

MINUTES OF THE SOUTH HEIGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 26th November 2019 at 7.00 p.m.
AT THE VILLAGE HALL, HEIGHTON ROAD, SOUTH HEIGHTON

Present: Councillors: P Julian (Chair), A Turner (Vice Chair), D Gravenor, G Hazell, S Hitchcock and S Lo Fan Hin
In Attendance: S Mills (Parish Clerk)

SHPC 19-177 1. Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

SHPC 19-178 2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Twaits and District Councillors Emily O'Brien and Johnny Denis.

SHPC 19-179 3. Declarations of Interest

None declared.

SHPC 19-180 4. Minutes

4.1. To Approve and sign the minutes of the meeting on 22nd October 2019

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd October 2019, circulated prior to the meeting, were **AGREED** and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

4.2. Matters Arising (not covered below)

The Clerk advised Members that the Autumn/Winter Newsletter has been sent to Tansleys for printing and will be available to collect on Wednesday afternoon. The Chair will collect and distribute to Members for delivery to residents.

SHPC 19-181 5. Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman made the following announcements:

- The Environment Agency are undertaking flood plain works on the A26 between the hours of 9:30am-3.30pm. The Chair asked the Environment Agency to send a letter to all houses facing the A26 detailing the dates and hours of the disruption which was done.
- A noise monitoring station and additional dust collector have been placed in the Chair's garden; the results will be reported once known.
- The Chair attended the remembrance service in Newhaven and laid a wreath on behalf of the Council. It was well attended and a good event.
- The Chair congratulated the Clerk on passing the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) qualification.
- The Chair thanked SouthCoast Locksmiths in Newhaven for attending the Hollow to remove the padlock on the small gate without charge.

SHPC 19-182 6. Parish/District/County Councillor Reports

The following reports were made:

- No District or County Councillor reports were received.
- Cllr Turner attended the South Heighton Village Hall Management Committee (SHVHMC) Meeting on 18th November. The SHVHMC would like to place a banner on the village green on 7th December advertising the Christmas Fair at the village Hall on 14th December. Members had no objection to this. Cllr Turner further reported that the old finger signpost at the Hollow has been removed and a new post has been purchased.
- Cllr Hazell has obtained a voucher for £20 from Sainsburys towards purchasing mince pies for the parish council Christmas event on 4th December. The Clerk will write a letter of thanks to Sainsburys.

SHPC 19-183 7. The Hollow

7.1. Hollow Bookings

No booking requests have been received since the last meeting. Cllr Turner raised that a private fireworks event was held at the Hollow in early November and that the used fireworks were not cleared up following this. Before the next bonfire season, the Clerk will prepare A4 posters to place along the fence and noticeboards advising recreation ground users that private

fireworks events are not permitted. The Clerk will also prepare notices for the noticeboards confirming the procedure for booking private events at the Hollow.

7.2. Monthly Play Inspection

No new play inspection has been received since September. The Clerk has raised this with Lewes District Council and will forward the latest inspection report as soon as it is received. The Clerk accompanied the play inspector on his latest inspection and was able to provide a verbal report of identified issues:

- The wooden hopscotch stones are rotting away in places and will require attention. This cannot be done in the current wet weather conditions.
- The metal fireman's pole attached to the playhouse has been stolen; thieves cut the pole at the ground. The Parish Council does not have the funds to replace this at this time but will look for sponsorship to replace and at alternative materials to make it less attractive to thieves.
- The bonfire society misplaced a domed nut when replacing the fence rails following the bonfire, Playsafe have been contacted to provide a quote for a replacement and some spares.
- The water drinking fountain and filling station is leaking. The chair organised a plumber to turn the internal water supply off and the Clerk has arranged for the suppliers to attend site to fix the leak and to complete the bi-annual sanitisation service.

7.3. Tree Work

Colin Corkhill of Tilhill Forestry attended the Hollow at the request of Glynde Estates to review the condition of the trees around the play area. Mr Corkhill confirmed further works to trees around the play area at an expected cost of £655 (plus VAT) and a further £65 (plus VAT) for a conservation area application. Mr Corkhill also raised that circa 50 ash trees within the boundary of the Hollow will require attention to deal with the risk posed by Ask Dieback. The Chair, Clerk and any available Councillors will meet with Mr Corkhill at the Hollow to review the affected trees early in the new year and the Clerk will then arrange a meeting with Nick Jones, Glynde Estates Manager, to agree a way forwards.

Cllr Lo Fan Hin raised the possibility of a tree-planting event and members discussed arranging a general 'working bee' with volunteers at the hollow in the new year. Cllr Gravenor suggested contacting local businesses to discuss assistance with the tree planting which could also help them to meet their carbon offsetting targets. Cllr Gravenor offered to take this forward within the local community and will report back at the next meeting.

Members **NOTED** the update.

SHPC 19-184 8. Village Green VE Day Celebrations 2020

Cllr Turner updated Members that no firm plans have been made after the initial enquiry but that any request will be submitted early in the new year.

