



ARDINGLY PARISH COUNCIL

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Office: Tuesdays 10a.m - 12noon in Hapstead Hall, Ardingly

Minutes of the Ardingly Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 3rd June at 7.30pm in the Reading Room at Hapstead Hall

Present:

Mr. M. Brixey (Chair to item 335)	Mr. D. Stutchbury
Mr. W. Meldrum (Chair from item 336)	Mrs. P. Dennis
Mr. K. Monk	Mrs. R. Chalk (from item 340)
Mrs. F. Rocks	Mr. N. Moorey
Mr. G. Ruse	Mr. J. Aloof

Apologies

Mr. P. Simpson, Mrs. R. Jarvis (RFO)

In Attendance:

Mrs. S Mamoany (Clerk)
6 members of the public

Public Questions

Dan Roycroft, Planning Consultant attended the meeting and wished to make the Council aware of a forthcoming application to develop 2 further properties at 65 College Road. They wished to work with the Council and were interested in feedback. The Chair advised that each application was taken on its own merits and until the application was formally submitted the Council could not comment and thanked Mr Roycroft for attending the meeting.

Ian Thompson spoke regarding the planning application to be discussed on item 335.2 relating to Poppits, 13 College Road, Ardingly. He wished to express his concerns which he had raised in an email which had been circulated by the Clerk to all Council members.

Rob Lawson also spoke concerning item 335.2 and raised his concerns about the size of the property and that Ardingly is in need of smaller homes with 2/3 bedrooms. In addition many of the properties in College Road have room to build in their gardens and he was concerned about the fact that if this application was approved it would start a trend of further building.

Joyce Day spoke about the lack of bus service in the village. She requested if it was possible to approach the bus companies to put on additional services, in particular at around 9.30 am as it is difficult to get to doctors appointments. A petition was handed over to the Council which residents had signed agreeing that they would

like to see the bus service in the village improved. Sussex Bus Company were running new services in the area for other villages. The Chair advised that this subject was on the agenda for discussion item 346.

<p>329.</p>	<p>Procedural Matters</p> <p>329.1 Apologies were received from Peter Simpson and Rachel Jarvis 329.2 No declarations of interested were received. 329.3 The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13 May 2014 were AGREED and signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record</p>	
<p>330.</p>	<p>Matters arising from the previous minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed she had contacted the insurance company concerning the small increase and this was related to the index linking on the policy.</p> <p>It was agreed that KM and RC would liaise with regard to the traffic arrangements on the days of the South of England Show</p>	<p>KM/RC</p>
<p>331.</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>331.1 The internal audit has been completed however the RFO was not present at the meeting to report the outcome. 331.2 The schedule of payments for May had been prepared by the RFO and circulated; it was AGREED and signed by the Chair. 331.3 The RFO had worked an additional 5 hours, this was due to catching up on the workload while she was on maternity leave and the clerk was only covering the basic role. The additional hours were AGREED. FR asked if the Clerk would circulate the spreadsheet showing the hours worked to the Finance Committee.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>332.</p>	<p>Environment and Traffic Committee</p> <p>332.1 WM reported that he and the Clerk had spoken with Colin Davies with regard to some issues that had been raised in a letter sent to him following the last Traffic Committee Meeting. It was not a very productive conversation. WM was concerned that Ardingly College had stated they were not happy that the consultant had completed the brief in full; although other stakeholders were not present at the last meeting to comment. It had become clear in the conversation that the original tender may have been pulled in other directions and it was evident that the Clerk was not fully involved at the time. It is clear the Clerk should be involved in all communications and this should be consistent to avoid this happening in the future.</p> <p>NM wished to note the huge decrease in traffic visiting Wakehurst and this should be noted. It was pointed out that the recent traffic survey was only carried out a few weeks ago and therefore will have the up to date figures.</p> <p>332.2 CJDA Ltd had suggested that three quarters of his account should be settled, he believes that he has fulfilled his brief. It was agreed that this should be discussed in more detail at the Traffic Meeting which will be held later this month.</p> <p>332.3 The Clerk reported that she had spoken with Horsted Keynes and they are now not moving forward with the Community Speedwatch project as they had received complaints from some residents. We are awaiting further news from WSCC with regard to the implementation of the scheme and how we can obtain funding.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>333.</p>	<p>Hapstead Hall Management Committee</p> <p>It was agreed a special promotional discount would be promoted for bookings at the South of England Show Parish Fayre.</p> <p>The Committee are continuing to put a comparison of hire rates in more detail showing facilities</p>	

