

## Minutes of Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at the Village Hall, Fulking

**Present:** Chairman Ms K. Watson, Vice Chairman Mr M Trist, Councillors Ms L. Dyos, Mr Mark Hind, and Mr Miles Firth. MSDC Councillor Anthony Watt Williams, WSCC Councillor Peter Griffiths (from 8.15 to 8.30pm), Clerk to the Council Derek Blackhall, and 8 members of the public.

**Apologies:** None.

**Declaration of Interest:** None

The Chairman welcomed everyone and requested a change to the published agenda order so that the North Town Field repairs were to be discussed prior to the 2016/17 Precept item; this was agreed.

The meeting then proceeded as follows:-

The minutes of the previous meeting held 9<sup>th</sup> July 2015 having been previously **circulated**, were taken as **read, approved** and **signed** by the Chairman.

### **Matters Arising:**

#### **Planning**

##### Conifers

This was the application for change of use to the land to the East of Market Garden - to private gypsy and traveller caravan site consisting of 2 pitches. The applicant is currently living on site and an enforcement order has been issued. Appeals have been made against both the planning decision (refusal) and the enforcement order and the appeal hearing will take place on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

##### Market Garden

Temporary permission for this site expired on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. A new planning application has been submitted and a planning meeting was held on 9<sup>th</sup> September. No decision has yet been made by Mid Sussex.

#### **Highways**

As the rainy season is fast approaching residents were asked to keep their eyes open for blocked gullies/potholes etc.

##### Gullies/Drains

As usual, any problems/blockages must be reported to <http://love.westsussex.gov.uk/Reports> or **01243 642105**. Please pass info to the PC for its records.

#### **Footpath 4f**

The Parish Council was advised in August that WSCC Rights of Way department has now received a formal application for the diversion of this path onto the unofficial route that has been in use just to the west of the house at Perching Sands for some years. When the application is ready, the Parish Council will be consulted in the usual way.

For info – the original route and the diverted route are now both open for use. Whilst the effect of the proposed diversion will not alter the situation on the ground a great deal, it will at last clarify the legal route of the path which will be clearly understood by all, properly way-marked and maintained into the future.

## Asset Register

The Parish Council needs to add Ladybrook Spring to the asset register. Clerk  
Costing was around £2,400. Uncertainty as to who owns the land/stream etc. A Land Registry search is required first. Chairman

Darren has asked if the community has any other ideas for community projects – Let Derek know of any suggestions

## District Report from MSDC Councillor Anthony Watt Williams

Burgess Hill Town Centre (£65M) redevelopment now approved. It was welcomed by DCLG as it attracts additional jobs.

MSDC Neighbourhood Plan delayed by 1 month whilst a barrister is consulted.

The Community Infrastructure Levy will result in simpler systems.

Anthony agreed to pass on the Fulking Parish Council request for official traveller sites to be created, and will write to the Fulking Parish Clerk with an update. Anthony Watt Williams

## Report from WSCC Councillor Peter Griffiths

The Three Southern Counties devolution bid has been submitted to DCLG. It involves business creation opportunities and improved transport.

West Sussex schools examination results have improved; despite being the 4<sup>th</sup> lowest funded nationally. There is a new meals on wheels provider-apetito.

There is a new customer service strategy.

## Financial matters

The following cheques have been processed since the last PC meeting, one of which needs to be mentioned for approval (as over £250) – Mark Stepney, grass cutting £330 -

19/9/15	Mark Stepney **	100635	330.00
August 2015	E on direct debit	012901574940A	35.51
25/7/15	Society of Local Council Clerks	100649	88.00
25/7/15	Playsafety Ltd	100650	96.00
9/9/15	John Hazard	100640	47.99
10/6/15	PKF Littlejohn LLP	100651	120.00
8/10/15	Emergency cheque to Kate Watson	100652	0.00
8/10/15	D I Blackhall-approved at meeting	100653	907.41
	Total		£1624.91

\*\* - needs approval as over £250

## Adoption of village Action Plan

The Village Action Plan group was dissolved in August and responsibility handed over to the Parish Council. This way, the community can still have an input into what is/isn't wanted in the area.

Thank you to the members of the group for their hard work over the past five years since the group was formed and to Bob as Chairman.

Everyone was happy to take over the responsibility.

It needs to be added to the standing orders for review each year. Clerk

It was agreed to investigate the advantages of listing the chapel/village hall (partly to preserve the street scene). Clerk

### **North Town Field Repairs**

Some parts of the equipment have started to deteriorate/rust quite badly – the slide has had to be cordoned off as the steps have corroded; the PC is currently looking for a welder to undertake the necessary repairs.

The PC has also received a letter from the North Town Field Trustees, asking for North Town Field to be made a spending priority and for an increase of £1500 a year in the precept (a 20% increase) to fund tree work etc. at North Town Field. Parish Council already has a high proportion set aside for NTF – Mowing and repairs, annual inspection; (over 23%) of the current precept.

It was agreed the Parish Council should look to help in some way-subject to the following:

- NTF trustees to separate 'one off' periodic repairs from routine annual maintenance of the trees, and provide accurate estimates of costs

- NTF trustees to communicate with the village social committee regarding provision of 'one off' funding as the body that was set up to be the NTF fundraiser

Parish Council to consult MSDC regarding precept increases; examine own reserves; explore WSCC project funding possibilities/apply for a grant? Clerk

Follow up the possibility of a Darren Rolfe community project; and investigate Bolney/Pycombe work already done Chairman

### **Precept 2015/16**

Draft agenda paper to be revisited in the light of the NTF discussion above.

### **Other matters.**

At the last meeting an update was given about the Shepherd and Dog and the approval of the licence. Following one of the functions during the summer, David and Emily had a meeting with Mid Sussex and they have now agreed not to have any amplified music in the garden in future (apart from when a vocalist is accompanying an acoustic band). For any future bookings, they will explain about sound restrictions at the time of the enquiry so that there will be no misunderstandings about what can and can't be played in the garden. David and Emily do seem keen to work with the village and hopefully this will be the way forward, allowing them to continue with their business, but protecting the peace and tranquillity of the village.

There is also a growing parking problem in the village at weekends, and in some cases it would be impossible for the emergency services to get through if needed. This has been logged as anti-social behaviour by the police-their community officer is to meet with the PC and hopefully David will be able to attend. It was acknowledged this is not an issue related to the pub; incidents must be reported to Sussex Police via Operation Crackdown in order to be formally logged.

Ladybrook Spring needs a working party to maintain it.

### **Comments from the floor**

There were no further comments from the floor.

**Dates of next meetings-in 2016**

January 14<sup>th</sup>, April 14<sup>th</sup>, July 14<sup>th</sup>, October 13<sup>th</sup>, APM Date May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

**Meeting closed at 9.08pm**

**Signed.....**  
**Minute 38 8/10/2015**

**Date.....**

DRAFT