

Date: 03 February 2022

Title: Report Item x – Business in Progress

By: K Larkin (Parish Clerk)

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

Recommendations:

- a) To note the report by the Clerk
- b) To approve the updated Risk Management Strategy
- c) To consider a request for a pavilion hire with music
- d) To approve the updated Hire Agreement of the pavilion by the Cricket Club in the 2022 season
- e) To consider a 4% increase in the charge for private hires of the pavilion in 2022

The following are matters for decision:

- Risk Assessment – this has been recirculated with the amendments discussed in December, and no further comments have been received. Council is now requested to formally approve the updated document.
- Pavilion hire with music – a request has been received from Micheldene WI for an event on Monday 4th July 2022, running into the early evening.
- Cricket Club Hire Agreement 2022 – to approve the update of the 2021 hire agreement for the 2022 season (with a 4% increase in the seasonal hire fee)
- To consider a 4% increase in the charge for a private hire of the pavilion in 2022 (currently £25 morning, afternoon or evening: £35 for all day but not in the evening)

The following are matters for report:

- Flint wall in Downlands Way – the Hon. Solicitor is obtaining an update of title from the Land Registry. He has also advised that ‘ownership on the one hand and the obligation to maintain (a wall) on the other, do not always go hand in hand. Where a wall is supported by or lends support to an adjoining structure the Party Walls Act is likely to come into play. The legislation was drafted on the footing that it would involve the instruction of a “party wall Act surveyor” - where, therefore, the Act is likely to apply it is generally necessary to seek the advice of a surveyor who undertakes such work.’
- CIL application for pavement from Old Willingdon Road to Windmill Lane – the proposals drawn up in 2014 are being reviewed and costed
- Saving phone boxes - a formal approach has been made to BT to check that the box at Gilberts Drive is protected and maintained in working order. BT has replied: ‘Wealden District Council objected to the removal and therefore the kiosk has remained in place. We do not actively remove the notices inside the kiosks if kiosks are to remain, this will be done on a next engineering visit as it is not financially viable to send an engineer to site purely for

that purpose. However, there should not be any confusion as the notice is dated 12/6/19 and it says there is a 42 day consultation period of 42 days from the above date, being the date of the notice. Regarding criteria for removal - the process is currently under review. Nothing changes for now and we continue to use the current guidelines for removals. Ofcom's consultation will end in January 2022, they expect to issue a final statement in "late spring" 2022, which will confirm what the new guidelines are and when they will come into effect.'

The following matters are still being pursued

- a) Footpath 26a/27 – the lack of action over the potential loss of the right of way accessed adjacent to the entrance to Birling Manor is being raised again with the county council
- b) Bank mandate – the clerk/RFO has yet to add the Vice Chair to the mandate
- c) Footpath 5 (Friston Forest) – the concerns raised by a resident, plus recommended improvements to the signage, have been referred to the ESCC Rights of Way team. A response is still awaited and a reminder is being sent.
- d) Tree safety survey and insurance – an enquiry has been sent to the Highway Land Information team at county hall regarding the ownership and responsibility for maintenance of the trees at Friston Green which stand on the highway verge. A response is still awaited.