

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SWEFLING PARISH COUNCIL
TAKING PLACE ON 18 MAY 2021, AT SWEFLING HUT, LOW ROAD, SWEFLING
7.30-7.45 pm

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON:

Michael Smithson opened the meeting and explained that the first item on the agenda would be the election of a Chairperson of the Council for the ensuing year. The existing Chair Cllr. John Stanley confirmed that he was willing to stand in such role for a further term. It was then proposed by Cllr. Kinsey and seconded by Cllr. Wyard that Cllr. Stanley (**Chair**) should be appointed and accordingly, it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED by the meeting that such appointment be approved.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRPERSON:

The Chair informed the meeting that Cllr. Martin Wyard did not propose to stand as Vice -Chairperson for the ensuing year. The Chair accordingly proposed that Cllr. Julia Kinsey be appointed as Vice-Chairperson which she agreed to do. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Chin and the meeting UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that Cllr Kinsey be appointed Vice -Chairperson of the Council

3. ATTENDANCES AND APOLOGIES:

3.1 **PRESENT:** The Chair;

3.2 **COUNCILLORS:** Jude Chin, Julia Kinsey, Audrey Lummis), Erika Spall Prof. John Tesh and Martin Wyard:

3.3 **IN ATTENDANCE:** Michael Smithson, Clerk to the Council;

3.4 **Members of the public,** Dorothy Chapman, Kirstin Stanley, Robert Rusack, and ~~Sheila Tesh~~ were also in attendance.

3.5 **APOLOGIES:** Apologies were received from Cllrs. Stephen Burroughes and Maurice Cook.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS:

4.1 No declarations of interest were declared and no requests were made for dispensation. Cllr. Kinsey did however say that her husband Adrian Kinsey, no longer being involved financially with the Council's website, that interest previously disclosed by her was no longer relevant.

5. REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF; STANDING ORDERS. FINANCIAL REGULATIONS AND OTHER POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

5.1 The Clerk was asked by Cllr. Chin if the Financial Regulations were not too complicated for a small parish council. The Clerk informed the meeting that they were manageable. It was then proposed by Cllr. Chin and seconded by the Chair that the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations copies of which had been circulated by the Clerk prior to the meeting should be adopted. Accordingly, it was UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Standing orders be re-adopted for the ensuing year and likewise the Model Financial Regulations 2019 be adopted.

5.2 No other policies and procedures had been circulated by the Clerk and accordingly no other procedures were considered or reviewed at the meeting.

There being no other competent business the meeting closed at 7.45 pm.



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6. NEXT MEETING:

- 6.1 The date and time for the next AGM is at Sweffling Hut, Tuesday 10th May 2022 at 7.30 pm.
6.2 The date and time for the next Parish Council Meeting is at Sweffling Hut on Tuesday 13th July 2022 at 7.30 pm.

7. OTHER DISCUSSIONS

Various other matters were raised following the formal conclusion of the meeting, but no formal resolutions were put. Topics included the following:

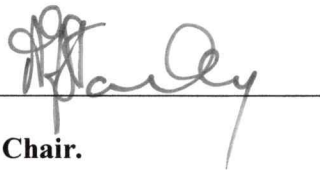
7.1 Cllr. Wyard felt strongly that the temporary facility for remote meetings during the COVID pandemic had been extremely useful and significant economies could be enjoyed by both district and county councils had the temporary dispensation as to holding face to face meetings under the 2020 Regulations been allowed to continue beyond 17 May 2021. The unanimous view of the Council was that counsellor was there were substantial savings of time and travel to be had if the requirement for face-to-face meeting might be somehow relaxed again.

7.2 Cllr. Kinsey confirmed that she had learned a significant amount of information following her attendance at an online safeguarding course. She would provide more information at the next meeting.

6.3 The question of grass cutting at jubilee field was raised and Cllr. Spall volunteered to set up and chair a committee of the Council to manage the land. Cllr. Tesh, who has connections with The Woodland Trust, agreed to be a member of the committee and although not a councillor it was considered that local resident Debbie Thornton might be co-opted onto the committee given her proximity to the site. Terms of reference of any such committee would need to be determined. This would need to be done at a separate meeting.

6.4 Bobby Rusack asked when the matters which had not been completed during the meeting of April 13 would be dealt with, namely the schedule of items contained in Item 6 of those minutes. The Chair made the point that such outstanding matters were not appropriate to be dealt with at the AGM and would be rolled over to the June meeting instead. An exchange then took place between the Chair and Bobby Rusack in respect of the allegations previously made Bobby Rusack as to breach of the Code of Conduct during which Bobby Rusack said that he was a reasonable man but had taken legal advice and referred to the Councils limited budget. The Chair made the point that in his opinion one of the reasons why the meeting had run out of time was that too much time was being taken up in dealing with his silly allegations, a point denied by Bobby Rusack.

Signed



John Stanley, Chair.

Dated 10th June 2021.