

# PARISH COUNCIL OF PLAYDEN, EAST SUSSEX

Clerk: Mrs Lesley Voice, 1 The Grove, Rye, TN31 7ND. Tel: 07767 221704

## Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7.30 p.m.

### Present:

**Councillors:**, Mr P Osborne (PO) Chairman, Mr T Lenihan (TL) Vice Chairman, Mr D Stone (DS), Mr A. Dickinson (AD).

**East Sussex County Council (ESCC):** Cllr Keith Glazier

**Rother District Council (RDC) Councillor:** Not present.

**Members of the Public:** 4

	Item	Action
1	<b>To accept apologies for absence:</b> Cllr Lizzy Hacking	
2	<b>Declarations of interest on items on the agenda:</b> None	
3	<b>To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 3rd October 2024.</b>  The minutes were unanimously approved and signed by PO.	
4	<b>Reports from visiting Councillors:</b>  <b>East Sussex County Council (ESCC) Councillor: Cllr Keith Glazier</b> KG reported that the areas highway steward was currently off work. ESCC are assessing what the increase in the living wage and Employer's National Insurance contributions announced in the recent budget will have. There will be an impact of care costs. This is in addition to the escalating social care cost reported at previous meetings. The Council is awaiting the details of the Government's settlement for 2025-6 which is due to be announced at the end of the year.  <b>Rother District Councillor:</b> LH not present. PO stated that the cost savings that had been identified have been wiped out by the increase in costs as a result of the recent budget. More money is required to meet the housing costs of an increasing number of homeless people. Due to the District Council's policy of purchasing properties (now over 50) the council only uses 10% of it's budget for this. Many other councils are using up to 50% of their budget on short term temporary accommodation.	

5	<b>Neighbourhood Watch.</b> No information received.	
6	<b>Public adjournment: To suspend the meeting for any public statements. The period allocated to this is a maximum of 15 minutes.</b> The Clerk of Rye Foreign confirmed that their parish council had decided to pay for the additional four grass cuts.	
7	<b>Matters arising from minutes of 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024 and not covered elsewhere.</b> None	
8	<b>Correspondence:</b> Nothing additional to that covered elsewhere.	
9	<b>WI Hall Support.</b> The Playden WI had recently contacted the parish council to ask for financial and/or other assistance to keep the WI Hall financially viable in the future. There was a long discussion between the councillors and the two WI committee members who had attended the meeting. The members detailed the WI's current and future costs and informed the councillors of what measures and actions they were taking to reduce costs. They are also designing a door drop communication which they will deliver to every household in the parishes of Playden and Rye Foreign regarding the hall and asking for support. The financial situation had deteriorated since the COVID lockdown with groups using the Hall decreasing sharply. If the Hall remains unviable the WI would need to sell the Hall and Playden Parish would lose their only amenity hall. It was agreed that the Parish Council would give £600 towards the immediate running costs and the WI will give a poster advertising the hire of the WI Hall to the Clerk to put on the parish council noticeboard. The WI committee will keep the Clerk and Parish Councillors informed of progress.	
10	<b>Additional Grass Cuts for 2025.</b> It was agreed to pay for the additional four grass cuts for 2025.	
11	<b>Website Update.</b> The Clerk had watched the Zoom presentations provided by the Parish Online group on their website and email service which include all necessary compliance features and to continue to update for any future changes. The yearly cost for this service is £ 432. Due to grants available the first year should be reduced to £ 312. It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate other providers and report back to the councillors.	Clerk
12	<b><u>Planning</u></b>  <b><u>New Applications</u></b>  None  <b><u>Ongoing:</u></b>	

	<p><b>RR/2024/1363/P</b>  <b>Tilmans, Houghton Green Lane, Playden TN31 7PJ</b>  Proposed alterations, conversion and change of use of detached garage to create office and associated kitchen display area.  <b>Undecided</b></p> <p><b>RR/2024/919/P</b>  <b>Brookgate, Folkestone Road, East Guldeford, TN31 7PB</b>  Proposed replacement dwelling  <b>Undecided.</b></p> <p><b><u>Outcomes.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>RR/2024/1392/P</u></b>  <b>Crabapple Cottage Land at Houghton Green Lane, Playden TN31 7PL</b>  Proposed demolition of existing outbuilding and erection of replacement building to be used as a holiday let with associated facilities.  <b>Approved with conditions.</b> The conditions included suggestions made by the parish council regarding the retention and height of the screening native species hedge and trees.</p> <p><b><u>Appeals</u></b></p> <p>None</p>	
13	<p><b>Accounts</b></p> <p>a) <b>Expenditure</b> – to approve the following expenditure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Payment to support the WI Hall (as agreed in agenda item 9 above) :£600.00.</li> <li>• Clerks wages carried forward.</li> </ul> <p>b) <b>Income.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
14	<b>Parish Councillors reports.</b>	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm

**THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 7.30pm.**

Signed:

Chairman

Date: