



TO: All Members of Salehurst & Robertsbridge Parish Council

The Council will meet on Monday 22nd January 2024 at 7.30pm (Up to 15 minutes will be allowed at the start for public questions and comments).

Venue: **Robertsbridge Village Hall**, Station Road, Robertsbridge.

You are summoned to attend (Local Government Act 1972, Sch. 12, para.10(2)(b)).

Agenda

- 102. To receive and accept apologies and reasons for absence.**
- 103. Declarations of interest** – to receive Members’ declarations of interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct adopted by the Council.
- 104. Applications for dispensation** - to consider written requests from Members for dispensation and to consider the length of time the dispensation should be granted for i.e., as a one-off relating to a matter on this agenda, or ongoing for a set period and relating to any agenda within that period.
- 105. Minutes of the Council meeting held on 20th November 2024** – to approve the minutes as a correct record of the meeting.
- 106. Matters arising from previous minutes: - for information only:**
 - a) Pavilion / toilets (91c)** – builder / roofer still needed – Clerk to find.
 - b) VAS additional solar powered unit (92b)** – second solar panel received; awaiting availability of lighting contractor (cherry picker) to install.
 - c) Coronation Lasting Commemoration (74, 93)** – no further progress.
 - d) Annual Village Tidy Day (96)** – planning / preparations in progress by Asst. Clerk.
 - e) Memorial Bench request (97)** – in progress (proofs received).
- 107. County Councillor Report** – brief report from Cllr Paul Redstone on any current matters (written reports for December and January circulated to Members by email 16/1/24) (published).
- 108. District Councillor Report** - brief report on any current matters (if representative present).

109. Clerks' Report – to receive and note (published).

110. Village Steward –

- a) **Tasks completed** - to receive and note the list of tasks completed and consider any future tasks (published).
- b) **Increase in contracted hours** – to consider the recommendation of the Finance Working Group (see Notes of Meeting at item 111c) to increase the Village Steward's contracted hours to sixteen per week (from twelve) effective April 24 (24/25).

111. Accounts and Financial Matters

- a) **Receipts and Payments lists** – to receive/approve receipts and payments for November and December 2023 (published).
- b) **Request for Donation / Grant** – to consider a request from Robertsbridge Club for a contribution towards insulation and double glazing for their bar wall (published).
- c) **Finance Working Group** – to receive / note the Notes of Meetings 5th/11th January 2024 (published) and consider their recommendations under the relevant agenda items.
- d) **Budget Monitoring 23/24** – to consider the recommendation of the FWG to approve the budget virements as listed in the FWG notes of Meeting (see item c above).
- e) **Budget / Precept 24/25** – to consider the Draft Budget / Precept (published) and the recommendation of the FWG (see FWG notes of meeting, item c above) to agree a Precept of £129,287 for 2024 / 2025 (an increase of £11.02 per year per household (Band D)).

112. War Memorial Clock, weekly winding – to consider the recommendation of the Finance Working Group to make a charitable donation to Darvell (or a charity of their choice) in recognition and thanks for the weekly clock winding, which is currently being done on a voluntary basis.

113. Station Road Car Park

- a) **Progress of Legal Order** – Clerk to report.
- b) **CCTV** – to consider whether a CCTV system should be investigated, and quotes sought and the recommendation of the Finance Working Group to put £3,000 into an Earmarked reserve in the current year towards potential costs.
- c) **Daily Servicing Contract** – Clerk to report.

114. Change Management Working Group – Cllrs O'Hara and Todd to report on the Key Objectives document and Working Groups document, updated following the workshop on 13/1/23 (circulated to Members) and to consider next steps.

115. Amenities Working Group (AWG)

- a) **Clerk's Amenities Projects / Task List** – to receive and note the report (circulated to Members).
- b) **Playgrounds Operational Inspection and proposed works** – the first inspection was conducted in December. The reports have been received, plus quotes for recommended works. Clerk to report on details and proposed expenditure.
- c) **Playgrounds – South East Water Community Chest Grant 2023 (see Minutes 20/3/23: 22/23-120)** – to receive / note the account of the grant funding of £19,370 received from South East Water showing expenditure to date, balance, and proposed use of remaining funds (published).
- d) **Pipers Field Willow Trees** – Clerk to report on felling / replanting request from Gray Nicolls and consider options.

116. Annual Parish Meeting (Assembly) – this is to be held on Monday 15th April 2024. To consider arrangements, programme and approve expenditure.

117. D-Day 80 - 6th June 2024 – to receive an update from Cllrs Bishop and Dulley.

118. Youth Centre building / Withdrawal of ESCC Youth provision from Robertsbridge– to report on discussions with ESCC via Cllr Redstone and planned meeting between ESCC and the Parish Council.

119. Repair Café – Cllr Palamarczuk to report.

120. Planning Matters:

- a) **Planning Committee Meetings** – to receive and note the minutes of the meeting held on 6/11/23 (previously issued). Meetings scheduled for 4/12/23 and 8/1/23 were cancelled (no applications to consider).

121. Reports / updates from Representatives

- a) **Rother Association of Local Councils (RALC)** – minutes of 12 October 2023 have not been issued. The RALC Secretary was not present at the meeting and resigned shortly after. The meeting planned for December was cancelled. RALC are actively seeking a new Secretary.



Karen Ripley (Mrs)
Clerk to the Council