

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members NOTED that the meeting on Wednesday 10 July 2024 would be held in the garden restaurant. <p>5. County Councillor report and questions: Members AGREED to defer this item until later in the meeting as Cllr Hunt had not yet arrived.</p> <p>6. District Councillor report and questions: Members thanked District Councillor Henry Potter for the report circulated prior to the meeting which was NOTED. In summary, Cllr Potter said the recent reaction by National Highways to the impact of development on the A27 had allowed further progress towards submission of the District Local Plan for inspection by the Planning Inspectorate. This was welcome news unlike the Cabinet’s recommendation to increase car parking charges by 6.7%. Also, charging for car parking had been recommended on a Sunday at rural car parks. Considering the current climate in high streets, Cllr Potter considered this to be a bad proposal and his frequent visits to East Pallant House showed that the car park was underused and that increased charges would cause yet more to boycott the city. It was also proposed to extend the chargeable period from 6pm until 8pm which would hit the night-time economy. Katy Bourne, Sussex PCC, would be attending the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 16 January and many questions had been tendered in advance. Cllr Potter said it was a fact, but all wanted to know ‘where were our Policemen?’. Cyber-crime was said to occupy 30% of police resources but he thought there had to be sufficient officers for some presence on the streets. On a local note, Cllr Potter said he was alarmed and disturbed by the revelations of Cllr Fleming’s report regarding access along Grinch Lane. This was quite unacceptable and had to be addressed as a priority by the Highway Authority. On top of the issues raised in the correspondence there must a question, based on the response from WSFRS, if the residencies on Grinch Lane would be insured against fire risk. For an authority of such importance, such as the Fire and Rescue Service, to admit that they would be unable to attend an incident must lend support to the urgency needed. A rural lane at Chilgrove Park had been completely resurfaced recently which was proof that it could be done within current budget restraints. The sweeping of the edges of the Lane were hardly likely to improve matters one bit. It needed a hard edge to the road surface. Cllr Potter said that he had reported to the Leader of the District Council that sewage discharges continued to be a major issue across the Lavant Valley. Southern Water tankers were pumping 24/7 at Singleton and they were pumping at East Dean where a large circle of hay bales had been placed to prevent the spread and they were filled with excrement. There were also issues at Charlton and at West Dean, where they had started building a hard standing for tankers in the wet weather which seemed to be poorly planned. There had been very little development in the valley to exacerbate the situation which had become a big and unpleasant problem. Members discussed that there was little that they could do but continue to bring the issue to the attention of the relevant authorities and to monitor the situation.</p> <p>7. Rural crime: Cllr Fleming circulated a report to members before the meeting which included a list of incidents which he started to record in November 2017. Since that time there had been hundreds of incidents reported, including lamping, suspicious vehicles driving around, gates smashed and crops driven over, burglaries in the village in January 2023, numerous cars having their windows smashed whilst the owners are out walking, and fly tipping. Although all the</p>	<p>Cllr Fleming</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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incidents had been reported there continued to be little response from the police. It was **PROPOSED** by Cllr Fleming that the PCSO Colin Booker from the Rural Crime Unit was invited to the next meeting on 13 March to make him aware from a Parish level the extent of what was happening. This was **SECONDED** by Cllr Corbett with **ALL IN FAVOUR**. The Clerk would arrange this.

8. Traffic/roads update:

- a) Maintenance of Grinch Lane: It was **AGREED** to defer this item until County Cllr Hunt had arrived.
- b) Speedwatch: Cllr Court reported that the group had been out once recently and that there was no further update.
- c) SID report: Cllr Graham said that the highest speed of 120mph still stood and that he would keep on collecting data to be used as evidence. He would turn the SID around and place it near the school to collect new data. Cllr Graham said that he and Cllr Court had met an officer from the SDNPA before Christmas about proposed traffic calming schemes and that they were still waiting for a response.
- d) A286 Binderton speed limit change: Cllr De Groot said that the contractor had programmed the work for 5-16 February, and road signage and markings would be updated on the A286 and B2141 which could extend the duration of the work slightly.

9. Planning Committee: Members **RESOLVED** to make the following planning decisions and **NOTED** the decisions made by the planning authority.

23/04611/HOUS: North Stonerock Cottage 71 Chilgrove Park Road West Dean West Sussex PO18 9NA. Proposed front porch, single-storey side extension, first floor rear extension and internal alterations. It was **AGREED** to have **NO OBJECTION**.

23/05204/FUL: The Dower House, Church Lane, West Dean. PO18 0QY. Repair storeroom to provide external access to accessible WC at the Dower House. It was **AGREED** to have **NO OBJECTION**.

