

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
14th JULY 2014 AT 7.30 PM AT THE STEYNING CENTRE**

PRESENT: Cllr Lloyd - Chairman
Cllrs Rogers, Muncey, Barling, Alexander, Marshall, Ness-Collins, Toomey,
& Muggridge
Also in attendance:
George Cockman - HDC
Michael Pearce – Warden
Paul Conroy – Warden
No Press representative & 19 Members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES

There were apologies for absence from Councillors Hopkinson, Staines, Toms, & Bowell

2. DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations of interest from councillors for items on the Agenda.

3. MINUTES

It was **proposed** by Cllr Lloyd, **seconded** by Cllr Rogers that the minutes of the meeting held on 9th June be signed and agreed as a true record of that meeting. This was **Agreed**.

4. MATTERS ARISING AND ACTIONS from the last meeting

The Neighbourhood Plan designated area has been confirmed and registered with HDC. The memorial bench in MPF was fixed but the secure anchors have been removed. An alternative means of fixing will be used.
HDC were written to regarding the Council's position on the Leisure Centre skatepark. A letter of thanks was sent to The Steyning Festival.

5. POLICE/NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS/LAT REPORTS

Paul Conroy gave the Wardens report for June which is attached to the F & C minutes.

- My recollection is that in previous years we have seen an increase in ASB in July. Any fair weather and school holidays there is usual increase but in the report I was referring to Fletchers Croft more than anywhere.
Tom Slaughter gave his report which is attached to these minutes.

6. QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

The chairman suspended the meeting to allow questions from members of the public. Cllr Lloyd reported that we had received a written question as follows:

- *“On 9th June 2014 Councillor Bowell told us that on a recent Saturday at 9.00pm he had seen a dangerous obstruction in the road. He had been unable to get hold of Tom Slaughter either by phone or by email to the extent that he wondered if these details had been changed. He also tried ringing 101 but this did not work either. The phone “rang and rang and rang.”
If the Chairman cannot get a response from the law enforcement agencies to something he regards as dangerous, does the Parish Council think the public will get a response when we are being disturbed at night or in the early morning by users of the skatepark undertaking the lawful pastime of using a skatepark as a skatepark on the village green? If the public is unable to get a timely response from the law enforcement agencies can they contact the Chairman and/or the Clerk or any other members of the Parish Council and/or what solution does the Parish Council offer?”*

What Cllr. Bowell did not make clear at the meeting on the 9th June, is that the call he made to 101 was answered but because of the nature of the call it was then referred to a WSCC incident line which was the one that ‘rang & rang’.

We have received the following message from the police:

“Noise nuisance falls under the remit of the Horsham District Council. The police would become involved in respect of anti-social behaviour (ASB) and occurring crimes. ASB by its very nature is very subjective, so each incident would have to be treated on its own merits. In respect of what constitutes a breach of the peace, one needs to consider the legislation. As you may be aware breach of the peace is a common law offence. The definition is: ‘A breach of the peace is committed whenever harm is done, or is likely to be done to a person, or, in his presence to his property, or, whenever a person is in fear of being harmed through an assault, affray, riot or other disturbance’. Again I would suggest each is dealt with on a case by case basis.”

“The message to the community should be clear. If they require a quick time response from the police then they should call 101 or 999. They should only use the PCSOs and Wardens mobiles for slow time enquiries, accepting they may not be responded to for several days. The PCSOs mobiles are diverted through to a phone at Horsham police station which has a staff member monitoring the calls predominantly Mon - Fri 0800-1700. There is also an answerphone there where messages can be left. These are picked up on a daily basis and dealt with appropriately. The answerphone message clearly states that people should not report live incidents or crimes on this number. I would therefore encourage the community to use the 101 or 999 system. In the absence of the local PCSO, other members of the neighbourhood policing team would respond to the calls where appropriate and hence this is the reason why the matter should be reported through our central numbers.”

When planning is granted for the skate-park the council will work closely with the various agencies to ensure that it can deliver its management plan.

Cllr Lloyd asked if there were any further questions.

- The minutes for F & C were only published this morning, this is not enough time for public to be able to read them, especially as you are bringing forward the questions from floor to the start of the agenda.

It is a question of workload and the minutes were only available today but where possible we will try and get them published earlier.

• Is there any reason why FOMPF get information passed to them before the Parish Council? Cannot answer this. Don't get this from PC. Cannot offer any explanation.

- Agenda item 8.4 Finance & Community say to re-affirm minutes of 3rd June haven't they already been agreed?

This is part of agenda and will be explained.

- Wardens mentioned about boys kicking footballs. Have they been told not to play in top field of MPF by Rublees?

Are you referring to the top field where the tarmac strip is?

- Yes.

This has not come from PC. They have been told not to play by Charlton Street walls.

The chairman re-convened the meeting.

7. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Lloyd reported that AiRS are assisting with the application form to Locality for the grant funding as reported at the F & C meeting.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 Playing Fields – There was no meeting in June 2014.

Cllr Ness-Collins reported that the committee working group had now met to go through all the comments and suggestions for the new Allotment regulations and have re-drafted them. They will now go round to committee members for final approval prior to going to our solicitors for checking.

8.2 Planning 8th July 2014

Cllr Alexander reported we have completed our Conservation area document and updated it. It will go to committee for comment, then Chris Todd at the museum and Janet Pennington, a local historian, the Steyning Society and then HDC.

