

Bramber Parish Council

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 13th May 2014
at Bramber & Beeding Village Hall

PRESENT:

Messrs R.Potter (Chair), N.Mills, J.Goddard, D. Moore, Mrs M.Goddard and the clerk.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor David Barling, Mr Mick Tilley(website) and 2 residents.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor D Coldwell, N Stubbs , Mrs S Bignell and M.Pearce.

2. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17 April 2014 were read and signed.

Update on Action points:

7. The clerk had informed Martin Leigh-Pollitt of the Council's decision to apply for £7,500 towards the Walks for All project. Arrangements will be made to complete the application form.

9 b) Following discussion with Steyning clerk it has been decided to keep the existing Standing Order concerning recording and filming of meetings until the law has been changed.

3. REPORTS

District Council

Councillor Goddard gave the following report from both HDC councillors:

Horsham District Planning Framework

The Council meeting on 30th April was always expected to be a long meeting; the biggest item on the agenda was to examine and approve the District Planning Framework for public consultation. After considerable debate the document was approved by a majority of about 2 to 1 by which time over 6 hours had elapsed. The document will now be published for a 6 week period of representation from 16th May to 27th June. Once the representation period has been completed the document will be submitted, along with representations made, to the Inspectorate for approval.

It might be expected that the inspectorate, and the public examination, will require changes to be made to the document; interestingly, none of the plans (about 200 so far) have gone through the examination process without, at some stage, being returned to the Council submitting, for adjustment. Final approval may be expected in the spring of 2015.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Should have come to council for approval of the charging scheme but because of the time required for the HDPF will now come to Council at an extra meeting 14th May.

Standards Committee

Adjustments to the scheme used to deal with complaints to the Standards Committee have also been deferred to next week; members will recall that the big change here is

to remove the ability to request a review of a previous decision by an assessment committee; there is still, as there always has been, the right to appeal to the Local Government Ombudsman.

Planning

Steyning Skate park applications are likely to be heard next week following withdrawal last month for amendments; mentioned because these applications have some import for local youth in Bamber and Upper Beeding.

P.C.S.O.

The following report was sent by P.C.S.O. Tom Slaughter:

Burglaries.

We have had a spate of shed and outbuilding burglaries in south Horsham areas during the last two months.

Expensive items like lawnmowers and gardening equipment have been taken during the break ins and I have linked in with the victims to gather further information and provide crime prevention advice to help protect valuables.

I am currently arranging a property marking session for people who wish to have their valuables security marked, this will be held at a designated spot in Steyning and I will be linking in with colleagues from the neighbourhood policing team as well as the Wardens to help promote this day.

Local priorities.

I now have a new Facebook page under Steyning Neighbourhood Policing Team. I intend to use this site to link in with residents regarding local concerns. Every month I will select three priorities from the website and work towards improving the situation. Please add me and spread the news.

Street Surgery:

PCSO Tom Slaughter will be holding a PCSO surgery on Monday 19/05/14 between 10:30-11:00 at the outside the Co-operative on the Steyning High Street. Local residents are welcome to go along and speak with Tom about any policing matters they wish to discuss.

Contact details.

101 - Police non emergency contact number.

999 - Police emergency response number.

For all other slow time enquiries please contact me on 101 584219 or on 07917073587.

Neighbourhood Wardens

The following report had been received:

Over the past few months there has been a spike in Anti Social Behaviour in Steyning & Upper Beeding. We have been dealing with a group of roughly 15-20 youths on a consistent basis in the area.

We believe the main protagonists, (the older ones) are encouraging younger members of the group to become involved in anti social behaviour. We are seeking to target these individuals in partnership with the Anti-Social Behaviour and the Neighbourhood Policing Team.

Although there haven't been many incidents in Bramber relating to this group directly, we've had Intel regarding potential drink driving, related to a few of the "older ones" whom have cars. We have increased our patrols at Bramber car park and Maudlin Lane, as we often see them parked in these areas. We have gathered vehicle registration numbers and identified who these individuals are, and relayed information back to the police.