23/04384/CND: Colworth Farm, The Grinch, West Dean, West Sussex. PO18 0RQ. Replacement barn to provide farm office and facilities for existing shoot including 2 no. rooms for overnight tourist accommodation. (Variation of Condition 2 of permission SDNP/20/01937/FUL - altered siting of barn) - Variation of Condition 2 of Planning Permission SDNP/22/05830/CND for addition of 2 no. external stairs with reconfigured fenestration to suit, relocated gate and reconfigured parking spaces. **REFUSED** by the SDNPA.

23/00652/LDE: The Pool House, Binderton House, Binderton Lane, Binderton, West Dean. PO18 0JS. Existing lawful development certificate for the continuous use of the Pool House as a dwelling for more than 4 years. **APPROVED** by the SDNPA.

<p>10. Cemetery: It was AGREED to defer this item until the next meeting when Cllr Goacher would be present. The Clerk informed members that she had met Cllr Goacher and Cllr Corbett at the cemetery on 5 January to discuss tree and hedge maintenance and memorial inspections. Cllr Goacher would be circulating a scheme and quote to members, which would also be used to get other quotes as a comparison.</p>	
<p>11. Royal British Legion silhouettes: Members AGREED to purchase a lamp post sign for the village green and two silhouettes (an unknown Tommy and an unknown woman). Members proposed locations for the silhouettes, and it was discussed that a final decision could be made once they had arrived. It was AGREED to budget for the items in the 2024/25 precept and buy them in the new financial year. See more at Royal British Legion Industries Shop Council & Business (rbli.shop)</p>	Clerk
<p>12. D-Day 80th anniversary, Thursday 6 June 2024: Cllr Court and Cllr Slade said they would be happy to organise an afternoon tea party for villagers, which would also be an opportunity to launch the new silhouettes. It was decided to discuss the event more at the next meeting.</p>	Cllr Court Cllr Slade
<p>13. Asset Register: Members APPROVED the circulated Asset Register for 2023/24 with no amendments.</p>	
<p>14. Finance</p>	
<p>a) Members NOTED the list of earmarked reserves. It was discussed that the £20k held for village gateways and speeding could also be used for any cemetery costs that may be incurred following the memorial stability inspection that was due.</p>	
<p>b) Members considered the circulated draft budget for financial year 2024/25. It was AGREED unanimously to set a Precept of £17,357 for 2024/25. The Clerk would inform the District Council of the Precept requirement. It was discussed that the Precept would continue to deliver services for the Parish and reflected increases linked to inflation. It was NOTED that for the last two years, the Council had agreed to set a Precept lower than the budget which had resulted in spending the general reserve. It was discussed that this approach could not be maintained in the long-term and the Clerk advised the Council that the Precept should match the budget. It was NOTED that the increase in the Precept amounted to an additional £1.41 per month per Band D Council Tax property, or 32p per week.</p>	Clerk
<p>c) Members RESOLVED to APPROVE the list of payments totalling £709.13 and due immediately (to be paid before 13 March 2024 and required advance authorisation). There were payments totalling £693.60 made since 8 November 2023 which members RESOLVED to APPROVE retrospectively. See Appendix 1.</p>	
<p>d) Members NOTED and APPRVED the bank reconciliations to 31 December 2023 which were signed by the Chairman.</p>	

15. Correspondence: Members **NOTED** the list of correspondence and discussed that the new on-demand bus service, Book-a-bus, could be a threat to the regular bus service.

*Cllr Hunt arrived at 8.30pm and it was **AGREED** to discuss the two deferred agenda items.*

County Councillor report and questions: Cllr Hunt had been working on the County Council's proposed budget which was ready for consideration by the Performance & Finance Scrutiny committee on 24 January. It would then be signed off by Cabinet on 30 January, before going to Full Council for final approval on 16 February. For 2024/25, the gross spend was £2.0bn and net revenue was just over £761M. Of that, 63% went to adult's and children's services. £47m of revenue expenditure went to highways, plus £60m of capital expenditure - nearly half of which was additional funding, over and above government grants, that was being put into highways. The Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement provided very little additional funding to address the continuing pressures, particularly for social care - both children and adults. An overall increase had been announced to local authorities of around 6.5%, but nearly 4.5% of that was predicated on the assumption that Council Tax was raised by the maximum allowed, which was 4.99% (2.99% for core services plus 2% for adult social care). Unfortunately, therefore, the County Council proposed to raise Council Tax by that amount, which equated to a rise of £81.54 - or £1.57 per week - for an average Band D taxpayer. Cllr Hunt said the County Council had dedicated web pages to provide people with the latest help, advice and practical support if they were facing cost of living pressures. Cllr Hunt reminded the Council that there was a new booking system for the waste and recycling centers www.westsussex.gov.uk/land-waste-and-housing/waste-and-recycling/recycling-and-waste-prevention/recycling-centres/book-to-recycle-booking-system/ The Binderton Speed limit reduction design was with the contractor who had programmed the work for 5-16 February. After some teething troubles, Cllr Hunt said the Operation Watershed works had improved flooding opposite Crows Hall Farm. There were some discussions about some additional work. Members thanked Cllr Hunt for his verbal report.

