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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 26th November 2019 at 7.30 pm

Present: G. Hussey (Chairman), G. Sallows (Vice Chair), R. Allen, M. Fillmore, G. Fleming, M. Cooke, R. Gatt, N. Vance-Webb and C. Forrest
L. Bannister (Clerk)
HDC Cllr. Hogben
WSCC & HDC Cllr. Kitchen

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Sheridan and Saunders.

2 Declaration of Interests

Cllr. Allen declared an interest in the invoice to pay regarding the website expenses as he was the supplier.

3 Approval of Minutes of the previous Meeting

These were agreed by Council and duly signed by Cllr. Hussey.

4 Open Forum

The meeting was adjourned to allow members of the public to speak.

No members of the public were present.

The meeting was resumed.

Cllr. Forrest arrived

5 Planning

DC/19/2203 Land south of East Street

It was RESOLVED to comment on this application as follows:-

Rusper Parish Council objects to this planning application for the following reasons:

- Development on greenfield sites is not supported by the Parish Council.
- Our recent Housing Needs Assessment provides evidence that our housing needs have been met.
- This site is outside of the built up area boundary of the village.
- The location is not sustainable due to its distance from the nearest bus stop.
- This site was rejected for inclusion in the emerging Rusper Neighbourhood Plan.

DC/19/2289 Carylls, Faygate Lane

It was RESOLVED to comment on this application as follows:-

Rusper Parish Council does not object to this application, but would ask that the following conditions are added:

- That 35% affordable housing is allocated as per the HDPF.
- That some housing is allocated for key workers.

DC/19/2312 Fairway, Rusper Road

It was RESOLVED to comment on this application as follows:-

Rusper Parish Council does not object to this application but would ask that the following conditions are added:

- That this building cannot be severed from the main house.
- That the building cannot be inhabited.

DC/19/2310 Land at The Mount

It was RESOLVED to comment on this application as follows:-

Rusper Parish Council would like it noted that the loss of hedgerow is a concern in this rural environment and would ask that a condition is added that the land must remain as agricultural.

Land West of Ifield

Cllr. Hogben reported that he has spoken to HDC officer Jason Hawkes about this proposal. It is currently meeting more of the sustainability requirements than the other proposals. However, Crawley Borough Council will not consider this site unless the bypass is built. There are issues with the bypass as there is no defined point that it joins the A264. Some other issues with the site are the noise contours from Gatwick, and that there is no set housing figure.

Cllr. Fillmore reported that Gatwick Airport Ltd has confirmed that they continue to safeguard the land for their own purposes.

Cllr. Sallows asked what HDC are doing to challenge the housing figures. Cllr. Hogben confirmed that they have done this.

It was RESOLVED to respond to the Homes England consultation as follows:

Rusper Parish Council does not support this proposal as it currently is for the following reasons:

- It was found to be unsustainable on Horsham District Council's most recent Strategic Housing and Land Availability Assessment and the emerging Rusper Neighbourhood Plan evidence supports this.
- The land is on a flood plain.
- There is an inadequate transport system.
- Many of our residents are concerned about their loss of access to countryside and division of their rural parish.

Applications received since publication of the Agenda

DC/19/1690 12 East Street

Amendments have been made to this application, and so **it was RESOLVED** to add the following to the previous objection:

Rusper Parish Council would like HDC to note that there is no regular bus service near this site; the bus only stops in Rusper twice a week. The nearest regular bus service is 2.6 miles away. Also, Rusper PC does not believe that permitted development rights would apply to this site as it is within a conservation area.

6 Planning updates

The following planning decisions have been made:

DC/19/0860 The Royal Oak - permitted

DC/19/2044 Swaminarayan Manor - permitted

DC/19/2046 Land at junction of Lambs Green Road – withdrawn

The lighting at the Waterhall Hotel is still there after being refused planning permission. The Clerk will check on the status of this enforcement.

7 Reports from other authorities

Cllr. Hogben reported that he was surprised that there were no objections to the Royal Oak planning application.

Cllr. Hussey reported that the application for the sand school at The Mount was found to be not in keeping with the local area.

8 Recycling

This was adjourned until the next meeting.

9 Communication strategy

Cllrs. Allen and Cooke have put together a policy and some recommendations. The recommendations are to:

- Make more use of the notice boards
- Take more space out in Rusper Parish News to include an abridged version of the Minutes
- Briefings at Age UK
- Try to improve communication with under-represented areas of the Parish
- Improve website and social media use
- Make it easier for people to contact Rusper PC

Cllr. Hussey wanted it to be made clearer that all communication should go through the Clerk.

This will be added to the next Agenda for further discussion.

Cllr. Kitchen arrived

10 Report from other Authorities (cont.)

Cllr. Kitchen reported that the Age UK coffee mornings are a huge success.

Cllr. Kitchen attended a meeting with Gatwick Airport Ltd regarding illegal airport parking. Cllr. Kitchen thinks they are doing a good job reducing this. They have their website up and running on where they recommend parking. There are still a lot of illegal parking sites, but these are more in Charlwood and Horley. Trading Standards are also working to reduce these sites.

Cllr. Kitchen left the meeting

11 Community Infrastructure Levy/S106

Cllr. Gatt has put some plans together to make applications for the S106 money. These were all accepted by Council as generally good ideas, so Cllr. Gatt will work with the Clerk to develop a plan.

