

Date: 06 July 2023

Title: Report Item 17 – Business In Progress

By: S Adeniji (Clerk)

Purpose: To consider and note an update from the parish office

Recommendations: a) to consider a request from the Residents Association to site a bench on the triangle at the top of Michel Dene Road.
b) to consider a response to the feedback from Wealden District Council regarding the enquiry from the parish council about raising money through the council tax on behalf of the Roads
c) To note a report by the Deputy Clerk on progress made since the June meeting

The following are matters for decision:

- A request has been received from the Resident's Association to site a bench on the triangle at the top of Michel Dene Road. Although the Parish Council mows the triangle, it does not own the triangle. This is one of those legacy pieces which will have reverted to the crown.
- Raising money for the Roads Company – the deputy clerk has circulated the Freedom of Information response from Wealden District Council regarding the enquiry from the parish council about raising money through the council tax on behalf of the Roads Company. As the response was negative, Members are being asked to decide how to proceed.

The following are matters for report:

- **Bollards at the junction of Gilberts Drive and the A259** – The South Downs National Park Authority has confirmed that CIL funds could be used for this project. They further advised that timber bollards or Gladson posts are more natural and hard-wearing and are in keeping with the National Park setting.
- **Footpath 18 (The Brow to Peakdean Lane)** – a hedge letter has been sent requesting the clearance of an obstruction. A response has been received stating that the hedge will be cleared.
- **Strengthening Local Relationship (SLR)** – A response has been received from Highways to our email. They are unable to offer any dates until October. They have requested dates from October onwards.

- **Parish Magazine** - A short article has been placed in the Parish Magazine reminding residents of their responsibilities to ensure paths adjacent to their properties were not obstructed by overgrowth.
- **Benches** - Work is in progress to update the photographic archive of all public benches in the Parish.
- **Application to have the village hall site re-registered as an Asset of Community Value** – The latest communication received from Wealden District Council can be found in ANNEX A. A response was expected in April. A response would be sought from Wealden District Council.
- **Installation of Electric Vehicle Charging Points in the village car park** – the Gilbert Estate, which has the benefit of restrictive covenants over the village car park, has raised some objections to this project which is being run by Wealden District Council through their chosen contractor with government funding. The Estate wanted the proposed charge points to be situated further away from The Tiger. I don't know if this is causing a delay. Work was supposed to begin after Easter but as there is no sign of it, a response would be sought from Wealden District Council.
- **Installation of cycle racks in the village car park** – this issue is related to the previous one: Wealden is prepared to install cycle racks at no cost to the parish, but the Gilbert Estate has raised objections and queries over the siting of the proposed racks and again would prefer them to be out of the way of The Tiger, possibly in the same general area as the EVCPs. An update would be sought from Wealden District Council.
- **New Bank Signatories** - The bank mandate forms have been received and will be completed in due course.
- **Council noticeboards** – Waiting for quotations for a replacement board in the shopping precinct, and for a possible additional board south of the A259, e.g. near the village hall.
- **East Dean bus shelter window not to be replaced** – the deputy clerk has written to the resident who raised this matter, explaining why the window will not be replaced.

Other actions which remain outstanding are as follows:

- **The Emergency Plan** – is to be revised using the template purchased by the council through the East Sussex Association of Local Councils. The Deputy Clerk is working on this.
- **Benches** -The photographic archive of all the benches to be updated