

## **BRAMBER PARISH COUNCIL**

Draft Minutes of the Council Meeting held on **26 July 2017**  
at Beeding & Bramber Village Hall at 7 p.m.

### **PRESENT:**

Councillors R.Potter (Chair), M.Tilley, M.Crocker, J.Goddard, T.Bignell, D.Goodall, D.Kitson and the clerk.

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

District Councillor D.Coldwell and 1 resident from 7.40 p.m.

### **1.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Apologies had been received from Councillors S.Green and N.Stubbs, County Councillor D.Barling, M.Pearce and P.Conroy (Neighbourhood Wardens) and District Councillor B.Staines.

### **2. MINUTES:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 June 2017 were read and proposed for signature by Councillor Goddard, seconded by Councillor Kitson and approved.

Actions: The typing error on page 3 was corrected.

### **3. OPEN FORUM**

There were no residents present.

### **4. REPORTS**

#### **County Council**

In the absence of the County Councillor the Chairman confirmed that work is starting on the repair to the footway on The Street next week and will last for 3 weeks. There will be traffic lights. The work is scheduled from The Old Tollgate to Bramber Bridge but discussions are still taking place to try to extend this as far as Beeding Bridge. Councillor Goddard said that work is still required on the footway in Maudlin Lane and Councillor Goodall said that the footway at the foot of Clays Hill is in poor repair.

#### **District Council**

Councillor Coldwell said that planning for the Horsham District Year of Culture 2019 is beginning and that ideas for projects should be submitted from 27 September.

Residents will be receiving letters in September about changes to the bin collection. From February 2018 the refuse will be collected on a fortnightly basis.

He also reported that HDC are now investing in property in order to build up a source of income to help make up the shortfall due to reduced government grant. A deal to purchase The Forum in Horsham is due to finalised soon.

### **Neighbourhood Wardens**

The following report had been received from Michael Pearce:

We have continued with patrols along the river footpath to educate and challenge the use of pedal cycles. We had cause to require the name and address of one cyclist who was acting in an Anti-social manner and did not welcome our presence or want to dismount when asked. The individual did eventually but reluctantly comply. We have not had any dealings with this person since.

We had cause to check the credentials and have strong words with a cold caller in Maudlyn Parkway who we believed to be the subject of an earlier call to us from a resident, stating they had been subject to intimidating and high pressure sales tactics.

A resident spoke to us in the street regarding a small group fishing the riverbank and leaving copious amounts of litter behind. We are yet to encounter the small group but are looking out for them whilst on patrol. We were alerted by a resident to a potential drug deal in Bramber Castle car park, we attended within 10 minutes but the cars had moved out of the area. We were given a good description of the cars and partial vehicle registration numbers. We continue to patrol and monitor the area and will feed any relevant information into the police.

### **Joint Parishes Cemetery Committee**

The Chairman reported that Phil Bowell (Steyning) will be the Chairman for this year. There was a good presence of Faith members attending the meeting and they expressed their disappointment at not having representation on the committee. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

There has been no further developments in the plans to purchase additional land. The Annual Remembrance Service will be held in September.

### **Joint Parishes Youth Committee**

The Chairman and clerk met with Horsham Matters and agreed that everything appeared to be working well.

The Chairman reported that the reports presented at the committee meeting were excellent and very detailed with information about both

activities and attendance. There was an urgent need for new volunteers particularly for The Hub groups. One member of the public attended the meeting.

### **Village Hall Committee**

Councillor Tilley said that there had been no recent meeting but that the new hall website was now live.

### **HALC**

Councillor Goddard reported on the meeting held on 12 July. The guest speaker was Mr Chris Stark , the Area Highways Manager at WSCC who gave an interesting talk on the current funding problems. These mean that only safety related works are being carried out at this time. The current highways budget is £15m but this will reduce to £7m by 2020.

Around 35,000 defects per annum are being dealt with by the contractor. Balfour Beatty's contract ends July 2018 and a new contract with a different organisation may last for up to 10 years. The section 106 funds will now be used to supplement the highways budget.

Surface dressing adds up to 10 years to road surfaces.

Action for pot holes in roads will now be:

Low Priority less than 40mm deep-take no action

Medium priority 40mm-99mm deep and 150mm wide in all directions- inspection within 30 days

High Priority 100mm or deeper-action ASAP.

For footway holes:

Medium priority 20mm-49m and High Priority 50mm or deeper.

There will be now 3 processes to apply for a Traffic Regulation Order.

Online for applications less than £3000, developer to pay the costs or the parish Council to pay the costs. Chanctonbury will only be allowed one TRO per year.

### **Heritage Workshop**

The Chairman had attended this workshop at HDC and found it useful particularly how heritage assets can be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Plan.