12 Planning compliance meeting

Cllr. Sallows will attend a meeting at HDC to discuss this. Members would like Cllr. Sallows to request that more stop notices are served as building is allowed to continue which leads to retrospective applications which are nearly always approved.

12 Approval of Winter Management Plan

It was RESOLVED to approve this subject to some minor amendments.

Cllr. Cooke will bring this up at the next Age UK meeting to find out if there are any vulnerable people that need to be added to the list.

Members are aware that the gritting schedule has changed. The Clerk will find out what roads in Rusper are affected and let Members know.

13 Approval of Footpath Charter

It was RESOLVED to approve this.

14 Recreation Ground

No notices or objections were received to the S26 notice that was served to the landowner. The landowner's solicitor now needs to submit a new lease on the terms set out in the S26 notice. However, this may be for a term of 15 years and at a different rent. If a new lease is not received then Council can make an application to the court, and must do this by 31st March.

The landowner's solicitor is appointing a surveyor to assess the rent.

The Clerk will update the Sports Club.

15 Neighbourhood Plan update

The Plan needs to be submitted to HDC by the end of November. Cllr. Sallows and the Clerk still need to finish some documents.

The Clerk advised that the final invoice has been received from the consultant and this comes in just under budget. The Clerk will thank the consultants on behalf of Rusper PC.

16 Report from Representatives

Cllr. Fleming attended the most recent HALC meeting and advised that there is an additional meeting on Wednesday 4th December.

Cllr. Vance-Webb will update when the public exhibitions are re-arranged for Homes England.

Cllr. Fillmore is aware of a consultation for Transport for the South East. He does not think this directly impacts Rusper PC.

Cllr. Sallows attended the Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign (GACC) AGM. There was a good presentation from the Government noise agency. GACC were supposed to elect members for their committee but some members did not want to accept Rusper PC's nomination of Sally Pavey. It seemed that members did not adhere to their constitution. The AGM has been re-scheduled for February. **It was RESOLVED** to send a letter of complaint to GACC.

Cllr. Cooke asked if there was any right to appeal the Asset of Community Value refusal for Ifield Golf Club. The Clerk advised that there is no right to appeal.

Cllr. Allen reported that the Village Hall Committee considered the suggestion of transferring the Car Park to the Committee. This was rejected as being seen as underhand and of no benefit to the Village Hall, and that this could be seen as a dubious activity for a charity.

The Village Hall Committee has suggested a joint fundraising meeting between them, the Parochial Church Council, Rusper PC and possibly Rusper Primary School too.

Three quotes have been received for the Village Hall roof. Cllr. Allen has attended a conference, where it was suggested that they apply to HDC's CIL fund.

Cllr. Gatt reported that at the last HALC meeting HDC made everyone aware that they are looking for response to their Corporate Plan. Also, Warnham Parish Council spoke about their re-wilding program. The Clerk will look into this.

Cllr. Forrest noted the difference in roads between Surrey and Sussex, from the quality of the road surface to the road sign repeaters. The Clerk will find out what happened about the lack of repeaters in Rusper.

17 Holiday pay for litter warden

Cllr. Sheridan will advise on this soon.

18 Clerk's report

The Clerk reported as follows:

The Asset of Community Value application was refused on the basis of evidence supplied by the landowner and related to the length of the lease. This information is only available by making a Freedom of Information request. Members would like the Clerk to request this.

The HALC meeting on Wednesday 4th December is at 7.30 pm at Roffey Millennium Hall. The Clerk advised as many Members as possible to attend to hear an update on HDC's Local Plan Review.

Warnham PC won a South East Excellence in Plan Making Practise award for their Neighbourhood Plan.

There will be a Community Speedwatch conference held soon. No Members wanted to attend.

CAGNE has requested funding. They have also circulated a survey for members of the public to complete.

The next meeting will be held on 17th December for planning, finances and anything urgent.

19 Parish News

It was agreed to include the following items for the February issue:

- Footpath charter
- Locations of footpaths

20 Finances

Reconciled accounts & bank statements

It was RESOLVED to agree these and they were duly signed by Cllr. Sallows.

Debit card

The Clerk advised that Rusper PC's Standing Orders say that both credit and debit cards are allowed for use by the Clerk. Debit cards must be restricted to a single transaction of £500, and credit cards must be re-paid each month in full.

It was RESOLVED to apply for a credit card, which will be capped at £500.

Budget for 2020-21

The Clerk had made some minor amendments following the previous meeting. Some further amendments were suggested to take into account work needed to the playground, plans for new notice boards and other minor increases. The Clerk will present an updated budget proposal at the next meeting.

Invoices to pay

It was RESOLVED to pay the following:

Salary for Clerk (November) – £572.48

Litter warden salary and expenses – £85.05 + £23.48 travel expenses = £108.53 total

PAYE - £21.20

Clerk's expenses for Adobe software - £181.10

Sussex Land Services - £448.57

Website expenses payable to Cllr. Allen - £40.27

Surrey Hills Solicitors - £120

Community Speedwatch equipment - £496.92

O'Neill Home for NP consultancy - £3049.80

Landbuild for Operation Watershed works - £8335.20

All of these payments will be sent via bank transfer.

23 Other business

None.

24 Date of Next Meeting

The next Council meeting will be held on 17th December 2019 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 10.25 pm

LEANNE BANNISTER
CLERK