

20<sup>th</sup> February 2015

Dear [REDACTED]

Following a Freedom of Information Request made to Steyning Parish Council on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2015, please find below the information requested. Councillors have taken advice from SALC, who confirm that although the minutes of confidential meetings shall remain confidential, the outcomes of such meetings can be made available to members of the public. Accordingly, please find the outcomes listed below.

**Re: Minutes of the Extraordinary Confidential Meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

Under Section 1 d) of Steyning Parish Council Standing Orders, and in accordance with LGA 1972, the meeting was held in confidence, since Councillors were discussing:

- a) Counsel's advice on the rectification of Village Green status and agreeing the way forward.
- b) Nominations for the Chairman's Millennium Award.

Councillors agreed that:

- 'This council shall not de-register VG65'
- 'No land swap of the land occupied by the clubs shall be considered, at this time, by this council'
- 'This council will not apply to the High Court for a rectification of VG93'
- 'At this meeting, decisions should not be made regarding the management of VG65 and VG93, but instead a meeting of a working party of the Full Council, should make a recommendation to Full Council'

As an outcome of the decisions above, the application for a skate park facility will not be progressed by this council, since Councillors have been advised by HDC that planning permission will not be granted while Village Green status is in place.

A full copy of the confidential minutes will not be released, but Steyning Parish Council are required to confirm that at the meeting Cllr Lloyd **proposed** that 'this council will not apply to the High Court for a rectification of VG93', **seconded** by Cllr Hopkinson. A vote was held, those **in favour** were Cllrs Barling, Muncey, Staines, Hopkinson, Toms, Marshall, Ness-Collins, Lloyd and Bowell. Those **Against** were Cllrs Muggridge, Toomey and Alexander. **Motion Carried.**

Chairman's Millennium Award winners were agreed.

**Re: Minutes of the Extraordinary Confidential meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> August 2014**

Under Section 1 d) of Steyning Parish Council Standing Orders, and in accordance with LGA 1972, the meeting was held in confidence, since Councillors were discussing:

- a) Correspondence from a group whose vice-chairman had taken SPC to a tribunal, with the possibility of further litigation.
- b) Legal advice and costs and the Council's way forward on the skateboard facility planning application regarding the Village Green (VG93).

Councillors agreed that:

- 'The Clerk should write to the Chairman of FoMPF and advise that a response will not be provided unless a name and address was provided'.
- 'The Parish Council ask the ICO to visit in order to give them an account of the situation and ask for their advice'.
- 'The Parish Council seek Counsel's advice on the rectification of the Village Green registration as a whole (with preference on the first older application rather than the most recent) and following that advice they would decide whether to seek rectification'.
- 'Owing to advice, only recently received from Horsham District Council, that due to the Village Green status, Steyning Parish Council is unable, at this present time, to deliver Skateboard facilities in the Memorial Playing Field to the young people of Steyning and therefore is, regrettably, withdrawing its planning application.

Having due regard to all other users of the Memorial Playing Field and, for their future benefit, the Parish Council will now seek legal advice to rectify the Village Green status on the Memorial Playing Field'.

**Re: Minutes of the Extraordinary Confidential meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> August 2014**

Under Section 1 d) of Steyning Parish Council Standing Orders, and in accordance with LGA 1972, the meeting was held in confidence, since Councillors were discussing:

- a) Correspondence from a group whose vice-chairman had taken SPC to a tribunal, with the possibility of further litigation.
- b) Legal advice and costs and the Council's way forward on the skateboard facility planning application regarding the Village Green (VG93).

Councillors agreed that:

- 'A further Extraordinary, Confidential meeting should be convened before any decisions were made'.

**Re: schedule of minutes having confidential items of business**

Please see attached sheet, detailing the subjects and outcomes.

**Re: Agendas / Confidential items of business**

Historically, it has been the practice to remove agendas from the Steyning Parish Council website in order to save visitors to the website from 'trawling' through the website to find current information. I can confirm that agendas will not be removed in future, although it may take some time to reload historic agendas.

Kind regards

Rebecca Luckin  
Clerk to Steyning Parish Council