

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
9th JUNE 2014 AT 7.30 PM AT THE STEYNING CENTRE**

PRESENT: Cllr Bowell - Chairman
Cllrs Lloyd, Muncey, Barling, Toms, Marshall, Ness-Collins, Toomey,
Muggridge, & Staines
Also in attendance:
George Cockman - HDC
Michael Pearce – Warden
Paul Conroy – Warden
1 Press representative & 24 Members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES

There were apologies for absence from Councillor Hopkinson, Rogers, Trundle, & Alexander.

2. DECLARATIONS

There were no declarations of interest from councillors for items on the Agenda. Cllr Rogers will abstain from any decisions on planning minutes.

3. MINUTES

It was **proposed** by Cllr Lloyd, **seconded** by Cllr Toms that the minutes of the meeting held on 12TH May be signed and agreed as a true record of that meeting. This was **Agreed**.

4. MATTERS ARISING AND ACTIONS from the last meeting

There were no actions from the last meeting.

5. POLICE/NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS/LAT REPORTS

The Wardens gave their report for May which is attached to the F & C minutes.

- PCSO Slaughter has he changed his email address and telephone number. I called 101 because there was a tree down in Ashurst and was put through to another number which just rang.

Fridays and Saturdays are busy nights but if you hang on the number will get answered.

- There has been a Crime alert from the PCSO about thefts from vehicles including Fletchers Croft. Just to bring to attention of people tonight.

Police are attending on this issue and monitoring the area.

6. QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

The chairman suspended the meeting to allow questions from members of the public.

- Referring to seats in MPF and in particular the one for Robin French. Should be secured. Can this be done.

We will get this done.

- Pigeons in High Street. Droppings very messy especially outside newsagents and to the twitten opposite bookshop. Can we get HDC to bring machine. Newsagents to twitten.

We will look at this.

- The County Times and the Herald have reported that the Operational Management plan, clearly states hours of use of the skatepark will be 8.30 – dusk. These were dropped from the management plan uploaded to the planning website in January 2014. Residents are worried that the chairman and other councillors do not know what is in the management plan. Why were the hours of use dropped and if a future plans included them how are hours to be enforced given that lawful pastimes on a Village Green cannot be stopped.

This is already in an email from you and we will be responding. Unfortunately HDC omitted to upload one of the pages – page 4 - which had the hours of use. Nothing has changed, this is planned to be an open facility on MPF. Anticipated natural usage was always to be till dusk. We will not make any amendments until planning is decided.

- A VG must have unfettered access at all times so skaters have legal right to skate at all times.

We will give an answer in writing. We are not going to make any changes until after planning. We did see the article in the paper but the plans have not changed for some time and statements that we have changed are misleading members of the public. We will consult again after planning if it is appropriate or required as we do not know what the result will be.

- The path from Hills Road to MPF has been strimmed and is looking good. Can we ensure it stays that way.

We will do our best to make sure the contract is carried out and it stays that way. We have an email about MPF grass and we will reply to this. There may be a bit of misunderstanding between us and the Cricket Club which we need to look at particularly around the nets.

The chairman re-convened the meeting.

7. COMMITTEE CONFIRMATION

The new committee membership has been circulated to include Cllr Muggridge on the Highways and Lighting committee and Planning committee. It was **proposed** by Cllr Bowell, **seconded** by Cllr Lloyd to confirm these committees. **This was Agreed.**

The new list of representatives on Outside Bodies has been circulated to include Cllr Muggridge on the Youth Service group. It was **proposed** by Cllr Bowell, **seconded** by Cllr Ness-Collins to agree these representatives. **This was Agreed.**

8. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Bowell reported that we have now had a response from AiRs to our queries and they have been appointed. They have acknowledged the comments and have assured us that sufficient people will be available for our plan. We will do all we can to reduce our costs with AiRs.

Wiston Parish Council has now asked to be included in our cluster and Ashurst also wish to be included. It was **proposed** by Cllr Bowell, **seconded** by Cllr Toomey that we agree to include Wiston Parish Council and Ashurst Parish Council into our cluster for Neighbourhood plan. **This was Agreed.**

The designated area for the cluster has now been circulated and this is what will be included for our cluster going forward.

If there is any conflict of interest between the SDNP and ourselves what would take priority. Would we still produce a NP but inside the SDNP.

The designated area is the four parishes and we would consult with the SDNPA where required. We should thank Nick Mills who has done a huge amount of work so far on this project. This was unanimously endorsed.

It was **proposed** by Cllr Bowell, **seconded** by Cllr Barling to agree this designated area. **This was Agreed.**

The NP is for the four parishes, the steering group will consult with the community and they will be looking for a lot of volunteers for help and support. This will take some time and a lot of work. The community will lead this forward, it is a community project.

