

PLUCKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th December 2024 at 7.30 pm in Pluckley Village Hall

Present : Cllrs Washer (in the Chair), Dilley, Robinson & Pearson

In attendance : Mr. G Eaton, Clerk to the Council, Peter New Neighbourhood Watch, Martin Newman & Chis Housman representing the Village Hall Committee, and Sarah Allen representing the Friends of the Nature Reserve

Action by:

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from 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 1st October 2024 were approved and signed

4 Public discussion and Parishioners questions

Martin Newman & Chis Housman, representing the Village Hall Committee, spoke about the development plans for the VH and sources of funding. A significant sum of the money required would come from the S106 monies associated with the Brickworks development. They felt that the Parish Council had earmarked £10k some years ago although currently nothing was earmarked in the budget for this. However, it was agreed that the Council would review this when 3 formal quotes were obtained for the proposed work and the funding had been confirmed

Sarah Allen, representing the Friends of the Nature Reserve, updated on the recent works that had been undertaken, including installation of a new decking area and the removal of turkey oaks. Sarah also reported that the Open Days had been well attended

5 ABC Cllr Bell's report & Neighbourhood Watch report

There was no report from ABC Cllr Bell

Peter New presented his latest report, circulated by email, and there followed a brief discussion. Peter also updated on the new Community Wardens

Cllr Washer, on behalf of the Parish Council, thanked Peter for his continuing commitment and hard work for the parishioners of Pluckley – what he did was greatly appreciated

6 Planning & Enforcement

2024/2094 – proposed annexe link attached to main dwelling
Dering Farm, Green Hill Lane, Egerton, TN27 9EY

There were no objections to this application

2024/2092 - single storey infill front extension with PV panels and changes to fenestration with associated landscaping
Community Hall, Station Road, TN27 0QZ

The Parish Council supports this application

7 Dark Skies policy

An email from a parishioner regarding the Dark Skies policy was discussed. Cllr Dilley noted that an article about this would appear in the Pluckley Post, and that any possible breaches of the policy should be reported to ABC for investigation

8 Finance Matters

The following accounts were approved for payment:

	£
J Johns, recreation ground tidying	54.00
D Heasman, street cleaning	108.00
Wealden Wheels, donation	1000.00
Print Junction, Pluckley Post/calendars	998.84
Faversham Mission Brass, carols around the tree	150.00
Napier Technical Support, installation of lights on Christmas tree	390.80

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

Budget and Precept requirement 2025/2026

There was a full discussion regarding the 2024/2025 budget and actuals, and the finance report to 30th November 2024, circulated by email, was discussed. It was generally agreed that the full year position would be close to that budgeted. Whilst it was acknowledged that there were significant reserves (£139.6k) expenditure on the various projects had now taken off and some £44k had been spent to date and more was expected before year end. Given this, and that there would be further expenditure on these projects and the new play park next year it was agreed to increase the budget for 2025/2026 by 2.5% to £52761 to cover inflationary pressures. As there was no other income expected in 2025/2026 it was further agreed to request a Precept of £52761 from ABC

Clerk

Risk assessment template 2024/2025

The Risk assessment template, circulated by email, was discussed. It was felt that the template was a useful tool to help manage the various risks the Council could be faced with. The template was unanimously adopted and copy to be posted on the website **Clerk**

9 Communications and correspondence

Email from parishioner advising that a name was missing from the War Memorial at the Parish Church. It was agreed that the Council would like to assist financially with this – Clerk to contact the local British Legion branch **Clerk**

ABC Briefing about the office relocation to International House effective from 9th December 2024

Email from Wealden Wheels requesting financial support – a donation of £1000 was unanimously approved

10 Traffic & Highways

There was a brief discussion about the Transport Plan and the parking problem near the Station and the use of yellow lines to deter parking along Station Road. It was concluded that this issue and other elements of the Transport Plan would be discussed with Highways in the Highways Improvement Plan Meeting scheduled for early January 2025

11 Recreation Sport & Leisure

There was nil of note to discuss

12 AOB and Diary items

There was no other business to discuss or Diary items to note

13 Date of next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Meeting would be held on Tuesday 7th January 2025 at 7.30 pm at Pluckley Village Hall

There being no other business the Meeting closed at 9.05 pm