Maintenance of Grinch Lane: Cllr Fleming had circulated a report before the meeting regarding the deterioration of Grinch Lane over the last four years, which had resulted in the surface of the road to be in such poor condition that Sussex Fire and Rescue Service had said their vehicles would be unable to access Colworth Farm and 10 other properties nearby. This was of great concern to residents and this view was supported by members. The width of the road had deteriorated to 2.1m in some locations with the edges becoming mud and flint. This would not allow a fire engine's wheelbase to straddle the road which would struggle to find grit on the slope given the extra weight of the vehicles when carrying water. Site meetings had taken place with the County Council's Highways Department but no work to date had taken place to repair the road as they considered the road to be in good condition. It was **AGREED** that the Parish Council would write to the Assistant Director of Highways, copying in the

Cllr
Fleming

Clerk

Cabinet Member for Highways and the Head of Legal Services at the County Council. It was also **AGREED** to contact the Fire Service to ask that they visited the site again, preferably with Highways in attendance. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would circulate a draft letter to members for their consideration.

16. Announcements and items for the next meeting: There were no announcements.

17. Confidential business: Members **RESOLVED** to exclude the public and press, in the view that publicity would prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business or arising out of the business about to be transacted – Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

18. Staffing matters: Members **APPROVED** unanimously an additional single salary point to the Clerk’s salary to be paid from February 2024, as agreed in the employment contract on completion of six months in post. It was also **AGREED** to update the Clerk’s contract of employment to the new model issued by NALC which the Chairman and Clerk signed.

19. Date of next meeting: The next meeting was scheduled to be held on Wednesday 13 March 2024 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Appendix 1

1. Payments for approval, 10 Jan 24		Total	Net	VAT
BACS	Confidential payments Jan 24	489.17	489.17	0.00
BACS	Working from home allowance Jan 24	18.00	18.00	0.00
BACS	Chichester Payroll Services Jan 24	15.00	15.00	0.00
BACS	HMRC Jan 24	117.60	117.60	0.00
BACS	Mileage Jan 24	37.08	37.08	0.00
BACS	MS 365 Jan 24	11.28	9.40	1.88
BACS	O2 mobile phone Jan 24	21.00	17.50	3.50
		709.13	703.75	5.38
2. Payments made since the last meeting, 8 Nov 23		Total	Net	VAT
BACS	Confidential payments Dec 23	489.17	489.17	0.00
BACS	Working from home allowance Dec 23	18.00	18.00	0.00
BACS	Chichester Payroll Services Dec 23	15.00	15.00	0.00
BACS	HMRC Dec 23	117.60	117.60	0.00
BACS	MS 365 Dec 23	11.28	9.40	1.88

BACS	O2 mobile phone Dec 23	21.00	17.50	3.50
BACS	The Meeting Place, room hire for interim internal audit on 5 Oct	20.00	20.00	0.00
BACS	2nd class postage for return of register of interest forms to CDC	1.55	1.55	0.00

		693.60	688.22	5.38
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3. Receipts

BACS	Aerial Direct mobile phone reimbursement, Nov & Dec 23	6.00		
BACS	Santander: Interest 01/12/23	5.55		
		11.55		

4. Bank reconciliation

Barclays

Balance per statement 31/12/23	£68,530.23
Less outstanding payments	£0.00
Add outstanding receipts	£0.00
Add petty cash	£0.00
Revised bank	£68,530.23

Cashbook control

Balance forward 01/04/23	£28,412.51
Add total receipts to date	£53,418.74
Less total payments to date	£13,301.02
Cashbook at 31/12/23	£68,530.23

Santander

Balance per statement 31/12/23	£6,262.91
Less outstanding payments	£0.00
Add outstanding receipts	£0.00
Add petty cash	£0.00
Revised bank	£6,262.91

Cashbook control

Balance forward 01/04/23	£6,216.01
Add total receipts to date	£46.90
Less total payments to date	£0.00
Cashbook at 31/12/23	£6,262.91

<u>Total in both accounts</u>	<u>74,793.14</u>
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