

Bidborough Parish Council

Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 31st January 2022 at 7pm at Bidborough Village Hall

Note that this meeting was called to resume the adjourned extraordinary parish council meeting held on 15th January 2022 at Bidborough School Hall, pursuant to paragraphs 9 and 10 schedule 12 to the Local Government Act 1972 and all other enabling powers and standing Order 6{a} of the Council's Standing Orders.

Present: Cllrs Mrs K Thorne (Chair), Cllr D Shepherdson (Vice Chair), Cllr L Hawksfield, Cllr R Johnson, Cllr D Moore, Cllr S Summers, Cllr K Vidler, stand-in Clerk S Huseyin (Clerk to Ightham and Shipbourne Parish Councils) and 6 members of the public.

The meeting was recorded by Cllr Vidler

1. **Apologies for absence** - None
2. **Members disclosable pecuniary interests and other significant interests under the council's code of Conduct** – Cllr Vidler asked to note that Cllrs Shepherdson and Moore had an interest in the Cricket Club.
3. **Resolution to exclude members of the public and go into Part 2** - Proposed by Cllr Hawksfield and seconded by Cllr Shepherdson. Pursuant to s.1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and Standing Order 10 (xi) it was **RESOLVED** by a majority vote of 4 to 3 to exclude the public from the meeting on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted with respect to the following items of business:

In light of minute 3 (x) of the meeting of 29th November 2021.

- (i) To consider the employment status of the clerk and associated contract of employment/HR related consideration. For the purpose of (i) To appoint People Law Ltd to advise on the matter and any other matters arising and to consider that advice
- (ii) To discuss proposals for a way forward to review the accounting practice and Governance of the council.
- (iii) For the purpose of (ii) to appoint a working party comprising of the chair, vice chair and one other member plus external members.
- (iv) Matters which the working party is to undertake and upon which to make recommendations to the full council in relation to the oversight of the matters referred to in items (i), (ii) (iii) (iv),(v).

Following the vote, Cllr Thorne respectfully requested that the meeting went into a confidential session and all members of the public left the meeting at 7.07pm.

Discussions in relation to item (i) have been minuted in Part 2 due to the confidential nature.

In relation to (i) It was proposed by Cllr Moore and seconded by Cllr Hawkesmore that Bidborough Parish Council should take legal advice and engage the services of Darren Stevens of People Law Ltd. By a majority vote of 4 to 3 it was **RESOLVED** that Darren Stevens would be appointed. It was agreed that all Councillors would have a meeting with Darren Stevens on **Monday 7 February 2022 at 7pm** to agree the terms of reference. Due to the confidential nature of business the meeting will *not* be open to members of the public.

Items (ii) to (iv) were not discussed due to insufficient time.

Cllrs Vidler and Summers left the meeting at 9.08pm and the meeting was adjourned.