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The Red House Lower St Ninfield East Sussex TN33 9ED

# Ninfield Full Council Minutes 17<sup>th</sup> April 2025 Cllrs Present:

Chair K Williamson (KW), P Coleshill (PC), P Holland (PH), J Cheshire (JC), J Langley (JL), K Crittell (KC). In attendance: J Scarff Proper Officer.

#### **Public Questions:**

**In accordance with standing orders ten minutes** are available for the Public to express a view or ask a question on **relevant matters on the following agenda**.

There were no members of public (MOP) present.

No questions.

The public session was closed.

250401	Chairman's welcome to the meeting.
	KW welcomed everyone to the meeting.
050400	
250402	To receive any questions on the written reports from the County and District Cllrs.
	The report from the county cllr had been circulated earlier in the month.  PC reported about some forthcoming funding that would be available for the parish
	council to bid for.
	oddffor to bld for.
250403	To receive reports from
	Schools – The headmaster reported that he wants to try and come to PC meetings
	more often. He had sent a letter to the council which had been circulated. The
	headmaster reported that the school have some challenges at the moment, strategic,
	financial and others. The small entry allowance also makes it difficult for the school.
	(20 children for reception) but they are under subscribed for September. The new
	housing in the village has meant that the school are over capacity in some year groups.
	The school are no longer using the recreation ground as much due to the requirements
	of risk assessments, health and safety, safeguarding and the number of adults
	required to supervise the shared space.
	Cllrs explained what has happened in the past and made some suggestions to try and
	drum up volunteer help for more supervision & support.
	Various ideas were discussed.
	KC suggested that the school have a stall at the carnival in the summer to see if they
	could recruit any more volunteers.  Church - No report
	Parish Councillors – JC reported on the meeting with Muddy Boots regarding the use
	of an area behind the storage containers. In 2021 it was agreed that Muddy Boots
	could use the area for foraging when they were going out for a walk.
	The developer building houses on land know as Broiler House Paddock has removed
	significant amounts of hedgerow, which the parish council believe is on their land,
	which makes the area unsafe. JC also reported that there is a Muddy Boots shed on the
	car park which was moved temporarily during the Memorial Hall building works. The
	shed could not be put back in the original position at the end of the works. Muddy
	Boots did not want the shed in the position offered. The Memorial Hall will soon have
	sheds available and one will be offered to Muddy Boots. Muddy Boots were informed
	that the planning appeal against WDC for refusing the use of the new access was
	upheld and therefore Ingrams Lane would be used to service the new houses.
250404	Correspondence – to note for possible inclusion on the next agenda.
	The clerk reported having an email from a resident with compliments about the
	grounds maintenance and the precept being the same as last year. The resident asked
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050405	about the damage to upper church path by the UK Power networks contractor. ECCC Rights of Way are dealing with this. The resident had reported that the dog bins in upper church path were full. JC suggested getting stickers signposting residents to report the full bin. The resident asked whether the salt bin at the top of Lower Street could be moved which is already in hand. The resident asked if a branch on the A269 could be removed. The clerk will investigate. The resident asked about the surface water on the A269 that starts by the field after Crouch Lane and has been there constantly even with no rain.  The clerk will contact SEW.  The resident mentioned the path in front of the 3 new houses opposite the garage and thinks the planning conditions have not been finished. The clerk is going to check.
250405	<b>To receive apologies</b> and reasons for absence in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 S 85 (1).  Apologies received from Cllr Guard for personal reasons.
250406	To consider accepting the apologies.  Resolved: It was unanimously agreed that the apologies be accepted.  Other absences to note:
250407	Disclosure of Interests:-In accordance with the Localism Act 2011 to receive any disclosure by Members of personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of the interest and whether the member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Revised Code of Members Conduct  Disclosable Pecuniary Interests - None  Other Interests (Non Pecuniary) - None  To consider granting any dispensations.  There were no requests for dispensations.
250408	Exclusion of the Public  To exclude the public for a particular agenda item the following resolution must be passed.  'Under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business as publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.'  There was no requirement to pass this resolution.
250409	To receive the minutes of the meeting of 20th March 2025 to be considered for approval and signed as a true record.  This item was deferred to the next meeting.  Resolved The minutes of the Full Council Meeting of the Full Council 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2025 will be considered at the next meeting.
	Business to be transacted.
250410	To consider for adoption the following policies: Investment Policy – JL highlighted a typo to be changed. Financial Reserves Policy

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	Internal Control Policy
	<b>Resolved:</b> The policies be adopted as presented with the change highlighted for the
	Investment policy to be corrected first.
	JL asked for an agenda item to be put on the next agenda to discuss the use of notice
250411	boards.  To discuss the feedback from the Heart of Ninfield event and agree any actions
250411	required.
	KC said she would like to ask all the attending organisations for feedback on the event
	and discuss at the next meeting.
	JC suggested that the feedback to residents on their ideas etc could form part of the
	first newsletter.
	Resolved: The clerk was asked to put the item on the next agenda.
050440	E'u an a Mathaus
250416 <b>a</b>	Finance Matters  To receive the Statement of Accounts to 31st March 2025 for noting.
	The statement of accounts was noted.
b	To receive the bank statement and corresponding bank reconciliation to 31st
	March 2025 for noting.  The bank statement and reconciliation were received in advance, it was noted that
	the balance at Unity Trust Bank was £39,110.43 on 31st March 2025
С	To receive and agree payment of the schedule of invoices.
	Resolved: The clerk to pay the payments presented.
	ACAD Mapping £2,340.00 Church Path and Memorial Hall carpark Boundary
	ESALC £502.85 - NALC/ESALC subscription
	Gallagher £2,196.78 Annual Insurance
	Mrs S Guard £23.60 Heart of Ninfield expenses
	Rialtas Software £243.60 Software/support
	Kaye Crittell £144.80 Heart of Ninfield Expenses
d	To review the Ear Marked reserves for the year ending 31st March 2025 and
	agree any actions required.
	The EMRs were noted.
	To review the budget v actuals for the year ending 31st March 2025 and review
е	any actions required.
	The report was noted and there were no unexpected items.
f	To review the draft statement of accounts for the year ending 31st March 2025
	and agree any actions required.
	The draft was noted with no actions required.
g	To review the asset register and agree any actions required.
	It was noted that the clerk needs to add the new playground equipment.

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250417	To discuss the information shared on devolution and agree any actions required.
	The clerk was asked to put an item on the agenda for May to discuss land in the village
	that is important to the village that may belong to ESCC or WDC.
	KC explained that the meeting that ESALC organised was useful and she had sent notes out to all.
	The clerk explained that the timing of any devolved assets is important to ensure the
	process is complete. The clerk highlighted that there is a national register of the assets
	owned by the district and county authorities.
	The clerk was asked to check with WDC & ESCC.
250415	Date of next meeting.
	To note the date of the next meeting is The Full Council Meeting Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May
	2025, 6.30pm at the Methodist Hall.