

Steyning Parish Council



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HIGHWAYS & LIGHTING COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY 7.45pm, 17th November 2015 AT THE STEYNING CENTRE

Present: Cllrs Bowell, Muncey, Northam, S Sullivan and G Sullivan.

In attendance: Cllr Barling

Members of the public: three including Cllrs Muggridge and Goldsmith.

Clerk: Rebecca Luckin

Questions from the floor

- Q – Regarding item 5.3, A283 footbridge lighting; a resident in Roman Rd raised concern regarding dangerous conditions in the dark.
A – on the agenda to be discussed.
- Q – Regarding item 7.3, WSCC devolved works; WSCC has not increased precept for five years, it is their responsibility to maintain roads and footpaths, isn't it time WSCC fulfilled their function properly, instead of offloading it's costs to Parish Councils, and raise their own precept?
A – Cllr Barling – raising precept would be a 'drop in the ocean'. WSCC has not raised the council tax for years, due to savings being made. WSCC has three sources of income, council tax, business rates and grant aid. All grant aid will be lost over next four years. WSCC has to downsize it's expenditure by £141M by 2020. WSCC are capped at 2% with regards to a precept rise, therefore a rise could only yield £2 – 3M. If a referendum was called, it would cost £800,000, we are stuck with having to make savings. WSCC Councillors are as concerned as residents regarding the cuts. The only organisations who remain uncapped are Parish Councils. The DCLG needs to cut its budget by 20% over the next four year. I'm flagging it up for Parish Councils in order that they have time to act. The Cabinet Member for Highways is prepared to come to Steyning and address the Parish Council, along with a Highways Manager.
A – Cllr Bowell – the residents of Steyning will be asked to dip in their pockets yet again, following provision of Neighbourhood Wardens and the Youth Service and now, to cut the hedges and trim the grass, they will need to do it again.
A – Cllr Barling – It may happen and I will have no control over it. I would be failing in my duty if I did not pre-warn you. This is a programme over two to three years, the last year of austerity is expected to be 2020.
Councillors thanked Cllr Barling for his advice, but noted that Parish Councillors are volunteers and it adds to the workload.

Meeting was convened at 7.59pm



Parish Clerk: Rebecca Luckin
Deputy Clerk: Hazel Roxby

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DRAFT MINUTES

H&L/15/34. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Lloyd.

H&L/15/35. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS – none for this meeting.

H&L/15/36. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

36.1 Cllr Bowell **proposed, seconded** by Cllr G Sullivan that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2015 be agreed as a true record. **Agreed.**

H&L/15/37. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES AND ACTIONS

37.1 Dog fouling update – Cllr Muncey advised that no volunteers have come forward to undertake a spraying campaign. An article had been placed in Your Steyning to remind residents that they could use regular waste bins.

37.2 Cllr Goldsmith and Cllr Bowell will liaise regarding bollards in the High St Car Park, a Steyning Grammar School mural and coach visits to Steyning.

H&L/15/38. HIGHWAYS / PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY MATTERS

38.1 High Street Toilets urinals project update - Cllr Muncey reported that conversion of old ladies toilet had been discussed and a grant will be requested from the Big Lottery Fund. Steyning Chamber of Trade and the Community Partnership will support the application. The current lease agreement between HDC and SPC will require amendment to fit the requirements of the grant application form. Cllr Lloyd will ask HDC Legal Team for a quote for an amendment prior to an application being submitted.

38.2 **Councillors** considered a further quote for decoration of additional windows at High St toilets. Jaytek - £90 (Exc VAT).
Cllr Muncey **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Northam that the quote be accepted. **Agreed.**

38.3 A 283 footbridge lighting update. Cllr Muncey reported that Chris Stark, WSCC, had agreed to cut back trees, although there is a backlog of work. A quote from SSE is awaited, regarding lighting. Grant funding may be available from Gatwick Airport Ltd. Cllr Barling will progress if possible.

38.4 Mouse Lane drainage update and future maintenance. Cllr Muncey reported that works were completed and had appeared successful in recent heavy rain. Historically, a local tenant farmer had not kept the ditches clear, but prior to works commencing had agreed to undertake regular clearance. In liaison, and by agreement of the Wiston Estate, works had included additional earth to bank up an existing ditch. Subsequent to works taking place, the tenant farmer had withdrawn his agreement to undertake ditch clearance on a regular basis.
Cllr Muncey **proposed** that the farmer be reminded of his riparian responsibilities and that a letter should be sent to the farmer and Wiston Estate, **seconded** by Cllr S Sullivan. **Agreed.**

Councillors noted that the resurfacing of the apron and bridleway had not been properly compacted and £3,000 of work and materials had been washed away. The Clerk was asked to withhold payment for those works. Cllr Muncey will provide photos to Peter Smith, Operation Watershed, WSCC.

