

PLUCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 2nd April 2024 at 7.30 pm in Pluckley Village Hall

Present : Cllrs Taylor (in the Chair), Breach, Washer, Albon & Dilley

In attendance : Mr. G Eaton, Clerk to the Council, and three members of the public

Action by:

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Cahill and ABC Cllr Bell

2 Declarations of Cllrs interests in items on the Agenda

There were no declarations of Cllrs interests in items on the Agenda

3 Minutes of the last Meeting & Matters arising

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 19th March 2024 were approved

4 Co-option onto the Parish Council

After a brief discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should check that all vacancies on the Council have been properly notified to ABC and due process followed before co-opting a new member

Clerk

5 Public discussion and Parishioners question

The members of the public were invited to participate in agenda item 12 - Recreation sport and leisure (please see below)

6 ABC Cllr Bell's report & Neighbourhood Watch report

ABC Cllr Bell's written report, circulated by email, was noted with thanks

7 Planning & Enforcement

There were no new planning applications to discuss

There was a discussion regarding ABCs draft Local Plan to 2040 and the call for sites. Cllr Washer argued these needed careful review and consideration even at this early stage in the process
Cllr Washer

8 Neighbourhood Plan Review

Cllr Taylor reported that the Referendum for the revised Neighbourhood Plan will take place on 2nd May 2024. The Clerk was asked to check whether parishioners had to register to vote in the Referendum or whether they were automatically eligible to vote
Clerk

Cllr Dilley reported that the Review document to be distributed with the 'Pluckley Post' was ready for print

9 Finance Matters

The following accounts were approved for payment:

	£
J Johns, recreation ground tidying	45.00
D Heasman, street cleaning	90.00
EDF Energy, electricity at the pavilion	6.69
M Taylor, Hon Resident Board lettering	105.00

The Clerk's salary/expenses of £548.54, paid by monthly Standing Order, was noted and approved

Review of the Clerk's salary

It was agreed to increase the Clerk's hourly rate of pay from £14.50 to £15.00 effective from 1st April 2024. The Clerk thanked the Cllrs for the increase
Clerk

It was further agreed to increase the monthly payments made to D Heasman (street sweeping) and J Johns (recreation ground tidying) by 20% effective 1st April 2024
Clerk

10 Communications and correspondence

There was a brief discussion regarding the notice board and it was agreed to have the design redrawn incorporating some minor amendments

Letter received from a resident expressing concern about the proposed co-option onto the Council stating that there would be a conflict of interest with their role on the Council and the football club

11 Traffic & Highways

There was nil of note to report

12 Recreation sport and leisure

There was a full discussion with the members of the public about the use of the recreation ground and what activities were appropriate and those that were not, in particular the use of bicycles and electric bikes. It was agreed that there were many varied users of the recreation and sometimes they were at odds with each other. A clear policy for the use of the recreation ground needed to be drawn up specifying those uses / activities which would be prohibited. Cllr Washer to discuss with the Friends of the Recreation Ground to draft a policy to be present to the Council

Cllr Washer

There was a discussion regarding the car park at the recreation ground and ongoing problems with anti-social behaviour and vandalism. Cllr Albon reported that she had arranged to meet ABC's technical and transport officer on site to discuss the issues and possible solutions prior to him attending a Parish Council

Cllr Albon

13 AOB and Diary items

Due to unforeseen circumstances, it was agreed to postpone the litter pick planned for 13th April 2024 (no new date set)

There was a discussion about the Parish Assembly and it was agreed to try and hold this at the end of May 2024. Cllr Washer to check availability of the Village Hall

Cllr Washer

At the conclusion of the Meeting Cllr Taylor confirmed that he was standing down as Chairman and resigning from the Council with immediate effect. Cllr Dilly, on behalf of all the Cllrs, thanked Mark for all his hard work and achievements whilst serving on the Council. Cllr Taylor passed the Clerk a note of several outstanding issues still to be addressed. Clerk to notify ABC

Clerk

14 Date of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Meeting would be held on Tuesday 7th May 2024 at 7.30 pm

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 9.05 pm