

Minutes of Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held at 7.33 pm on 14th April 2016 at the Village Hall, Fulking

Present: Chairman Ms Kate Watson, Vice Chairman Mr Michael Trist, Councillors Ms Linda Dyos and Mr Mark Hind, MSDC Councillor John Wilkinson, WSCC Councillor Peter Griffiths (8.05-8.35), Clerk to the Council Derek Blackhall, and 9 members of the public.

Apologies: Councillor Miles Firth, MSDC Councillors Colin Trumble and Anthony Watt Williams,

Declaration of Interest: Michael Trist declared an interest in the village parking issue, and also one cheque being signed at the meeting.

Congratulations to the Clerk for gaining his Certificate in Local Council Administration (CILCA) qualification in February. He was the first student throughout Sussex and Surrey to have achieved this under the 2015 revised syllabus which increased the number of modules for completion to 30.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 14th January 2016 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 appeals against both the planning decision (refusal) and the enforcement order were heard on Tuesday 12th January and the Inspector's decision was to allow the appeals subject to the following conditions:
permission for the two Mitchells and their two adult children and the dependents of the daughter only.

Maximum number of caravans – four.

Restriction of commercial activities

Landscaping and drainage to be agreed

No impermeable surfaces to be laid

Approval of colour of mobile homes and dayrooms

Market Garden

The PC had a meeting with MSDC on 18th January to discuss the issues surrounding the procedure and approval of the application. The representatives from MSDC were not particularly interested in hearing the PC's concerns and seemed more interested in looking to form a better relationship in the future. It was agreed at the meeting to have a meeting with representatives from MSDC and SDNPA and the PC is now following this up

Highways

The Chairman is currently waiting to hear back from Richard Speller to arrange a meeting regarding the ongoing problem areas. Money is available again this year from Operation Watershed, so the PC will apply for a grant and hopefully get Clappers Lane sorted once and for all.

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.

The Parish Council must be informed of highways/flooding issues for them to follow up; please send incident numbers to the Parish Clerk. Richard Speller has an interest here.

Footpath 4f

WSCC received one objection to the diversion order, but this was withdrawn after the issues were explained to the objector. WSCC are now proceeding with the confirmation of the diversion. A small amount of improvement work needs to be completed on the new path by the land owner and once this has been done, the way markers will be adjusted and the matter will be closed.

Asset Register

The Clerk has updated this to include Ladybrook Spring as part of the PC's year end procedures currently in progress

North Town Field Repairs

Jamie Thomson attended the recent North Town Field clear up and took down a dangerous branch adjacent to the play area. He said he will return at a later date to take out another dangerous branch and also offered to perform a survey of the trees (as suggested at the last PC meeting.) The trustees are planning to get a quote from Mark Stepney to remove numerous small sycamore trees that have seeded themselves in the bank next to the road (to prevent future maintenance issues). Also a quote for removing the brambles along the north side fence. The PC is therefore now awaiting the results of the survey and quotes.

Transparency funding application update.

The new computer and scanner have been received.

Cattle on the Downs

The following actions were agreed:

Michael Trist was requested to ring Charlie Cain and ask that the **signs be moved on and off the relevant gates**, showing where cattle are grazing, otherwise walkers might not be clear where exactly the cattle are at any given time.

It was also suggested that a log be kept of any incidents where/when/if people have intimidating/dangerous encounters with cattle. MT offered for people to ring/email him so that he could keep a central log of any such incidents.

Closure Signs on the Downs

Miles contacted West Sussex regarding the footpath closure signs. They advised that nothing was happening and that the signs could be removed (which Miles did)

APM

It was agreed to fund AGM refreshments up to £50.

Parking problems in The Street.

Following discussions involving Mark Hind, Peter Griffiths, Richard Speller and David Pearce, it was noted:

No additional parking areas had been identified and the best solution appears to be traffic control measures-options are:

Install no waiting signs and cones on Stammers Hill this year and measure the result-cost £252. This was agreed as phase 1. The Shepherd & Dog will place the cones when the PC has purchased them.

Install single white lines and/or a T.R.O. from WSCC

Convert the south verge beyond Ladybrook Spring to a designated parking area-Richard Speller to cost. This would involve lopping low branches. S106 and SDNP funding to be investigated.

Report from MSDC Councillors

- The letter from the Planning Department has only reached the Ward Councillors today; they will follow it up with MSDC.
- Fulking's 3 District Ward Councillors are the only ones with SDNP Parishes outside of MSDC
- Fulking's 3 Ward Councillors are disappointed with the appeal outcome
- Fulking's 3 Ward Councillors are seeking MSDC committee rules
- A barrister is now involved in the District plan expected to be ratified in October/November
- The 3 counties initiative is work in progress
- The MSDC AGM is on 29 April.

Report from WSCC Councillor Peter Griffiths

- Pleased with the Village Hall grant
- More funds are available
- There is a protest against 3 in 1 cards
- Possibly the Community Funding initiative could help with the parking issue
- WSCC objecting to PM's schools initiative
- There should be a May update on 3 Counties situation.
- There may be funds available to deal with potholes-but they take 4 months to settle.

Comments from the floor

The meeting was adjourned at 8.35, there were no comments, meeting reopened at 8.36.

Future of the Village Hall

The Chairman has been in touch with Historic England regarding the process. They have very strict criteria as to what becomes listed and it is not clear that the Chapel falls into these criteria. However, this is in the process of follow up.

Dog Waste Bins

The PC had a communication a while ago from MSDC regarding dog waste bins. There has been an increase in mess on the pavements. Clerk to contact MSDC to ask about the possibility of siting a couple of bins? Entrance to North Town Field to be discussed. Obviously siting would need to be agreed if it affected any properties.

Financial matters

It was agreed to move to the Chairman holding 3 blank cheques going forward in trying to pay all invoices raised in the same month-as SSALC has requested. This needs to be included in Financial Regulations

The following cheques have been processed since the last PC meeting

22/04/16	E on direct debit	012901574940A	37.40
18/12/15	Henfield Garden Services	100658	240.00
15/01/16	M Trist	100661	41.97
9/01/16	Emergency cheque to Kate Watson	100662	0
2/03/16	HMRC	100663	19.20
2/03/16	D I Blackhall (Laptop/scanner)	100664	472.96
2/03/16	SSALC	100665	39.00
2/03/16	D I Blackhall (net pay)	100666	889.38
14/04/16	HMRC	100667	178.20
14/04/16	WSALC	100668	79.00
14/04/16	D I Blackhall (Outlook 2016)	100669	109.99

Other matters.

Jake (Gordon) Richards died suddenly and unexpectedly last month. He is probably best known as being a dedicated vet and last year he was voted on to Poynings Parish Council, but he was also part of the wider community, helping to judge The Fulking dog shows at Fulking village fair. He will be sadly missed and the PC's thoughts are with Amber, his wife, at this time.

There is now a page on the website listing census information (this is under 'About our Village') Although the information is not up to date (2011), it does make interesting reading.

Talks are underway to hold a smaller fair this year – it is planned for 30th July and will be held on North Town Field – watch this space and as always, any help will be appreciated.

Please remember to keep dogs under close control at all times when walking – especially at this time of year as it is the lambing season – there has been a lot of publicity recently on tv and radio about farmers having the right to shoot dogs which are seen to be worrying sheep.

Finally, on a really positive note, a grant has been awarded by WSCC Big Society panel for the village hall roof - GBP6,600. Great news.

Dates of next meetings-in 2016

July 14th, October 13th, APM Date **May 12th** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.02pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Minute 1/2016