	<p>available.</p> <p>It was noted that the boiler is awaiting spare parts.</p> <p>FR mentioned the reserves account for the hall. NM advised that this is building up as a reserve for maintenance such as double glazing and it is important to have reserves in hand for a building.</p>	
<p>334. Neighbourhood Plan Committee</p>	<p>334.1 A meeting was held with The Chair, MB, FR and the Clerk at MSDC with Claire Tester and Mark Bristow (NP Officer). Following the appeal decisions a number of small changes had been suggested by MSDC and a Neighbourhood Plan Committee Meeting will be arranged to discuss these amendments. The issue of Affordable Housing and trying to ensure that we achieve the 50% in perpetuity was also discussed together with the allocation of 106 monies. Infill sites were also mentioned and CT advised that the Council needs to judge each application on its own merit and housing supply is still an issue.</p> <p>DS mentioned the possibility of the Council building their own affordable housing to rent to local people, ie, rural exception site and offered to research this in more detail.</p> <p>MSDC confirmed the Habitats Regulation Assessment issues have been dealt with and the necessary reports completed and they would be ready within a week to go out to consultation, so possibly on the 10th June 2014.</p> <p>334.2 The appeal decisions were announced on the 22 May and Butchers Field was dismissed and Standgrove was allowed and approval for 37 houses granted. It was noted that this was disappointing for the Parish Council as Standgrove had gone through outside the NP and the village will have 37 rather than 27 houses.</p> <p>The Clerk will arrange a meeting with Ardingly College to discuss moving forward with the allotment site that they have offered to the Parish Council and the area of land to the rear of the Standgrove site.</p> <p>334.3 WM attended a Locality Meeting in London and Ardingly was one of 6 councils to attend. Items that were discussed included putting together manuals for producing NP's and it appears that many Councils had experienced difficulties in moving forward with their plans and as a Council we were fortunate in having support from MSDC.</p>	<p>DS</p>
<p>335. Planning Committee</p>	<p>335.1 The minutes of the meeting held on the 15th May were circulated and noted.</p> <p>335.2 AR/14/01469/FUL, 13 College Road, Ardingly. This application had been resubmitted to include an amended block plan and tree survey report. The application was discussed and a vote was taken to object to the application, 7 for and 1 against. (WM/RC were not present at the meeting at this time) It was AGREED that the Council would object to the application on the grounds of being out of character and concerns that this would set a precedent for further development in back gardens.</p> <p>WM arrived and took the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.</p>	
<p>336. Recreation Ground and Open Spaces Committee</p>	<p>WM reported that parts costing £51 had been purchased for the roto-spinner unit and he had fixed the unit. This was a substantial saving on the price quoted by a contractor of £460 and thanks were given to WM for making the repairs.</p>	
<p>337. Emergency Planning Committee</p>	<p>Meeting due to be held next week, 10th June at 7.00 pm.</p>	

<p>338. Youth Management Committee</p>	<p>Sussex Clubs for Young People were now running the Youth Club sessions as from the 20th June for 10 weeks. They are working to attract more young people to attend and the club is now held on Tuesday nights and not Thursdays. It was noted that following the costings provided last month that SCYP had come back to us asking if we would agree to pay the costs for the mini-bus which worked out at another £150 for the 10 sessions. This was budgeted with the grant money we had available and approved.</p> <p>The Tennis Club had agreed to swap days to accommodate the Youth Club running on Thursdays but was unable to change the days again, due to coaching and matches that have already been booked. It is possible towards the end of the sessions that some Tuesdays might be available.</p> <p>The Council will need to look for funding for the project from the September term. FR thanked the Clerk for her work.</p>	
<p>339. Training and Events</p>	<p>339.1 South of England Show – Parish Fayre. FR/WM had designed and printed the posters ready for the event. Tickets were issued to FR/WM/DS/RC who would all be able to attend at sometime during the day to man the stand.</p>	
<p>340. Highways Cluster Group</p>	<p>The Clerk reported a meeting with Steve Trice, Lindfield and Lindfield Rural was trying to be arranged, but as yet nothing was confirmed. The Chair requested that we enquire as to if the van has been sign written.</p> <p>MB reported that the salt supplies were in poor condition and the Clerk advised this would be discussed at the meeting with Steve Trice.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
<p>341. Summer Fayre Arrangements</p>	<p>WM reported that he had got a small group together to run the Summer Fayre which will be held on Sunday, 20th July on the Recreation Ground. It was unanimously AGREED that the Parish Council would not charge a hire rate for the event.</p>	
<p>342. Flower Border Maintenance</p>	<p>It was AGREED that a budget of £250 could be spent on new planting. Trees were not recommended due to the soil. It was decided to purchase Choicier shrubs for the beds in Munnion Road. A list of perennials would be put together for the beds by The Close.</p> <p>It was noted that the borders had been planted up by Lodgelands and they were looking very nice.</p>	<p>KM</p>
<p>343. Notice Boards/Display Boards/Village Sign</p>	<p>343.1 Parish Council Notice Boards – The Clerk reported that they were in need of some maintenance. In particular the larger free standing board which leaks. It was suggested that we approach Ardingly College to see if this is a project they would be willing to assist us with.</p> <p>341.2 Display Boards – It was suggested that the Council consider purchasing a set of display boards for use at Planning Meetings to display plans and for other events. The Clerk was requested to do some research into prices for the next meeting.</p> <p>341.3 Village Sign – This is in need of some maintenance and it was again suggested we approach Ardingly College. If not the Clerk will obtain a price to get the necessary repairs carried out.</p> <p>KM will approach Ardingly College to see if they can assist the Council with the above projects.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>KM</p>