We are also patrolling in the area in a bid to deter Fly Tipping. There have been a few incidents which have been reported to Horsham District Council.

Community

We continue to work with and support Emma Edwards (community Youth Worker) We are in the process of putting together a music event that will be taking place this summer at the Flint Barn in Steyning. There has been so much interest from young people of Steyning Grammar School that we've had to hold auditions!

We also continue to support and assist with the Vintage years club, which is held in Steyning with a good mixture of residents from the three parishes.

Village Hall

Fyfe Gillett had attended the AGM and reported that the floor in the Main Hall needs to be replaced. It had been recommended that wooden floor be provided rather than polyvinyl this will cost in the region of £22,000. The village hall committee is keen for this to be paid by the PCs so that VAT can be reclaimed. The Chairman will meet with the Chairman of Upper Beeding PC to discuss.

Action: Chair

4. FINANCE

The cheques were presented for payment and proposed by R Potter and seconded by N Mills and agreed unanimously.

The account showed a healthy balance with the VAT refund, the half year precept and half year environmental grant having been received. It was noted that a payment of £3,000+ will be required shortly once the drainage work at Maudlyn Close had been completed.

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5. PLANNING

a)

At the planning meeting on 06 May Council had decided to recommend refusal of application DC/14/0612 (land South of Stortford, Coombe Drove) on the ground of lack of parking space.

Update

New

DC/14/0709

Proposed single storey side extension

Sopers, Sopers Lane

Granted**DC/14/0576****Street**

Remove 1 x Magnolia tree (Works to Trees in a Conservation Area)

SDNP/14/01527/TCA**Street**

Fell 3 x Sycamores and Surgery to 2 x Sycamores (Works to Trees in a Conservation Area)

DC/14/0472

Fell 1 x Sycamore Tree

Yew Tree Cottage, The**The West House, The****5, The Ridings****b) Neighbourhood Planning**

Nick Mills reported that Steyning PC had also decided to work with AiRs consultants and that both councils would be looking for savings. He said that the Neighbourhood Plan would provide a 20 year plan for development in Steyning and Bramber and could be quite contentious as it will put the area under a microscope. Nick Mills proposed that the plan should follow the parish boundaries and this was seconded by Roger Potter and carried unanimously. 2 councillors from each council plus 8 other people will form the steering group.

Of 32 parishes in the HDC area 13 are well on with plans and 2 are in the process of registering. HDC want 1500 new houses to be built among the parishes so it will be important for the plan to demonstrate where local people want these houses.

6. S106 (CIL)

The Chairman had written to Cali Sparks at W.S.C.C. to say that the council wished to use S106 Highways funds to replace the bollard missing from The Street. She is researching this.

7. PARISH PLAN

See Chairman's report attached to the Annual Parish Meeting minutes.

8. ENVIRONMENT

The Chairman said that the landfill site at Small Dole has an Escarpment of Clay which Viridor is saving as it is of historical value. This will entail the filling of an enormous hole which is eroding the ground under the road.

The effect of this will be more traffic coming into the area. It is expected that between 30 and 40 lorries per day will be coming to the site.

Nick Stubbs and David Bowskill will attend a meeting about Flood Planning.

9. YOUTH PROVISION

No further information.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

a) A request had been received from Sevenoaks Town Council to support its proposal 'that the Government take the necessary action to allow a percentage of Business Rates to be paid direct to parish and Town Councils for the benefit of local economic growth'. The Council agreed not to support this as it felt that doing so would affect grants presently received.

b) A letter had been received from Ross Shepherd, the new Community Officer supporting Cali Sparks at W.S.C.C. He gave information about The Members' Big Society Fund 2014-15.

c) Information had been received from the Leader of W.S.C.C. about management changes at the Council.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, 26 June 2014** at 7.00 p.m. in the Beeding&Bramber Village Hall.

There will be a planning meeting on **Thursday, 05 June 2014**