



BUXTED

PARISH COUNCIL

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4 May 2021

MINUTES

Minutes of the REMOTE meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 4 May 2021 at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. Blandford (Parish Council Chairman), Cllr Rose (Planning Chairman), Bolton (1909 hours), Cox, Coxon, Humphrey, Illingworth (1909 hours), Johnson, McQuarrie, Marshall, and Roberts

Also present: ESCC Galley, Clerks Beccy Macklen and Claudine Feltham.

Public: Two members of the public were present.

01/05/21 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE FORTHCOMING YEAR
Cllr Blandford offered to continue as Chairman of the Parish Council, no other Cllrs put themselves forward for the position. Resolved: Cllr Rose proposed for Cllr Blandford to be elected as Chairman, Cllr Cox seconded this, and reached unanimous approval.

02/05/21 SIGNING OF DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE BY THE NEW CHAIRMAN - signed

03/05/21 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL
Cllr Rose offered to continue as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council, no other Cllrs put themselves forward for the position. Resolved: Cllr McQuarrie proposed for Cllr Rose to be elected as Vice Chairman, Cllr Coxon seconded this, and reached unanimous approval.

The current committee structure to remain the same until September when the parish council next meet in public.

04/05/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Moss

05/05/21 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

All councillors declared a personal interest in any matters relating to the Ionides Trust by virtue of the parish council being managing agents of the site.

Cllr. Rose declared a prejudicial interest in any matters relating to the land west of Church Road (Beechbrook Park due to having owned part of the application site

Cllr. Illingworth declared a personal interest in any matters related to the St Margaret's and St Mary's Churches by virtue of being a member of the PCC.

Cllr. Cox declared a personal interest in any matters related to the allotments by virtue of being an allotment holder.

06/05/21 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the REMOTE meeting held on 13th April 2021 were signed by Cllr Blandford as a correct record of the meeting. This was proposed by Cllr Rose and seconded by Cllr Roberts.

07/05/21 **Planning applications considered:**

[WD/2021/0344/F](#)

Location: The Croft, Coopers Green Road, Uckfield

Description: Proposed single storey and rear extension.

Buxted Parish Council response to Wealden District Council: Cllr Roberts and Cox commented that this was quite a large extension, however, the dwelling was sited within quite a large plot. No objections, recommend approval.

1909 Cllrs Illingworth and Bolton joined the meeting.

[WD/2021/0902/F](#)

Location: Redbrook Cottage, Redbrook Lane, Buxted

Description: Detached single storey garage

Buxted Parish Council response to Wealden District Council: no objection, recommend approval.

[WD/2021/0780/F](#)

Location: Kilworth House, London Road, Budletts Common, Uckfield

Description: Proposed single storey extension to side of property to form bedroom 1 and en-suite.

Buxted Parish Council response to Wealden District Council: no objection, recommend approval.

Applications received following the publication of the agenda: *None*

Appeals

Appeal Ref: APP/C1435/D/21/3267649

Quarry Farm, Royal Oak Lane, High Hurstwood, Buxted TN22 4AL

The development proposed is the erection of single storey double garage with apex roof, construction of hard surface joining existing driveway to garage and proposed drainage to minimise surface water run-off.

Reason for dismissal: The main issue is the effect of the development on the character and appearance of the locality and the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The Parish Council raised no objections

08/05/21 **Update on applications previously considered by the parish council, and determined by the district council:**

None

1911 hours – Cllr Rose finished chairing the planning part of the meeting, Cllr Blandford took over to Chair the parish council.

09/05/21 **ESCC/WDC REPORT**

Cllr Galley reported no news from ESCC but mentioned the odd decision by Govt. not to extend online meetings until September. Therefore, from 7th May, virtual online meetings are no longer legal. This will prove challenging, for example the chief executive of ESCC is currently trying to find a location to hold meetings for 50 councillors, plus members and staff all, socially distancing.

Cllr. Illingworth reported that due to the forthcoming elections WDC is very quiet.

Cllr Coxon mentioned a promise from the Conservative Party Group to improve the roads and hopes this will materialise.

10/05/21

OUTSTANDING MATTERS

Mobile phone coverage: Nothing to report.

Public footpaths: Nothing to report.

Road Safety: Nothing to report.

Wealden Local Development Framework: Nothing to report.