SHPC 19-185 9. Christmas Tree and Event

The annual Parish Council carols event will take place on Wednesday 4th December from 6:30pm. Carols will take place in Denton Hall with music and mince pies. Cllr Hazell confirmed that the cost of the tree for the Village Green will be up to £130 with an additional £20 required for new lights. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the purchase of a Christmas tree for the Village Green and new lights up to a value of £150.

SHPC 19-186 10. Village Green Project

It was **RESOLVED** to approve funds of up to £75 total for the purchase of 2 plaques to be placed on the planters donated by Paradise Park for the village green. Text on the plaques will read "Kindly donated by Paradise Park, November 2019". The Clerk will liaise with Paradise Park regarding a date for photographs of the new planters.

SHPC 19-187 11. Unregistered Footpaths and Byways Project

Cllr Gravenor advised Members that he had spoken to the Newhaven Museum regarding historic maps which may show rights of way; the museum are retrieving maps from 1848 and 1898 over

the winter. The museum suggested contacting Ian Everest to see if he has any maps to compare historic routes, Cllr Gravenor will progress this.

SHPC 19-188 12. Hampden Arms Community Asset Project
Cllr Turner has read through documentation provided by the Clerk and will arrange for the 21 signatures to be obtained to be brought before the Council in the new year.

SHPC 19-189 13. Village Defibrillator
Cllr Turner updated Members that the defibrillator has not yet been fixed to the wall outside the Hampden Arms. Councillors are keen to ensure that this is placed as soon as possible and that relevant training is provided as agreed. Cllr Hitchcock and Cllr Turner will progress and provide an update at the next meeting.

SHPC 19-190 14. General Power of Competence
Following the Clerk’s successful completion of the CiLCA qualification, the Council is now able to adopt the General Power of Competence which is a power of first resort enabling an eligible council “the power to do anything that individuals generally may do” within the law. The Clerk had provided Members with a report detailing the background to the new power before the meeting. It was unanimously **RESOLVED**:

- That South Highton Parish Council is eligible to adopt the General Power of Competence and
- That all Members unanimously agree to adopt the General Power of Competence on this day 26th November 2019.

SHPC 19-191 15. Planning
No new planning applications have been received since the last meeting. Members noted the following planning decisions received since the last meeting:

- SNDP/19/02722/FUL – Extension of Titan Marine Recycling Yard
Parish Council Comment: *Strongly object. New status: Application withdrawn.*

SHPC 19-192 16. Finance
16.1. Precept 2020/2021
It was **RESOLVED** to approve a precept increase of 4%, equating to £12,260.00, for the 2020/2021 financial year providing the LDC grant does not fall below £850. If the grant falls below £850, the precept increase will be 5%, equating to £12,377.00, to allow the Council to meet its spending commitments for the upcoming municipal year.

16.2. Payments since last meeting
The Council reviewed the list of payments to be paid this month as detailed below:

Payee	Product/Service	Amount
Mrs S Mills	Parish Clerk Salary for November 2019	£335.11
Lewes District Council	Monthly Play Inspection for November 2019	£18.00
Lewes District Council	Monthly Play Inspection for December 2019	£18.00
Mrs G Hazell	Reimbursement for purchase of Christmas tree lights (TLC Invoice CS1512568)	£37.68
Total:		£408.79

It was **RESOLVED** to approve payments totalling £408.79. Cllrs Lo Fan Hin and Turner signed the cheques.

SHPC 19-193 17. Consultations/Meetings/Activities
Members received an update on the following:

- Cllr Julian gave an update on the Brett Aggregates Newhaven Liaison Group Meeting which he attended on 17th September 2019 and confirmed that meetings will take place twice a year. Members **NOTED** the update.
- Cllr Hitchcock gave an update on the SDNPA Workshop which he attended on 15th October 2019. Attendees received an overview of the South Downs Local Plan adopted on 2nd July 2018 and members of the planning policy team gave an overview of sustainable development, eco-systems services and major developments and showed how the Authorities’ policies are directly affecting

developments. Cllr Hitchcock noted that Council's without a neighbourhood plan receive a smaller portion of potential community infrastructure levies than those with a plan and asked Members if the Council should consider having a neighbourhood plan. It was **RESOLVED** for the Clerk to add this to the next agenda for consideration with a summary of the neighbourhood planning process.

Members considered the following new consultation:

- **Invitation to comment on the revised Statement of Community Involvement for Lewes District**

It was **RESOLVED** to authorise Cllr Hitchcock to respond on behalf of the Council raising the issue of Parishes which fall within two planning authorities and repetitive elements in appendix two 'material considerations'.

SHPC 18. Date and location of next Council Meeting

19-194 It was **NOTED** that the next meeting would be an Ordinary Meeting of the Council on Tuesday 14th January 2020 at 7.00 p.m. at the South Heighton Village Hall, Heighton Road.

**SHPC
19-195**

The meeting ended at 21:15

Signed:

Date:

Print Name: Cllr Paul Julian - Chairman South Heighton Parish Council