

ST LEONARDS & ST IVES PARISH COUNCIL

Meeting of the Full Council

Minutes of the Meeting Held in the Russell Room, Village Hall, Braeside Road,
on Wednesday 29th November 2023 at 7pm

Present: Cllr B Goringe, Chair

Cllr A Davies

Cllr JB Parker

Cllr K Gawler

Cllr C Johnson

Cllr R Bryan

Cllr M Goringe

Cllr N Hindmarch

Cllr S Marshall

Cllr M Dyer

Cllr B Waugh

In attendance: Mr. Jonathan Ross, Parish Clerk

Public Open Forum. One member of the public attended but did not speak.

177. Pecuniary Interests: None

178. Apologies: Apologies were received from: Cllr N Reeder. Members voted to accept apologies from the councillor listed. Proposed by Cllr C Johnson, seconded by Cllr JB Parker. Agreed.

RESOLVED: That the apologies from the Councillor listed were accepted.

179. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25th October 2023. The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Cllr R Bryan, seconded by Cllr A Davies. Agreed.

RESOLVED: The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25th October 2023 were adopted.

180. Matters arising from the minutes. None

181. Correspondence. None

182. Clerks Report.

182.1. Lease Update. The Clerk informed members that the lease with the Sports Association, due to be renewed in 2026 would not need to be renewed. This is because the Sports Association is no longer in existence and current leases with the Bowls Club and Tennis Club have superseded the original lease.

182.2. Road Survey Results. Road surveys on Sandy Lane and Victory Oak to record vehicle speeds have been completed. The results indicate that the speed limit of 30mph is regularly exceeded in both areas. As a result, the Parish Council will request the implementation of 20mph zones in these two areas. In Sandy Lane the request will be for the area near to the school to become a 20mph zone. On Victory Oak the request will be for the whole estate to be a 20mph zone. Proposed by Cllr M Dyer, seconded by Cllr K Gawler, agreed.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council are to make a request to Dorset Council to make Sandy Lane (near the school) and Victory Oak designated 20mph zones.

182.3. Property and Land Flooding. The Clerk informed members that a property near to Braeside Glade flooded recently as a result of the heavy rains. A site meeting has been convened with the flood risk team from Dorset Council to investigate the causes of the flooding and to try and identify suitable remedial works.

183. Amenities. The Clerk informed members that a new Oak tree has been planted on Braeside Rec.

184. Finance:

184.1. Payment Schedules. Members reviewed and approved the schedule of payments for October 2023. A copy of the schedule appears at Appendix A to these minutes in the minute book. Proposed by Cllr R Bryan, seconded by Cllr A Davies. Agreed.

RESOLVED. The schedule of payments for October 2023 was approved.

184.2. Bank Reconciliations. Members reviewed and approved the bank reconciliation for October 2023. A copy of the reconciliation appears as Appendix B to these minutes in the minute book. Proposed by Cllr K Gawler, seconded by Cllr JB Parker. Agreed.

RESOLVED. The bank reconciliation for October 2023 was approved.

184.3. Budget Report. Members noted the annual budget report. The Clerk informed members that at the moment there are no significant financial risks and the annual budget is not expected to overspend.

184.4. Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2023. The Clerk informed members that the PC has been made aware of the Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2023. The award is backdated to 1st April 2023. The Clerk and Assistant Clerks' salary has been updated accordingly.

184.5. Periodic Review of Finances. Members noted that Cllr S Marshall carried out a periodic review of the bank reconciliation. She has verified that the bank reconciliation figures correspond with the actual finances held in the bank.

185. Precept for 2024/2025. Members supported the proposed budget and precept request for 2024/2025 of £107,183, which can be found at Appendix C to these minutes in the minute book. This represents an increase on the 2023/2024 precept request of 1.99%. Proposed by Cllr JB Parker, seconded by Cllr A Davies, agreed.

RESOLVED: The parish council will make a precept request to Dorset Council of £107,183 for 2024/2025.