38.5 Trees on a bank by the A283 may require management to prevent the bank becoming unstable. Cllr Bowell has contacted Chris Stark, WSCC Highways Manager.



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H&L/15/39 FINANCIAL REPORT

- 39.1** Councillors received and considered the Income & Expenditure Report for October 2015. Cllr G Sullivan **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Northam that the I&E Report for October be accepted. **Agreed.**
- 39.2** Councillors considered a first draft of the H&L Budget. Cllr Northam **proposed, seconded** by Cllr Muncey that the Clerk and Chair be **delegated** to undertake a second draft of the budget. **Agreed.**
Clerk will investigate the history of 45 street lamps that are the responsibility of SPC. Councillors noted that they would wish to be considered a good employer and would consider offering pensions prior to the auto enrol date of May 2017.

H&L/15/40. INFORMATION / CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

- 40.1** WSCC Principal Community Officer – Councillors noted the recent appointment of Dean Wadey.
- 40.2** Councillors noted correspondence regarding an overgrown hedge on Bramber Rd. WSCC has written to owners requesting works to reduce vegetation.
- 40.3** Councillors noted the WSCC option of devolved works. Jonathan Ulmer, WSCC, had provided a list of grants available and an offer of discussion with SPC.
- 40.4** A letter had been sent to Dog Lane residents regarding riparian responsibilities. Despite heavy rain, the stream was flowing well.
- 40.5** Late item – Downslink between Shoreham and Upper Beeding – improvements works to commence week beginning 23rd November. Although consent has not been given by the landowner, cyclists have been using the route.
- 40.6** Late item – Rural car parks – HDC due to discuss variations in car parking charge, but had advised they will not discuss the introduction of car parking charges in Steyning for the time being.
- 40.7** Clays Hill 30mph speed limit, regarding repeater signs on first lampposts. Cllr Barling expressed concern that it may not be possible to install signs, but will investigate.
- 40.8** Missing mosaics on front of the bus shelter. Clerk will investigate.

H&L/15/41. COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY – none for this meeting.

H&L/15/42. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 19th January 2016

The meeting closed at 20.48pm

Signed: Date: 19th January 2015
Chairman



Parish Clerk: Rebecca Luckin
Deputy Clerk: Hazel Roxby

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Actions H&L 17.11.15

Q&A – Invite Cabinet Member for Highway, John O’Brian, and Highways Manager to meet with SPC. **Clerk.**

- 38.1** High Street Toilets urinals project a grant will be requested from the Big Lottery Fund. The current lease agreement between HDC and SPC will require amendment to fit the requirements of the grant application form. **Cllr Lloyd** will ask HDC Legal Team for a quote for an amendment charge prior to application being submitted.
- 38.3** A 283 footbridge lighting update. Cllr Muncey reported that Chris Stark had agreed to cut back trees, although there is a huge backlog of work. A quote from SSE is awaited regarding lighting. Grant funding may be available from Gatwick Airport Ltd. **Cllr Barling** will progress if possible.
- 38.4** Cllr Muncey **proposed** that the farmer be reminded of his riparian responsibilities and that a letter should be sent to the farmer and Wiston Estate, **Clerk.**
- 38.4** The **Clerk** was asked to withhold payment for those works.
- Cllr Muncey** will provide photos to Peter Smith, Operation Watershed, WSCC.
- 39.2** **Clerk and Chair** be **delegated** to undertake a second draft of the budget.
- Clerk will investigate the history of 45 street lamps that are the responsibility of SPC. Phoned WSCC 19.11.15 and left message to be contacted. Hazel advises that historically the number was higher and that it has been reduced to 45 during her time as Deputy Clerk.
- 40.7** Clays Hill 30mph speed limit, regarding repeater signs on first lampposts. Cllr Barling expressed concern that it may not be possible, but will investigate.
- 40.8** Missing mosaics on the front of the bus shelter. **Clerk** will investigate. They have been provided, but remain the property of a local artist. They have been removed for cleaning and repair and will be returned.