There have been a number of re-submissions over the month and HDC are catching up with backlog. Anaerobic Digester at Wappingthorne Farm has been agreed.

Cllr Alexander **proposed** agreement to and adoption of the minutes which were **seconded** by Cllr Muncey and **Agreed** with one abstention from Cllr Rogers.

8.3 Highways & Lighting - There was no meeting in June 2014.

8.4 Finance & Community Committee – 8th July 2014

Cllr Lloyd reported that unfortunately, due to an administrative error, it appears that some councillors may not have received their own copy of the F & C minutes in time for the Full Council meeting on Monday 9th June even though they were available on the website from 6th June. Whilst the minutes were published in time and have been approved by the F & C committee, and therefore stand as a true record, for clarity

members are asked to re-confirm their adoption of the minutes, expenditure and accounts for the F & C committee of 3rd June.

Cllr Lloyd **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Ness-Collins agreement to and adoption of the minutes, accounts and payments as above for the 3rd June 2014. This was **Agreed**.

Cllr Lloyd reported that committee had agreed to move the item questions from the floor to the very beginning of meetings before the start of the Agenda. Standing Orders have been amended to reflect this change.

Cllr Rogers reported that the Loneliness and Isolation event scheduled for 9th September has now been extended to include Upper Beeding, Bramber and Ashurst. F & C agreed a small budget for the event. Invitations will go out this week. Additional speakers have been invited, Emma Edwards to talk about issues for young people and Debbie Woods from Hub in Upper Beeding.

Cllr Lloyd reported that the first showing at the Steyning Community Cinema will be on Wednesday 3rd September at 7.00 p.m and will be showing The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel. Tickets will be £6 to include refreshments in the interval, and are on sale from the Parish Office in advance or on the night.

Cllr Lloyd **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Alexander agreement to and adoption of the minutes, accounts and payments for the period. This was **Agreed**.

9. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Cockman – HDC: The major movement in the District Council is that the planning department has been re-organised with a new Director. Planning had a bad patch but now being resolved. Planning officers are paid poorly in the public sector and there is a big demand for planners in private sector.

On the question asked about how do FoMPF know information before the Council. I don't think there was any secret. I happened to be in email correspondence with somebody involved with FoMPF and I rang HDC, as anyone could, to ask if the planning application was still on the July agenda and was told it was not. As I was already in correspondence with the individual I informed them and also informed the parish clerk.

Cllr Rogers – HDC: I am working on some collaboration with SECAM, the ambulance service, to take a strategic overview of the location of defibrillators to understand the spread and who maintains them and undertake a gap analysis and work on ways to fill them. The clerk should have received an email to this effect.

The second relates to the review currently underway and has in fact been underway for some time by the EA to dissolve the Internal Drainage Districts in Sussex. In Horsham District, for us, this relates to the River Adur, and how it is managed and is funded. This will affect some of the rural areas and residents of our parish, if not the town and urban areas themselves. It is something that I will be keeping close to going forward and you will be kept informed by EA of the decisions made.

Finally it has taken a great deal of work but the latest edition of the Older Persons Directory has been finished and it is extremely useful document. The clerk will be sent the link to the online version which I hope can be posted on the website but there will be a number of hard copies available on request.

Tom Slaughter drew reference to the 101 service. I am a member of the Police and crime panel and Katy Bourne was questioned about the performance of the service and average wait time and a lot of resources being put to improve this. People should be able to get through on this number.

Claire Ebelewicz who worked on the Youth Service with us returns in October and she will be working on helping to create a dementia friendly Horsham district, with regard to services and signage amongst others.

Cllr Barling – WSCC: On Grants I attended meeting of CLC chairman and we discussed the Community Initiative Funding scheme which has £24k to give out annually to organisations. There is a hint that we may be able to more input next year.

There is also the Leader Project, this is EU funding for community organisations and small businesses in our area, there will be a pot of £1.8m to award. Local businesses can apply to create and sustain employment and they can apply.

Highways there is a new bus service on 26th July, Saturdays and Sundays during school holidays as an experiment, run by Southern Transit. Service from Shoreham Railway station to HDC railway stations and stops all the way.

A283 underpass is now with Edburton contractors and should start by the end of summer. Will relieve the dangerous crossing on A283 south of Steyning.

Mouse Lane has been swept again.

Steyning by-pass due for re-surfacing starting in August. Will work at night and a diversion will be in place through the High Street. Works for approx. 4 weeks.

Penns Court TRO has received a lot of feedback from residents and objections. Now consulting with Penns Court residents committee again as there are more objectors than supporters. Still under discussion.

- Will the new bus service accept bus passes?.

Yes.

- Is there any change in whether Parish Councils will be able to apply for the funding mentioned?

Some support for this but not overwhelming. The PC may assist other groups and this may be a way to unlock this impasse. This is for the next agenda for more discussion.

- The Grammar School could be particularly interested in new bus route as they don't have means of transport during holidays.

Cllr Barling to email the school.

11. ITEMS FOR PRESS RELEASE

Items for press release, Steyning Community Cinema.

12. INFORMATION ITEMS

An email from HDC calling for volunteers to the Neighbourhood Watch. Cllr Muncey has kindly volunteered but more are needed. If interested please contact andrewjmoffat@onetel.com

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday 8th September 2014 at 7.30 pm.

The Chairman closed the meeting 8.11 p.m.