344.	<p>Supporting Local Businesses</p> <p>The Clerk reported that she has spoken to MSDC and is trying to arrange a site meeting with them and WSCC and the owners of the Gallery Café and Fellows Bakery to try and resolve the issue with the signage and is currently waiting to hear back from WSCC.</p>	Clerk
345.	<p>Cinema</p> <p>345.1 FR reported that Sarah Chapman is putting together the details of the cinema evening which will be held on the 23rd October 2014 at Hapstead Hall. The Chair requested that figures are put together for the next meeting. The long term idea is to invite groups in the village to provide refreshments ie, Youth Club, Brownies.</p> <p>It would also need to be decided who would run these events in the future, ie Film Club, Hapstead Hall or Parish Council.</p>	FR
346.	<p>Bus Services in the Village</p> <p>PD raised concerns about the lack of bus service within the village and it is important that we consider the elderly residents in the community. The Chair thanked PD for getting the information together and the Clerk will contact Metrobus and The Sussex Bus Company to see if there is anything further they can do. It was important to demonstrate the supply and demand required and the petition and information on timings provided by residents would be helpful when speaking to the bus companies.</p>	Clerk
347.	<p>Community Owned Power Companies</p> <p>This subject had been brought to the Council's attention by a resident as Balcombe residents have just set up a project. The use of solar panels on buildings to make own electricity was considered a good idea if viable. The Clerk was asked to speak to Wakehurst Place as they had solar panels installed and RC would speak to Oathall School.</p>	Clerk/RC
348.	<p>Community Assets</p> <p>Following recent correspondence, MSDC advised that Councils should submit Community Assets formally in addition to listing them in Neighbourhood Plans. It was unanimously AGREED to submit the list of Community Assets as listed in the Neighbourhood Plan: Hapstead Hall/British Legion, Church Centre, Pavilion, Fellow's Bakery, Post Office, Primary School, Ardingly Station, Village Car Park with the addition of the three pubs, The Gardeners Arms, The Ardingly Inn and The Oak. The Clerk will complete the necessary paperwork.</p>	Clerk
349.	<p>Consultations</p> <p>The Clerk advised the draft West Hoathly NP had been published for consultation and it had been circulated.</p> <p>Consultation would be starting in the near future on the Minerals Plan.</p>	
350.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>NM advised a letter had been received from the British Legion regarding the current lease. The Legion are suggesting they surrender their lease back to the Parish Council and a direct lease is entered into between the Club and the Council. A meeting will to be held on the 3rd July with representatives from the branch, club and Council. It was agreed that DS/GR/NM would attend. The Clerk was requested to check the legal position as to what was being proposed.</p> <p>WM advised that an email had been received from Mrs Meldrum, Editor of the Village Voice relating to £360 missing income from advertising, which did not appear to have been banked. The RFO was currently looking into the issue. The Chair noted that it seemed unclear who was responsible for invoicing and it was generally agreed this should sit with the RFO as it is finance related. A process needs to be put in place for invoicing and the Clerk will discuss this with the RFO.</p>	<p>NM/Clerk</p> <p>Clerk/RFO</p>

	Thanks were given to Mrs Meldrum for the work she does for the Village Voice.	
351.	Emergency Planning Committee Meeting – 10 June 2014 Recreation and Open Spaces Committee Meeting – 17 June 2014 Traffic Committee Meeting – 24 June 2014 Planning Meeting – 1 July 2014 Parish Council Meeting – 1 July 2014	

MEETING CLOSED AT 9.50 PM