

Date: 07 November 2019

Title: Report Item 7 – Business in Progress

By: K Larkin (Parish Clerk)

Purpose: To provide an update on progress since the October meeting

Recommendations: To note the progress report

The following items are matters for consideration:

- **Dutch Elm felling subsidy** – the Tree Warden and ESCC have been informed that the parish council's subsidy will be 40% where ESCC offers 10%. However, in minute C.81 of the parish council meeting held on 1st August 2019 the council said that householders applying for the subsidy would be free to use any contractor, whereas at the SLR meeting on 22 October **ESCC advised that they would not pay a subsidy unless the householders used one of their approved contractors. The reason was the importance of disposing of infected material correctly. Councillors present agreed that the parish should make the same stipulation. The council is requested to ratify this amendment.**
- **Schedule of meetings for 2020** – the council had hoped to hold the January 2020 meeting on Thursday 9th January but unfortunately the Small Hall is not available on that date. The council could have **Tuesday 7th or Wednesday 8th January. Which date would members prefer?**

The following items are matters for report:

- Friston build-out – PH/PS have requested a site meeting which ESCC will arrange
- Remembrance Sunday – the Chair has drawn up the order of service which has been distributed to the leading participants
- War Memorial railings – the maintenance work is to be done after Remembrance Sunday. The Gilbert Estate will need to be notified before workmen access the site.
- Car park lights – as yet there is no update from WDC. However, the possibility of taking electricity supplies to Wealden's car parks for charging electric cars is on the agenda for the Parish Conference which the Chair will attend (6th November 2019).
- Decommissioning of East Dean phone box – BT has now confirmed that they did receive a response via the SDNPA and that the East Dean phone box has been taken off the decommissioning list, at least for the time being.
- Standing Orders – SO3e has been amended as directed by the council of 4 July 2019 and the whole document has been reissued on the website
- Downsview Lane verge – letters have been sent to all residents affected by the proposal to do maintenance on the verge. One resident has responded arguing in detail that the council should not do this work.

- Noticeboard – a final check is being done on the specification on the proposed boards as the illustration on the website does not entirely match the written specification
- Risk Management Strategy – the revisions agreed in October have been made but further revisions may result from decisions made in December, when the Financial Regulations will be reviewed. Consequently the document will be re-issued on the website after the December PC meeting
- Safety at the play area – a request has been sent to Wicksteed for them to take over the annual safety inspection of the play area from 2020 onwards (the last inspection was done in June 2019). They have also been invited to do a round of maintenance of equipment supplied by them before the new season begins in spring 2020.
- Tree Warden – a meeting to update the Warden's terms of reference took place on 25 October 2019
- Payments – the Cricket Club has been requested to pay for 6 extra cuts of the outfield in the 2019 season. The water usage has been checked and there may be an excess charge for this too
- Friston bus shelter – the cost of a brick rebuild is to be factored into the next budget. Planning permission is not required, provided the shelter does not exceed 4 metres in height or 200 cubic metres volume (which it does not)
- 3 Cornish Cottages – Eastbourne Borough Council, who own this long-vacant property, have stated that its future is under active consideration as EBC reviews the whole of its downland estate. The expectation is that the cottage will not be vacant once that review is complete.
- Vehicle left in shopping precinct – at the time of writing the vehicle is still there, though the owner who has been traced has confirmed it will be removed.

31/10/2019