



Sedlescombe Parish Council

Minutes of the **Full Council Meeting of the Parish Council**

held on Tuesday 18th March 2025 at 1830 in Committee Room 2 of Sedlescombe Village Hall

Present:

Cllr. Pauline Glew (PG). Cllr Jonathan Vine-Hall (JVH) - Chair. Cllr Roy Chapman (RC), Cllr Jackie Saul-Hunt (JSH). Cllr Greta Anderson (GA). Cllr Keith Saunders (KS). Parish & District Cllr Beverley Coupar.

Mrs Jackie Scarff (Clerk/RFO)

District & County Councillor C Maynard (CM) part time left at 19:20

Public participation session re matters on the Agenda at the Chairman's discretion.

There were no members of the public (MOP's)

End of public participation.

Item	Item (C25.)	
47i	To receive apologies & reasons for absence (LGA 1972 s85 (1)) Apologies were received from Cllr Caney for business reasons.	
ii	To consider accepting apologies & reasons for absence (LGA 1972 s85 (1)) Apologies were accepted.	
48	Interests in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and the Council's Code of Conduct	
i	To receive councillors' declarations of interest regarding matters on the agenda and consider any written requests for dispensation as a result. Pecuniary Interests There were no interests received. Other Interests There were no other interests declared.	
ii	To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate. There were no requirements to grant any dispensations. Reminder any changes to register of interests should be notified to the clerk immediately.	
49	To receive questions from members on reports from the District and County Councillors. The district cllrs gave a brief update on the progress of devolution.	
50	To consider the minutes of the full council meeting 21st January 2025 for confirmation and signing as a true record. Resolved: The minutes of the full council meeting of 21 st January 2025 were agreed as a true record and signed by the chair.	
49	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 S1(2), 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 requirement to pass this resolution.	
52	To hear an update on the traffic calming project and agree any actions required. The clerk explained that the road safety audit (RSA) 1 had been done and the report sent on to ESCC. The project had been allocated to an officer and feedback is expected soon. If there are no further issues RSA 2 will go ahead. The traffic regulation order will be submitted as soon as there is confirmation as to what needs to be in it.	

53	<p>To discuss the Sedlescombe toilet block and carpark agree any actions required.</p> <p>Cllrs were aware of the graffiti on the toilet block that occurred the previous Friday night. The clerk confirmed that RDC had been informed and were due to visit on Thursday 20th to clear it. There was further discussion about the devolution of the toilet block and the carpark.</p> <p>Resolved: The clerk was instructed to write to Rother District Council to request the freehold of the carpark and toilet block and a commuted sum of £20,000 to cover the upgrade work required to the toilet block.</p>	
54	<p>To hear an update on the decarbonisation of the pavilion and agree any actions required.</p> <p>The clerk explained that the wifi will be live this week. The project had been completed. The clerk had also organised for the utilities to be switched to better contracts.</p>	
55	<p>To present the current outstanding resolutions and agree any actions required.</p> <p>The clerk reported an update on:</p> <p>The BT pole: The clerk explained there is now a contact at BT Openreach who is following up to get this resolved.</p> <p>Its progressing and we should hear more by the end of the month.</p> <p>Riverside recreation ground legal requirements - the solicitors are now liaising, and we received an initial Heads of Terms. Feedback had gone to the solicitor that there was nothing in there about on-going maintenance required by SEW.</p> <p>The Keep agreed to release the documents that the solicitor requires to register the land. The Keep are concerned that original conveyance documents won't be returned by the land registry.</p>	
56	<p>To consider responding to the request from RDC for a corporate response to Government Consultation on Devolution.</p> <p>Resolved: The clerk was asked to submit comments to the consultation.</p> <p>Devolution will concentrate councils, removing layers of government. Sedlescombe Parish Council (SPC) feels that there is an important role for parish councils to remain local representing the unique needs of rural communities. A parish council provides a direct link between local residents and the higher tiers of government reflecting local needs and priorities. These differ from the needs of an urban centre and without local parish councils the rural areas would lose the ability to maintain essential services and local infrastructure. A parish council has the ability to take on local initiatives for the benefit of the community and ensure the voice of the rural community is democratically represented in policies that directly impact them.</p> <p>CM left the meeting.</p>	
57	<p>Finance and Audit</p> <p>i To receive the monthly statement of accounts to 28th February 2025 for noting</p> <p>This was circulated ahead of the meeting, and it was noted that the bank balances on 28th February 2025 totalled £143,305.65</p> <p>ii To receive the bank reconciliation to 28th February 2025</p> <p>The bank reconciliation for Unity Trust bank was circulated before the meeting and it was noted that it reconciles to zero with the balance on 28th February 2025 showing £27,912.32</p> <p>iii To present for approval the payments for the month.</p> <p>Resolved: The payments were approved as presented.</p> <p>Hannington Gilbert BACS 14,053.68 2,342.28 4430 125 11,711.40 Solar Project Joanne Cosson Domestic £246.60 cleaning Herringtons Solicitors £1,062.00 BT Pole Clerk £65.55 made up of £37.56 Salary reconciliation, £13.34 mobile, £9.99 Expenses</p>	
58	<p>To consider for adoption the following policies:</p> <p>Members Absence and Apologies Policy Training and Development Policy</p> <p>Resolved: that the policies be adopted as presented.</p>	

60 Reports, Correspondence, Questions and Future agenda items not requiring decisions.

i) Red Barn Field – The field and hedges have been cut.

ii) Sedlescombe Jobs Network – Nothing to report.

iii) Any other reports –

61 Date of next meeting. Change to the meeting advertised on the agenda.

To note the date of the next meeting is the Finance Committee meeting on Tuesday 15th April 2025 at 6.30pm CR2.

The next council meeting is the Annual meeting of the Full Council on Tuesday 20th May 2025 at 6.30pm CR2