## **5.FINANCE**

a) Payments to a value of £6840.44 were proposed for approval by Councillor Croker, seconded by Councillor Goodall and agreed (list of cheques for payment attached as an appendix to the minutes). Receipts had totalled £816.28. The bank reconciliation showed a balance of £16715.62 and was signed by the Chairman. The clerk pointed out that an invoice had been sent to Upper Beeding for their share of the speed device and that she was about make a reclaim for VAT.

b) The clerk left the room whilst a review of the salary was conducted and a rise to L.C.P.21 was agreed.

## **6. PLANNING**

### a) Update

The following applications were considered at the planning meeting on 26 June 2017:

DC/17/1245 Hill View, Clays Hill – objections letter sent to HDC

DC/17/1328 Pantiles, Maudlin Park – no objections

SDNP/17/0797 Annington Mere Cottages site – no objections in principle but comments sent to SDNP

### **New Applications**

**DC/17/1598 6, Coombe Drove**

Proposed erection of two storey rear extension and removal of existing ground floor front bay window

**DC/17/1572 Greylands, 5, The Ridings**

Fell 3 x trees and surgery to 3 x trees

### **Decisions**

**DC/17/0797 The Elms, Castle Lane**

Amended application

### **Permitted**

**DC/17/0919 The Old Stable, Little Drove**

Single storey side/rear extension

### **Permitted**

### b) The council considered application:

**DC/17/1402 Lavender Cottage, The Street**

The plans were looked at in detail and then it was proposed that the council has no objections and this was agreed with one objection.

c) The paper from SDNP regarding CIL was discussed and Councillor Goddard suggested that Bramber PC may wish to put forward a project to provide a footway for the homes in Annington. This will be confirmed at the next meeting prior to completion of the form.

## **7. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

An update will be given at the planning meeting.

## **8. HIGHWAYS**

### a) Car Park Charges

Councillor Goodall said that she felt that the footfall in the Steyning shops had fallen since the parking charges had been introduced.

However, Councillor Goddard said that parking was now much easier as the car parks were now less full. Some roads in Steyning did have more parking. The clerk will write to HALC saying that there are mixed views

about the parking in Steyning and that the parking in Bramber has not been affected as no charge has been made here.

b) A27 Consultation

Councillor Croker had attended the exhibition and sent his report to councillors. It was felt that any proposal to use the A283 route as a by-pass should be watched carefully and the Chairman will contact both Steyning and Upper Beeding to see if a joint response can be made.

c) Update on Speed Signs

Councillor Croker reported that there had been problems with the Clays Hill sign and that the manufacturer has agreed to take the sign back to investigate both the erratic performance and the lack of sensible logging data. The sign in The Street has worked well and has faced eastwards since its installation at the end of June. It will soon be moved to a lighting column at the west end of The Street to face westwards.

There has been useful traffic data. Roughly 12300 vehicles per week pass westbound. The bypass closure resulted in an additional 2500 vehicles passing through. 15% of vehicles exceed 25mph, 24 vehicles exceeded 43mph and 84 vehicles were between 38 and 42mph.

## **9. PARISH PLAN**

Update:

The footway along The Street will be repaired shortly.

The machinery to be used for ditch clearance etc for which the council received a grant is in the process of being ordered. Once received it will be added to the asset register and insurance issues checked. There will be further training in September for the Emergency Plan.

The Chairman has been in discussions with the Steyning Partnership about the vandalised cycling signs on the Walks for All route. Quotes are being sought for stronger replacements. Councillor Kitson suggested metal poles may be stronger than wood. Quotes are also being obtained for a bench and Councillor Kitson said recycled ones should be considered. There was also discussion about the siting of a bench.

## **10. ENVIRONMENT**

The Public Rights of Way report prepared and submitted by Christine Supiot was considered by the council. It was agreed that it was a comprehensive report and most helpful. Councillor Goddard suggested that in the future perhaps issues could be prioritised.

The ongoing issue with the BW 3183/SDW's definitive line was discussed and the council agreed that it would support the landowner in retaining the used line.

The application to have a new BW from the existing gates on The Bostal inside the fence to BW 2059 (going S to Sompting) was also discussed

and council agreed to support the owner in his attempt to have the fence moved to increase the width of verge from the car park to avoid having a path inside the fence. It also agreed in principle to make a small contribution to the cost of the fence once details are known about costs.

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) Notification had been received about HDC's Year of Culture 2019 and specific projects will be decided at the next meeting.
- b) Health and Wellbeing leaflets had been received.
- c) A letter from HDC asking for information from older residents about recent hospital experiences was also discussed.

## **12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is **Wednesday, 06 September 2017 at 7 p.m.**

Councillor requested that council meetings were not held on the last Wednesdays in the month if possible. The clerk will look at the new list and see if alterations need to be made. **Action: Clerk**