The funding now available to us with the inclusion of Wiston will increase by £3,600 and the same for Ashurst. AiRs have confirmed that their fees would increase by no more than this for each additional parish.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 Playing Fields – 27th May 2014.

Cllr Ness-Collins reported that the fence round the play area is now up and looking good. Thanks to PF for fence looks really good and have received compliments from a number of residents.

The gates are on order and should be installed soon.

Cllr Ness-Collins **proposed** agreement to and adoption of the minutes and accounts and expenditure for the period which were **seconded** by Cllr Staines and **Agreed.**

9.2 Planning 20th May & 3rd June 2014

Cllr Toomey stated that on the meeting of 3rd June, we will be discussing the appeal for solar plant at Huddlestonee farm, and I have proposed that will debate additional support for this on 17th June.

Cllr Bowell **proposed** agreement to and adoption of the minutes which were **seconded** by Cllr Lloyd and **Agreed.**

9.3 Highways & Lighting - 20th May 2014.

Cllr Bowell **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Barling, agreement to and adoption of the minutes, accounts and expenditure for the period which were **Agreed.**

9.4 Finance & Community Committee – 3rd June 2014

Cllr Lloyd reported that the Annual Return and Annual Governance Statement has been circulated to all councillors. Cllr Lloyd **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Bowell that these be submitted to the External Auditor. **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. This will allow members of the public to ask questions, on agenda items only, and their comments can be considered by committees before any discussion or decisions are made by the council. Standing Orders will be amended accordingly if necessary. This item will be taken back to committee after any necessary changes to Standing Orders.

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

10. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Cockman – HDC: Would like to add as District Councillor how good it was to get Wiston and Ashurst back into the Neighbourhood Plan. Also proud of Festival in Steyning and the numbers involved.

Cllr Barling – WSCC: Penns Court, TRO for entrance is now prioritised. There is an advert in press seeking any objections. This will then be signed off.

CLC - next meeting 11th June, 7.30 Washington, Memorial Hall.

Work ongoing at Mouse Lane and drainage engineer is now looking at this.

Improvements to A283 junction with Horsham Road on the list.

A283 to be re-surfaced this year. Some really bad potholes in this area.

Traffic in Church Street, this has now been evaluated.

Bramber High Street, work to start 1st October on speed bumps.

Looking at 20 mph schemes and for school.

- Are there any repairs to be done in Church Street by library.

This has been reported.

- Protruding flower beds outside library. Can something be done.

Will get this looked at.

11. ITEMS FOR PRESS RELEASE

No items for press release.

12. INFORMATION ITEMS

Notification from WSCC that the Gobbler Waste service is to cease with effect from end of June due to lack of use. The HDC gobbler started some time ago. The re-cycling rates have gone up considerably and there is much more use of Viridor waste facilities. Hence mobile service use has gone down.

- What will replace this.

HDC has a service to do this at a charge.

A new clerk has now been appointed who is Rebecca Luckin (in the audience). Welcome to Rebecca. Very good interviews with exceptionally good candidates.

Cllr Bowell reported a late item of information that unfortunately our application for a skateboard facility in MPF has been delayed until the July committee as HDC have some legal issues they need to clarify. We are very disappointed about this but we are assured that it will be heard in July. We believe our planning application clearly stated what we want to do in Steyning. We will work to whatever is the outcome of this application.

We have also been informed that the planning application for a skateboard facility at the Leisure Centre site will be heard on 17th June. Cllr Bowell **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Lloyd that this Council delegates the Chair, Vice Chair and clerk to write to HDC to make the parish councils' current position clear in that we will not be involved with taking this project forward should planning consent be given as agreed at our Full Council meeting in February 2014. We believe the project has no prospect of achievement as the school will not give permission for the use of the land to build it, there is no management and operational plan for the site, and the costs for operating a facility of this kind at this site have not been thought through. **This was agreed** by majority 8 for and 2 abstentions.

Cllr Bowell acknowledged the outstanding success of the Steyning Festival. Christine Aubrey and her team have again put Steyning on the map with a superb effort mounting many exciting and stimulating events which many enjoyed and visitors came from far and wide. I would ask the clerk to prepare a letter to be sent to Christine thanking her and her team for their efforts. They really are appreciated.

Cllr Barling presented a plaque to Christine for her efforts to be displayed in the foyer in the school hall.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday 14th July 2014 at 7.30 pm.

The Chairman closed the meeting 8.15 p.m.

ACTIONS

9.6.14

Confirm NP cluster and designated area.

Fix bench MPF

Write to HDC, council position on Leisure Centre skatepark

Ltr to Steyning Festival

12.5.14

14.2 To set up working group on new Conservation document

Clerk