

**WHICHAM PARISH COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD
ON WEDNESDAY 2 JUNE 2021 AT SILECROFT VILLAGE HALL
COMMENCING AT 07.30PM**

PRESENT: Cllr A Fell (Chair), Cllr S Wilson, Cllr M Sharp, Cllr M. Cumming, Cllr R Jopson, Cllr S Millar, Cllr P Rand and Cllr C Lowery
4 members of the public

24/21: APOLOGIES: Cty Cllr K Hitchen

25/21 Exclusions of Press and Public

A letter had been received which identified a HR issue. This would be dealt with under correspondence and would require the public and press to be excluded.

26/21 Declarations of Interest

None

27/21 Minutes of the meeting held on 5 May 2021 and 19 May 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 5 May 2021 were approved and was signed by the Chair

Proposed by Cllr Rand, Seconded by Cllr Millar

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2021 were approved and was signed by the Chair

Proposed by Cllr Sharp, seconded by Cllr Cumming

The Chair signed all the minutes that had been approved during the period when only remote meetings were permitted.

28/21 Police Liaison Report

A report had been previously circulated

29/21 PROGRESS REPORTS

None

30/21 Public Participation Session

A member of the public wished to express their support of the Parish Council and the CIC for the closure of the Pop-up Café. When asked for any additional comments by the Chair, the member of the public stated that she had returned from holiday today to a number of complaints from residents about the amount of traffic on the road and parking on the road side. For the last 3 years she had along with others been picking up rubbish off the beach and the car park and this had got worse despite requests to the café to manage the waste and she was fed up of picking up their rubbish. She was astounded that during the first lockdown that the café remained open when all other businesses in the area had been forced to close and found that disregard for public safety worrying. Benches had suddenly appeared and had taken over limited parking space and had heard the fishermen complaining about the take over of the spaces they would normally occupy. Concern was expressed about the building chaos once the build of the new café commenced which would further reduce the parking

capacity and may deter local people from visiting to enjoy dog walking, fishing and bird watching

Another member of the public stated that it had been a split decision within the CIC regarding the vote to closure on 21 June or extend to 31 August which seemed a more logical end to summer trading and it seemed mean spirited by the Parish Council

The Chair explained that the planning consent ceased on 28 June, and the café had served its purpose. The Parish Council had not received any data from the café despite numerous requests. The onset of Covid etc had delayed the start date for the build. The council would be discussing alternative options for the rest of the summer.

31/21 County Councilor and Borough Councilor Report

Cty Cllr Hitchen had left a written report with the Clerk, that the proposed plans for the footpath had been discussed by the Local Committee at a meeting on 25 May 2021 and is being discussed at a further meeting, along with other projects, the result of the outcome of this meeting will be known by the end of July.

32/21 Applications for Development

32/21.1 To examine applications for development and submit observations to the Planning Authority

7/2021/4058 The Beach Hut, Silecroft

Replacement timber framed and clad "garden room" and associated works

Cllr Rand had taken photographs of the damage caused to the SSSI site when a wagon delivering some wood to the site had driven across the site to access the Beach Hut contrary as to what had been presented to the Planning Authority ie access via a footpath.

The council resolved that access to the site was a priority, were concerned about how a large structure could be safely brought onto the site, No details with the application of the dimensions of the replacement hut, the colour of the wood nor what it would be used for. The Council was sympathetic and agreed that the current hut required replacement but had concerns

7/2021/4057 Lachra, The Shore, Silecroft

Installation of 9m squared array of PV solar panels on south facing slope of garden land

The council would not support this application as it set a precedent and was not in keeping with the landscape.

4/21/2175 Field adjoining to Raceside, Kirksanton

Reserved Matters Application for Detached Dwelling & Garage (Following Grant of Outline Approval 4/19/2314/001) additional information received

The council resolved to support the application and expect previous comments to be taken into consideration

32/21.2 To ratify the observations submitted by the Clerk under devolved

None Undertaken

32/21.3 To note the decisions of the statutory planning authority with regards to recent applications:

None

33/21 FINANCIAL RECORDS

33/21.1 The following payments were approved:

J Hillier	Toilet Cleaning May	£398.97
L Cooper	Clerks salary & expenses	£570.14
HMRC	PAYE	£124.40
V E Falconer	Internal audit fees	£ 75.00
CALC	Village Green Course	£ 20.00
Blackcombe PCC	grass cutting May	£ 75.00
Copeland BC	Trade waste – toilets	£144.00
Mr M Sharpe	re-imburse matls for benches	£ 48.80

Proposed by Cllr Rand, seconded by Cllr Jopson

33/21.2 To note the receipt of payments

Beach car park £ 220.78

Church car park £ 202.62

33/21.3 To receive and note the **bank reconciliation** statement dated 5 May 2021

This had not been verified

33/21.4 To consider the **Budget Comparison Report** as at 31 May 2021 and determine action need to address deviations from the budget.

