

Bramber Parish Council

Meeting Minutes **Wednesday 2nd September 2015** at Bramber & Beeding Village Hall

PRESENT:

Councillors R. Potter (Chair), N. Mills, N. Stubbs, J. Goddard, M. Tilley, Mrs M. Goddard, Ms J. Howley, Mrs D. Goodall and the clerk.

IN ATTENDANCE:

County Councillor D. Barling, District Councillor D. Coldwell and one resident.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs S. Bignell and P. Conroy (Neighbourhood Warden).

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 29 July 2015 were agreed and signed.

Matters Arising:

4a. The kissing gate is in situ.

4b. The Chairman met with the new local Highway Steward in Maudlin Lane and he agreed that the site line at Maudlin Park and the hedge before Clays Hill were priorities. It is hoped, therefore, that work will be done soon. In addition greenery will be cleared from the 30mph limit sign on the bypass before the roundabout.

3. OPEN FORUM

The broken wooden posts along the new footpath, damaged during construction work, were reported by a resident. The Chairman said that Martin Leigh-Pollitt was contacting the Rangers to have them re-instated. Councillor Barling asked to be copied in to all correspondence.

4. REPORTS

County Council

Councillor Barling reported that WSCC had been heavily involved in the aftermath of the Shoreham Air Disaster. He praised the work of the emergency services which had responded extremely quickly and had had to deal with a dreadful scene. The police and council had put huge resources into investigation and getting the A27 functional again.

Councillor Barling told the council that there were no legal problems with moving the signs at the roundabout but that it was Bramber's decision and responsibility for funding. The Chairman also said that he was continuing discussion with neighbouring councils about the possibility of purchasing a speeding indicator device for Clays Hill.

Councillor Barling also said that he was looking into the possibility of the local councils sharing an External Works Officer using devolved money from County and topped up locally.

District Council

Councillor Coldwell gave the following report:

August had been a quiet month for the Council.

HDC is currently awaiting the HDPF Inspector's report which is expected imminently. Initial findings were that targets were too low and so he imposed a higher figure of 750 housing units per annum. On receipt of the revised plan the inspector requested a further 50 units per annum and this request has now been accommodated. It is expected that the plan will now be accepted and so will go to the October council meeting for adoption. CIL will be prepared and go to consultation next year. The plan includes a significant amount of affordable housing, the preferred figure being 40% on larger developments but is unclear at present due to Government changes and a court ruling that developers cannot be forced to build prescribed numbers.

The South Downs National Park will publish its draft local plan on 2nd September for consultation. It can be seen at the local libraries and can be viewed and commented upon online. Parish workshops are also being held.

Neighbourhood Wardens

Paul Conroy sent the following report:

Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime

We had cause to intervene with a group of youths from Lancing who were parked in the Bramber Castle car park and were playing music at an unacceptable level.

We had a report of a dog on the loose and were able to retrieve it and return it to its owner.

Whilst on several patrols on the river-path we had cause to ask 3 cyclists to dismount.

We will continue with random controls of the area.

Community

We assisted with a youth event in Upper Beeding Recreation Ground involving the mobile skate park.

5. FINANCE

The financial statement was presented, proposed for adoption by Councillor Mills and seconded by Councillor J Goddard and approved. Cheques were presented for signatures.

6. PLANNING

a) Update

New Applications

DC/15/1569 Lime Trees, The Street

Porch extension to dwelling

DC/15/1605 1, Millfield, The Street

Demolition of existing rear conservatory and erection of new rear conservatory

DC/15/1771 Whyte Croft, The Street

Single storey side extension, removal of front hedge and boundary wall and erection of a new wall

DC/15/1757 43, Coombe Drove

Erection of a detached garage

DC/15/1734 Castle View, The Street

Variation of condition A of approved application DC/11/2028 (Proposed erection of 4 houses pursuant to extant permission DC/10/0441 for demolition of the existing building and construction of 8 x2 bedroom apartments) relating to plans

Decisions

SDNP/15/01917/FUL **Annington House** 5 additional windows
Permitted

SDNP/15/03525/TEL **Substation in Sopers Lane** **No**
objections

DC/15/1392 **19, The Ridings** Fell 1 x Cedrus Deodora
Permitted

DC/15/1475 **The Old Stable, Little Drove** Surgery to 1 Maple
Permitted

b) The Council then considered the following three planning applications:

DC/15/1757 43, Coombe Drove.

