**DANEHILL PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of public meeting preceding Danehill Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th March 2020 at Chelwood Gate Hall.**

Present: R. Wood (RW), R. Lewis (RL) (Chair), M Lewer (ML), T. Blake (TB), A Martin (AM), G Powell (GP).and M Mockridge (MM).

Absent: N. Macleod (NM).

There were also members of the public present.

Emma Fulham Clerk to the Council was present.

**Cllr Galley** reported on the uphill battle on potholes, temporary repairs and underlying drainage issues. He asked the Clerk to ask ESCC to confirm if any claims had been paid out for damage to cars travelling in School Lane.

He also reported on the current position on coronavirus and possible issues for future meetings etc.

**Public:**
There were concerns raised over the cost and location of the proposed dog bins in Danehill.

The public section concluded at 7:50pm.

**Minutes of Danehill Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 11th March 2020 at Chelwood Gate Hall.**

Present: R. Wood (RW), R. Lewis (RL) (Chair), M Lewer (ML), T. Blake (TB), A Martin (AM), G Powell (GP) and M Mockridge (MM).

Absent: N. Macleod (NM).

There were also members of the public present.

Emma Fulham Clerk to the Council was present.

1. To accept apologies and reason for absence.

None.

1. To receive Declarations of pecuniary and declarable Interests from members in respect of any matter on the agenda.

The Chair reminded Cllrs to declare when necessary.

1. To approve as a true record and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 12th February 2020

**Unanimously approved and signed as a true record.**

1. To deal with matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 12th February 2020

The Clerk confirmed the position on NSI account access so the transfers could be completed.

1. Correspondence.

The list was circulated prior to the meeting.

The following items were highlighted:

* Training – availability was noted. **The Clerk would circulate choices.**
* Julie Noakes – dog bins.
* Ian McPherson – heating Danehill Hall.
* Nursery – Shed request.
* AIRS – subscription.
* Neil McPherson – resignation.
* Various queries on Chelwood Common – driveways and trees – **AM, TB and RL would be doing a site visit and would report back.**
* WDC – grants – **The Clerk would add to Facebook.**
* Photography club and WI use of the PC office. **The Council considered this and agreed this with expenditure up to £500 to install lockable cupboards and a key box.**
1. Finance.
2. To approve Payment schedule.

The list had been circulated prior to the meeting further recent payments were outlined at the meeting.

**Payments totalling £24003.12 were unanimously approved.**

1. To approve scheme of delegation.

**Unanimously approved by the Council.**

1. To consider planting scheme and regreening of the cemetery.

ML reported on the regreening scheme and costs. A plan would be presented for detail and approval in May.

1. To consider mapping and signage of the cemetery.

The paper on costs had been circulated prior to the meeting:

**The costs to external suppliers (approximately £4500) and staff time were agreed unanimously by the Council and the Clerk would progress with the various suppliers outlined in the paper and report back on progress in May.**

1. To consider initial pavilion plans and costings and next steps and expenditure if available.

ML outlined the current position.

**It was agreed unanimously that ML would continue at no cost to the Council to investigate plans with the architect to present options at the May meeting.**

**The nursery request to store the shed was declined due to the risk assessment of large items.**

1. To consider the next step in the Memorial Garden project - proposed works and expenditure.

This item was deferred.

1. To consider grounds tenders for Rec / Jubilee Green.

The paper on the tender process and best quotes had been circulated prior to the meeting.

**The Council unanimously approved to suspend financial regulations to approve the contract to Bourne who were recommended specialists in the work required. The budget for grounds preparation and maintenance as quoted by Bourne was approved at £7275 plus VAT for grounds works and £750 plus VAT for tennis court works in 2020. The quote for grass cutting and other grounds maintenance by Barcombe Landscapes was approved as per the schedule at a base cost of £2410 for 2020 plus collection and line painting as required as costed on the schedule.**

1. To consider quote for remedial works at Memorial site.

**The Council unanimously approved the quote for £630 to repair the surface and noted the cost from the same contractor to install the hardstanding for the memorial bench (previously approved).**

1. To consider lone working policy.

**The Council unanimously approved the policy circulated prior to the meeting.**

1. To consider climate emergency statement and to appoint a working party to progress an action plan.

**The Council approved the climate emergency statement by majority vote with one abstention:**

**Declaration on climate emergency.**
 **It is now clear that the world has less than 12 years to switch away from fossil fuels to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. Reducing energy use and switching to clean energy will also increase energy security, improve air quality, minimise fuel poverty, boost the local economy and provide jobs and training.**

**Danehill Parish Council declares a climate emergency and commits to going carbon neutral by 2030. This will help to raise the profile of this vital issue and secure external support and funding. The Council also signs up to any local initiatives to track our progress and link with other parishes and towns around the world who are cutting emissions.**

**The Council appointed a working party to progress the climate action plan to present back to the Council by October 2020 for budget consideration.**

1. Reports from Parish Councillors on their areas of responsibility if applicable.

RW reported:

* On the quiz night at Chelwood Gate Village Hall on 18th March.
* He highlighted the recent bridge and footpath works completed by the footpath working party.
* He highlighted the upcoming event at the social club.
* There is a litter pick in both villages on 4th April he will provide information to the Clerk to publish on Facebook. The Clerk would obtain bags for collection and arrange a collection of the refuse on 6th April 2020.

TB reported:

* There is a 4-house application in the Baxter’s Lane area which will be examined at the planning meeting.
* He wished to see meetings become more sustainable and more use of the projector in both meeting halls.

AM reported:

* There is an Ashdown Forest liaison meeting next week.
* There is a sponsored clump walk soon.
* There is a possible interested party in the Forest Cricket Club ground.
* He had some information on Forest Row PC hospital transport and would continue to investigate this type of community transport.

ML reported on the cemetery voluntary works he had undertaken recently – The Council thanked him for his efforts.

RL reported:

* On his inspection of Jubillee Wood and he would provide the Clerk some action points for small works required.
* The dog bin locations were outlined by RL discussed and finalised by a show of hands with all but one in agreement at follows:
1. Install new bin behind war memorial near twitten as per WDC photo location circulated.
2. Move bin from memorial garden at Chelwood Gate and install on wall outside the cemetery halfway between the Lychgate and the end of the boundary.
3. Move bin from the slope at the Rec to the car park at the Rec.
4. Matters to report and for consideration at future meetings.

The Clerk reported:

* The noticeboard failure at Danehill. A repair was uneconomical, and it was agreed the Clerk could arrange a replacement to be installed.
* On the accessibility act and work to be done on the Parish Council website.
* On the agreement with Steve Trice Town Clerk at Haywards Heath regarding mentorship.
* On the possible issues on a coronavirus lockdown and implications for future meetings. SSALC and government advice will be forwarded once published.

**Date of next meetings**

Planning 25th March 2020 9:30am

Parish Council 13th May 2020 7:30pm

Meeting closed 10:30pm