After some debate it was decided no decision could be made at the moment and that JD would find out who the landowners for each kissing gate were and report back to the Parish Council. LG said she would make enquiries to The Monday Group. **ACTION: Per the above.**	JD/LG
11.	**Communications Matters -** To receive an update. There was no update as DD was not present.	
11.1	**New Parish Website and Logo -** To receive an update. NC informed that the first meeting for this had taken place and that it was now at the costing and provision stage. He said two issues to be looked at were more photography being needed and changes to the text. The Clerk informed that JW had agreed to utilise his drone for some overhead shots. SP said she was looking forward to the big reveal. **ACTION: NC to liaise with JW to arrange photography**	NC/DD/JW
12.	**Skatepark -** To receive an update. In the absence of GS there was no update.	
13.	**Defibrillator** - See separate report and consider quotes. After some discussion it was decided that there were probably enough defibrillators in the core of the village. It was decided that our role would be the organisation that keeps up-to-date information on the defibrillators in the village and to put this out to the community via our website. JK asked that the office encourage for all defibrillators to be registered on the websites www.defibfinder.uk and www.thecircuit.uk and to find out what "Not available now" on the defibfinder website means. SP suggested that future developments might be requested to provide a defibrillator within their site. **ACTION: Office to action the above.**	OFFICE

14.	**Proposed Solar Farm -** To discuss Oldhouse Solar Farm, ScottishPower Renewables. After a prolonged discussion it was decided we should invite them in for a presentation to us and MOPs with the ability for clarification questions. **ACTION:** • **Office to invite them to come in for a factfinding presentation to Parish Council and MOPs at 18.30 before the next Parish Council on 12th September 2023 ensuring this is before their public consultation.** • **LG to provide JD with specific questions to put to LDC re. their pre-app discussions.**	OFFICE LG
15.	**Internal Audit -** To consider Mulberry & Co's 3-year agreement offer. It was agreed to enter into a 3 year contract with Mulberry and Co. **ACTION: Clerk to arrange.**	CLERK
16.	**Planning Matters -** To consider responses to Planning Applications:	
16.1	**LW/23/0405/CD - Bridge Farm, Barcombe Mills Road, Barcombe, BN8 5BX** Discharge of Condition 7 (Archaeological Report) relating to LW/22/0840 (by 17/08/23). **RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - No comment.**	
16.2	**LW/23/0422 - 27 Anchor Rield, Ringmer, BN8 5QN** First floor 2 storey rear extension with rear dormers to roof, front porch and alterations to the fenestrations (by 21/08/23). **RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - Object unless a 3rd car parking space can be provided as RNP 8.3 car parking policy is a relevant material consideration which states that any property with more than 3 bedrooms must have 3 off road car parking spaces. Additionally, this application will increase the problem of overlooking.**	
16.3	**LW/23/0431 - 6 Mill View, Ringmer, BN8 5EP** Single storey front extension (by 24/08/23). **RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - No objection.**	
16.4	**LW/23/0436 - Theydon Hall, Green Lane, Ringmer, BN8 5AD** Replacement pedestrian and vehicular access (by 25/08/23). **RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - No objection.**	
16.5	**LW/23/0440 - Raystede, The Broyle, Ringmer, BN8 5AJ** Installation of 1no. single storey Portakabin building to be used as an additional office for a period of 156 weeks (by 28/08/23). **RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - Supports.**	
16.6	**LW/23/0441 - Downside, Gote Lane, Ringmer, BN8 5HT** Single storey first floor side extension, replacement single storey rear extension, inverted rear roof dormer with glass balustrade, alterations to fenestration and associated landscaping works (by 28/08/2023). **RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - Object unless a 3rd car parking space can be provided as RNP 8.3 car parking policy is a material consideration which states that, as this is taking it from 3 to 4 bedrooms, a further car parking space is required.**	
16.7	**LW/23/0443 - Unit 3, Shortgate Industrial Park, The Broyle, Ringmer, BN8 6PH** Erection of rural workers dwelling and storage building incorporating areas of habitat creation (by 30/08/23). **RESOLVED: Parish Council Decision - Strongly support as it will create new employment and enable an employee to live on the premises.**	
17.	**Planning Matters -** All Decisions:	
	LW/23/0188 - 1 St Anthonys, Ringmer, BN8 5LW - Approved LW/23/0189 - 9 St Anthonys, Ringmer, BN8 5LW - Approved LW/23/0207/CD - 1 The Orchards, Ringmer, BN8 5FR - Approved LW/23/0315 - 16 Delves Close, Ringmer, BN8 5JW - Approved LW/23/0330 - 1 Manor Close, Ringmer, BN8 5PA – Approved The above were noted. JK stated that we need to inform them what the policy is and not just say what policy it is against.	

18.	**Reports, Correspondence, Questions and Future Agenda Items** To consider any correspondence received after this agenda has been published for noting or action. JK gave a precis on planning matters. He reported on the events at the Ashill Regen enquiry and expressed concern about LDC's handling of the appeal as they had failed to defend their refusal. He made it known that the same thing could happen for the Thakeham appeal and he was considering querying LDC's choice of representation.	
19.	**Urgent items at the Chairman's discretion requiring decisions which cannot be held over until the next meeting.** SP gave out the action plan for the Picnic on the Green which the Parish Council is hosting and asked for Cllr volunteers. LG and MM said they were away on 28th August 2023. NC said he would help decorate the VH and tidy up afterwards. JK said he would turn up and help where possible. SP suggested JW help with VH aspects as he is the VH liaison Cllr.	
	Meeting closed at 21.30.	

Signed:		Chairman
Date:		