Councillors J and M Goddard and D Goodall declared personal interests in this application.

The council had no objections to these plans for a single detached garage.

DC/15/1771 Whyte Croft, The Street

Councillor Tilley declared a personal interest in this application.

The council had no objections to the plans for the side extension. However, some concern was raised about the height of and materials to be used for the garden wall which councillors felt would have an overbearing effect on the street scene. A matching wall to that of the neighbour would be preferred.

DC/15/1734 Castle View, The Street

The council objected to the proposals to change the conditions of the car parking arrangements on the following grounds:

1. Concerns re vehicle access on entering and leaving the premises due to lack of turning space and particularly because the road is very narrow at this point. Lack of view will be dangerous to pedestrians and other road users.
2. The width of the driveways is too narrow.
3. The council objects to the planting of Ash trees which goes against the previous advice given by HDC.
4. The reduction from 6 to 4 parking spaces will increase the use of the public car park.

Action:Clerk

c) Update of CIL projects

It was decided to add 2 projects to the list:

Investigation of the River Adur in regard to flooding issues arising from housing development.

Moving of the 30mph signs to Clays Hill side of the roundabout.

7. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Update

The process continues slowly and the draft selection criteria for selection of sites has been produced. The list of sites does include some in Bramber but will not be made public until further on in the process. This is to prevent developers from submitting plans prior to the plan's completion. Councillors were in agreement with this.

There has been an attempt to identify the number of houses which will be needed in the area in the coming years. The 2001 and 2011 census figures have been scrutinized and show minimal growth in Bramber and the Housing Needs surveys for all 4 areas

have also been taken into account. The final figure is not yet decided as other factors including the national picture need to be factored in.

The environment group has identified the green spaces in the area.

The Stage 1 report is almost complete and it is hoped the pre- submission will be ready in early November.

There has been consultation with Upper Beeding regarding any overlapping issues.

Criterion No 4

The Council was asked to consider if Bramber has a relevant centre within the parish which is relevant to new homes. Following discussion there was a unanimous decision that this criterion is not relevant to Bramber.

Action:Clerk

8. PARISH PLAN UPDATE

The Chairman said that the footpath along the A283 would be cleared.

It was agreed that the Chairman and Councillor Goodall would continue to work towards the purchase of a Speed Indicator Device. **Action**

Flood Planning An update has been received from the Environment Agency saying a report has been submitted to Defra and a response expected next year. It emphasises that watercourses are responsibility of the landowners. The Chairman said that the watercourse along the A283 may become an issue for the council as there is uncertainty about ownership.

The Bramber flood group, now numbering 7 volunteers, met and checked the kit and found that a new more secure lock is needed. Councillor Howley proposed that this work be done and was seconded by Councillor Mills and agreed.

Action:Clerk

9. ENVIRONMENT

An e-mail had been received from Derek Deedman reporting that the footpath at the end of De Braose Way was completely overgrown. The clerk will contact the Rangers. **Action:Clerk**

The wording of the advertisement for a volunteer tree advisor was agreed and will be put on to the website. **Action:Clerk**

10. YOUTH PROVISION

The Chairman said that Horsham Matters costs will rise between 2 and 3% next year but the Bramber contribution will remain the same at £4000 as the amount to SAYS will reduce. The Council were asked if it wished to continue a further 3 year commitment with Horsham Matters from 2016. Councillor M Goddard proposed that the contract be continued, this was seconded by Councillor Goodall and agreed unanimously.

There is a need for a further Bramber person to join the management group and a notice will be put on to the website. **Action:Clerk**

11. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) The Council agreed to participate in the Steyning Showcase run by Steyning Parish Council in February next year. **Action:Clerk**
- b) A request had been received from a Charity organiser for a venue to host South Downs walkers during an August weekend next year. Councillor Howley offered to do this. **Action:JH**

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 14th October at 7 p.m.** in Beeding & Bramber Village Hall.