186. Citizens Advice Update. The Clerk shared updates received from East Dorset and Purbeck Citizens Advice and New Forest Citizens Advice. The update included the numbers of residents from the St Leonards and St Ives parish area that have received assistance from both citizens advice offices. The updates can be found at Appendix D to these minutes in the minute book.

187. Ringwood Foodbank. The Clerk shared an update from the Ringwood Foodbank on the number of residents living in St Leonards and St Ives parish area who have received food parcels this year. The update can be found at Appendix E to the minutes in the minute book.

188. St Leonards and St Ives Neighbourhood Plan. Members discussed whether the parish council should consider creating a neighbourhood plan. It was recommended that further discussion is necessary, and whether a business case is needed to justify the creation of a plan. Members will receive a briefing on the subject in the new year.

189. Future CIL Funded Projects. Cllr JB Parker, Chair of the Projects Working Group, briefed members on recent discussions held by the working group. Six projects have been identified and recommended that are suitable to be taken forward for more work. All other projects will remain on the list and be looked at in the future. The Clerk is to carry out a feasibility and cost estimate exercise on the six projects and report back to Full Council on 31st January 2024 with recommendations. Proposed by Cllr JB Parker, seconded by Cllr R Bryan, agreed.

RESOLVED: The six projects recommended by the Projects Working Group to be taken forward and a feasibility and cost estimate exercise carried out by the Clerk, who will report back to Full Council on 31st January 2024 with recommendations.

The six projects are:

- 1. Provision of a second SID. (Speed Indicator Device).**
- 2. Provision of a defibrillator in an area near to the High Street/Castleman Trailway.**
- 3. Playpark Communications Board.**
- 4. Braeside Copse wildflower meadow and orchard.**
- 5. Bus shelters on Woolsbridge Road for schoolchildren waiting for the school bus.**
- 6. Improved signage at the entrance to the Village Hall complex.**

190. Award of Grants to Outside Bodies. Members approved a grant of £2100 to the Scouts/Guides to assist with the maintenance of their building located near to the Village Hall in Braeside Road. Proposed by Cllr A Davies, seconded by Cllr C Johnson, agreed.

RESOLVED: Members approved a grant of £2100 to the Scouts/Guides.

191. To adopt the Approved Minutes of the Following Committee Meetings:
Members approved adoption of the minutes for the Planning Committee held on 19th October 2023. Proposed by Cllr JB Parker, seconded by Cllr A Davies, agreed.

RESOLVED: To adopt the minutes of the planning meeting held on 19th October 2023.

192. Dorset Councillor Reports. Members received a report presented by Cllr B Goringe. It can be found at Appendix F to these minutes.

193. Parish Councillor Reports. Cllr M Goringe briefed members on the recent DAPTC AGM she attended online. Two significant issues were highlighted.

193.1. Armed Forces Covenant. This is an initiative where Parish and Town Councils can register to adopt the Armed Forces Covenant. The covenant is an agreement that organisations will support serving and veteran forces personnel.

193.2. Civility and Respect Pledge. This is a pledge that councils can adopt. By adopting it they are committed to treating all staff and members with civility and respect. Which includes abiding by policies on bullying, harassment, dignity at work, complaints, equality and diversity.

194. Clerks Committee. The Clerk briefed members on the recent Clerks Committee, which sat to discuss the approval of the Assistant Clerks probationary period. Members accepted the recommendations of the Clerks Committee. Proposed by Cllr S Marshall, seconded by Cllr M Goringe, agreed.

RESOLVED: Members accepted the recommendations of the Clerks Committee. The Assistant Clerk has satisfactorily passed her probationary period and will receive an increase in salary commensurate with her contract.

195. Exchange of Information.

195.1. Cllr JB Parker updated members on the Surf Reef appeal.

195.2. The next meeting date is Wednesday 31st January 2024.

Meeting finished at 8.40pm

Chair