It was agreed that £20000 of reserves be allocated for the proposed footpath

33/21.5 To approve the **Accounting Statement for the financial year 2020/21**

The Clerk presented the accounting statement for approval

Proposed by Cllr Sharpe, Seconded by Cllr Rand

33/21.6 To receive the report from the Internal Auditor and note any actions

The Clerk read out the report which identified 2 actions

- a) There had been an overpayment on Clerks Salary/expenses for December 2020 of £12.58 this was to be corrected in the June payment
- b) Not all cheque subs had been countersigned and this to be brought to the attention of the bank signatories.

34/21 PARISH MATTERS

34/21.1 Silecroft Beach Front car park and toilets

Cllr Rand reported that one toilet was blocked and had been closed off pending repair. The toilets had been left open all the time over the bank holiday period which had created issues. The new commercial bin had arrived and it was noted that it was being filled up with café related rubbish, which is not its purpose.

Cllr Rand to review its location and also construct a screen around it.

There had been problems of car parking along the road over the bank holiday period. The issue of car parking to be placed on the July agenda

It was resolved to advertise for tenders for a mobile ice cream van that can provide hot/cold drinks between 1 July and 30 September

Proposed by Cllr Lowery, Seconded by Cllr Wilson

34/21.2 Proposed Silecroft Beach Cafe

The Clerk reported that additional agreement documents had been received from CBC. It was resolved that an extra-ordinary meeting be held on 9 June 2021 at 7.30pm to discuss the documents and sign off.

34/21.3 Community Plan

This is a work in progress. Information to be supplied to be put up on notice boards and website.

34/21.4 EV Charge Points

Cllr Cumming had attended at meeting with Trudy Harrison MP who was interested in local community plans and issues surrounding them. The problem of not having 3 phase electricity which would support EV charge points on the shore front and the café was raised. Suggested sites in the village Miners Arms car Park and Sharpes yard

Cllr Lowery apologized and left the meeting at 2050hours

34/21.5 Play Inspection report

There had been a complaint regarding old fence posts being left on site. The fencing had not been put back up. Cllr Sharpe to investigate. The Clerk to chase CBC for the removal of the vegetation waste that had been cleared by the prison.

34/21.6 Church car park

Still awaiting the contractor

34/21.7 Tree Planting

Nothing to report

34/21.8 LDNP consultation document

All councillors to submit responses to the Clerk by 20 June 2021

35/21 Reports from outside bodies

Cllr Rand reported that he had received information from the Seaside Awards Body and the information required. It included water quality checks and environmental management of the beach area. To be discussed at the next meeting.

36/21 CORRESPONDENCE All correspondence had been circulated to councilors. The following had not been circulated.

36/21.1 Letter from an individual requesting a private meeting to discuss the reasons behind the closure of the pop-up café. It was agreed that the response would be by letter only and the following reasons for the none renewal of the Licence would be contained within that letter

- a) There was no new evidence to change the decision of 19 May 2021 and that the planning consent expired on 28 June 2021
- b) Over the period of the Licence there had been numerous breaches of the Licence agreement by the CIC and the café operator and an apparent failure of the CIC to manage or enforce the terms of the Licence agreement on the café operator who appeared to have no desire or willingness to abide by contractual agreements.
- c) The purpose of the temporary Pop-up Cafe had served its purpose which was to secure funding and building consent for a permanent café.

A Freedom of Information request to be submitted to the CIC and the café operator for the data that had been a condition of the Licence agreement and is required for the tender process for the permanent café

36/21.2 A complaint had been received from a resident complaining about anti-social behaviour at a holiday let. The Clerk had responded that all anti-social behaviour be reported to the police.

Cllr Fell left the meeting to attend to a family emergency at 9.30pm Cllr Cumming took over the chair and continued with correspondence

36/21.3 An email had been received from the grass cutting contractor who had forwarded on a request from residents for the now cleared area on Kirksanton Village Green to be included in the grass cutting. The Clerk to contact the contractor for a quote for the additional work and to ascertain the ownership of the land in question.

36/21.4 A complaint had been received about the Clerk's conduct. Members of the public were requested to leave the meeting so that this complaint could be discussed.

36/21 Councilor Matters

- Cllr Millar had received complaints regarding the number of potholes on the road through the village and down to the beach. The Clerk to report.

37/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – to confirm the next meeting will be Wednesday 14th July 2021 commencing at 7.30pm in **Kirksanton Village Hall**.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2200 hrs

Signed..... Dated.....