Property issues:

Reading Room renovation – Fire Safety Assessment Report – Unfortunately the report was not received prior to the meeting.

Communications Matters: Nothing to report.

BT Box – the clerk reported that a local carpenter has been asked to quote for the work. We are awaiting the quote.

11/05/21

CORRESPONDENCE

No priority correspondence

12/05/21

FINANCE

i) to agree to approve the payment list for May 2021 via email as all payments not received in time for meeting – **Proposed by Cllr. Coxon and seconded by Cllr. Roberts – approved**

ii) **consideration of Insurance Policy for 2021/22** – details of quotes circulated prior to meeting.

Cllr Roberts commented that all quotes were at an increased level to prior years so it would seem that all prices have increased across the board. Therefore, proposed by Cllr Roberts and seconded by Cllr. Marshall the recommended Pen/AXA policy was unanimously agreed.

13/05/21

OTHER MEETINGS

The clerk reported that she had attended a Wealden Clerks meeting remotely at which it was made clear that if hybrid meetings are held where some councillors are in person and others are attending remotely, only those attending the meeting 'in person' are eligible to vote on any decisions.

14/05/21

MEMBERS QUESTIONS

Cllr. Coxon mentioned the photograph of the airfield is still present on the website. Clerk to report. He also asked if there would be a facility to download the calendar

from the website. The clerk would investigate.

Members briefly discussed where a meeting could take place outside 'in person' in June. The football pavilion was suggested, however subsequent to the meeting it was suggested that the meeting is held on 22nd June at which time COVID rules may be relaxed enough to meet socially distanced indoors.

15/05/21

ANNOUNCEMENTS: *None*

The meeting closed at 1924 hours.

East Sussex County Council Ongoing Matters:

DATE RAISED	CASE NO	DESCRIPTION	OPEN/CLOSED RESOLUTION
21/12/2020 ONGOING	00529461	Britts Farm Alleyway – access through difficult due to blocking by vegetation and fallen fence	21/12 – passed to officers 31/3 – map received by clerk showing part of alleyway in ownership of Highways and part Rights of Way Team. Clerk written to Rights of Way Team to ask that trees on their part (footpath 67) be assessed. 31/3 Rights of Way Team confirm the trees are on ESCC land however could be the responsibility of the landowner which ESCC are not. I wait to be advised.
21/12/2020 ISSUE CLOSED	00527587	Switching off of street lamps in Britts Farm alleyway, or at least switching off one on 24 hours	21/12 – passed to officers 26/1 – still being discussed by officers 22/2 – resident advised that the orange light has now changed to a bright white light and is still on 24 hours (so worse situation) 10/3 – apologies from ESCC for slow response. Explanation of why lamp was changed to white light. Still looking at putting timers on lights 11/3 – Response by clerk. Crossed wires, we want the lights turned off not on timers. 23/3 – ESCC confirm they are still looking into being able to switch off lights 15/4 – ESCC confirmation that lights cannot be switched off for safety reasons but will be replaced with different bulbs and will not be on all night. Works will take place late summer ISSUE CLOSED (for now)
21/01/2021 ONGOING	00539076	Blocked drain outside St Mary's Church, Church Road, Buxted	25/1 – passed to officer to investigate
27/01/2021 ONGOING	00541323	Width of pavement between St Raphaels and Toll Farm Triangle, Buxted	27/1 – passed to officers. 9/2 – officers could not identify location they need a better description! Email response sent. 31/3 – after more correspondence between Cllr Galley, ESCC Officer Johnson and Local Resident, Cllr Galley has confirmed this matter cannot be pursued any further. Pavement is a fair

			<p>width, and the hedge has been recently cut back. Engineering works and cameras will not be installed by ESCC on this section of road.</p> <p>20/4 – Cllr Galley confirmed hedge and width of pavement will be investigated by Highway Steward</p> <p>30/4 – Highway report that one owner of the hedge is disputing that it is their responsibility to cut the hedge. Passed to Enforcement. Until hedge cut back Highway Steward cannot ascertain if siding works are required.</p>
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Ionides Trust Update:

It was previously reported of a possible loose drain cover in the undergrowth close to the rifle club. Cllr. Rose has checked the drain and cover and does not believe it could be a trip hazard.

Timescale for the bench and trees – trees will be ordered for planting in the Autumn. The bench could be installed earlier if ordered and delivered prior to the trees.

DRAFT