

Randwick and Westrip Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at 7 pm on Wednesday November 18th.

As permitted by the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 No.392 this meeting was conducted by video conference “online”.

Present

Councillors

Shaun Egan (Chairman)

Matt Reed

Rob Davies

Debbi Smith

Alex Egan

Cheryl Byford

Clerk: Mr B Parsons.

*1/11/20 **Apologies:** Apologies from Cllr Demmer, (reason for absence approved) and District Cllr Edmunds.*

*2/11/20 **Public Forum:** There were three members of the public present.*

Mr Jacob Carey who lived by the play area at Westrip Place wished to explain his objections to the position of the bench the parish council had installed at the play area. The council had originally intended to site the bench at the higher end of the play area for parents to sit on while watching children play. The bench had, however, been installed at the other end of the play area where it faced away from the play equipment and was to be moved to where it was originally intended to be. Mr Carey was concerned that anyone using the bench at the upper end would be able to see into his children’s rooms and added a concern that people leaving the “Carpenters Arms” via the footpath to The Martins and Upper Tynings would be tempted to use the bench at night, which could be a potential nuisance. There was also discussion about fencing the play area to exclude dogs. A quotation for fencing the area in 2019 had been over £3800. The play area and equipment belonged to SDC.

The Chairman brought item 10c forward for discussion.

Cllrs discussed the original intention and Mr Carey’s views and decided to leave the bench where it was at the lower end.

Cllrs asked Mr Michael Cratchley for additional information about the application for a grant for a community Christmas tree, which Mr Cratchley provided. The working party which had considered the grant applications had had questions about the tree’s site, secure installation of the tree, its power supply, electrical safety, disposal and the ownership of the lights after Christmas and whether it might attract any gathering of people which could breach pandemic restrictions. Mrs Kay Badham confirmed that the Randwick Community (Jo Cox Group) would accept ownership of the lights.

*3/11/20 **Declarations of interest in items on this agenda:** None.*

*4/11/20 **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting held on October 14th were approved and were to be signed by the Chairman.*

5/11/20 **Report from the Officer of the Council:** Cllrs noted the contents of the Clerk's report.

6/11/20 **Correspondence:** Cllrs noted the correspondence listed in the Clerk's Report.

7/11/20 **Questions from councillors:**

Cllr Byford reported that the fence at the SDC car park by the Vine Tree had several broken rails, that the fingerpost at the entrance to The Lane by the church was obscured by foliage and that following a query from a parishioner she had learnt that the drystone wall along the lagger bounding land at Fort View was to be rebuilt by the owner.

Actions: The Clerk to contact SDC about the fence and to ask the Parish Handyperson to cut back foliage around the road sign.

Cllr Reed had been contacted by a resident of The Martins reporting that cars were being parked on pavements. There were also reports of large commercial vehicles being parked along the lane in Westrip. Cllrs discussed the issue but the council had not had the action it had wanted from the police about parking on previous occasions and took no further action.

8/11/20 **District and County Councillors' reports:** None present. Cllr Edmunds had sent a written report.

9/11/20 **Casual vacancy:** Candidates for co-option were to be asked to provide a brief personal statement explaining what experience and skills they would bring to the council and would be invited to speak at the council meeting on December 17th.

Action: The Clerk to advertise the vacancy on the noticeboards, on the council's website and in 'The Randwick Runner.'

10/11/20 **Environment:**

a) **New street light:** Cllr Davies had looked at sites on Church Road and reported three possible locations. He felt that the current lighting between Ash Lane and The Ryelands was adequate and would be improved if foliage around the lamps was cut back. One of the lampposts was set back into the hedge, out of line with the others, and would be more effective if it could be moved.

Action: The Clerk to contact GCC Highways asking for the foliage to be cut back and whether the lamppost could be moved.

b) **Finn's Way:** A parishioner had suggested installing a litter bin at Finn's Way. Littering had increased since the parish council had installed a bench there.

Action: The Clerk to ask SDC whether it would install and empty a litter bin there.

c) **Bench at Westrip Place play area:** Considered earlier in the meeting.

Resolved: The bench would remain on the concrete strip at the lower end of the play area.

11/11/20 **Planning applications:**

a) Applications received to date:

S.20/2375/HHOLD The Change – single storey extension – no comment.

Noted:

Permitted: S.20/1564/HHOLD - 15 The Hill Proposed two storey extension

Permitted S.20/2152/TCA - Randwick Playing Field - Fell Copper Norwegian Maple

Permitted: S.20/1886/HHOLD - 1 Coxgate, Chapel Fields - Proposed garden office

b) Stroud Local Plan Review: Cllrs had considered the additional housing options explored in the Stroud District Local Plan Review, following proposed changes to the way central government calculated the minimum housing requirement for each local authority area. The council decided to make no response to the consultation.

12/11/20 Finance:

a) Bank reconciliation: Cllrs considered the bank reconciliation for October.

b) Annual grants:

Cllr Shaun Egan declared an interest as a member of the Severn Area Rescue Association in the application from SARA and took no part in consideration of that application.

A working party had considered the applications. Cllrs discussed the working party's recommendations.

Resolved: *That the Council in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants, and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure: -*

1st Randwick Brownies £480 for subscription to Girl Guiding UK.

Severn Area Rescue Association £148 for equipment (dry bags).

Randwick Community (Jo Cox Group) £230 for a community Christmas tree and lighting.

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal £25 as a donation recognising that the Remembrance Day wreath was supplied at cost.

Under section 19 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous powers) Act 1976 Cainscross RFC £150 for equipment.

13/11/20 Revised code of conduct: *Councillors had considered Stroud District Council's Revised Arrangements for Dealing with Complaints under the Code of Conduct about District and Town and Parish Councillors and the new SDC Code of Conduct for Members. Councillors did not adopt the new SDC Code. The SDC Monitoring Officer had notified the council that the Local Government Association was due to publish its new model code of conduct by the end of November.*

14/11/20 Annual review of documents: There had been no annual meeting of the council and no annual review of council documents. The review would be carried out in December.

Action: The Clerk to circulate the documents due for review.

15/11/20 Items delegated to the Clerk and items for the next agenda: As above.

16/11/20 Orders for payment:

<i>Kimcell Datacenta</i>	<i>balance to correct online payment error – figure mis-keyed</i>
<i>Stroud Office Supplies</i>	<i>printer and ink cartridges</i>
<i>B Parsons</i>	<i>expenses (Zoom, subscription, stationery)</i>
<i>M Lammas</i>	<i>November monthly contract payment</i>
<i>B Parsons</i>	<i>November salary less PAYE due in the 3rd quarter</i>
<i>O2</i>	<i>mobile phone 12 Nov– 11 Dec</i>

17/11/20 Dates of next meeting: Thursday December 17th at 7 pm. The meeting to be held online.

Under the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 No.392 until May 7th 2021 parish council meetings may be held at such an hour and day as the council may determine without requirement for further notice. Parish councils can alter the frequency, move or cancel such meetings without requirement for further notice. The initial obligation to provide three clear days' notice of pc meetings will continue.

The meeting closed at 8 pm.