

RUSPER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 27th July 2016 at 8.00pm

Present: Cllrs. G. Hill (Chairman), G. Sallows (vice Chair), R. Allen, G. Hussey, V. Saunders, R. Gatt and D. Lawton

L. Bannister (Clerk)

2 members of the public

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Sole, Sheridan, Forrest, Bender and Kitchen.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

These were agreed and duly signed by Cllr. Hill.

4 OPEN FORUM

There was one member of the public present, and he had nothing to say, he just came along to watch the meeting.

5 REPORTS FROM OTHER AUTHORITIES

Cllr. Kitchen was not present at the meeting. Cllr. Hill will speak to her and find out if she has anything to report. If she has, Cllr. Hill will let Members know by email.

6 PLANNING

There was no Planning Committee held in July.

DC/16/1325 Nunnery North Lodge, Capel Road

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:

‘Rusper Parish Council does not have any objections to this application’.

DC/16/1587 Stud Farm New Barn Farmhouse, Capel Road

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:

‘Rusper Parish Council cannot comment on this application as lack of information on the environmental impact of this work means that a view cannot be formed. Please respond to this before a decision is made.

This comment will also be sent direct to the case officer and a response will be asked for. This will be copied to the Environment Agency.

DC/16/1614 Bonwycks Place, Ifield Wood

This application could not be considered as no information had been sent, and it could not be found on the website. The Clerk will contact HDC and find out if this application has been withdrawn.

DC/16/1623 Bonwycks Lodge Farm, Ifield Wood

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:

‘Rusper Parish Council does not have any objections to this application’.

DC/16/1567 Westacre, Rusper Road

It was agreed to comment on this application as follows:

‘Rusper Parish Council does not have any objections to this application’.

However, before this comment is sent, the Clerk will find out if Cllr. Bender has a view on this application as the property is in her location.

Millfields

This was recently refused at committee. Cllr. Kitchen appeared to be in favour of the road between Millfields and East Street being used for access, despite Rusper PC noting issues with this.

Cllr. Sallows found the original application for this which was for 12 houses using the existing driveway as access. This was almost acceptable to the PC at the time.

7 PLANNING UPDATES

Two enforcement notices were served at Ifield Court Hotel on 25th July in relation to airport car parking. These notices cover both the parking compound and the area around Ifield Court Hotel. One notice relates to ceasing the use of the land for off airport car parking for anything over 130 vehicles and the other notice relates to the removal of the tarmac, security fencing, office, floodlights, CCTV and new access. The owner of the site has until the 25th August to appeal this notice. If no appeal is lodged then the use on the site for vehicles over 130 is required to cease within two calendar months from the 25th August, and the development on the site (tarmac, fencing, access, office, floodlighting and CCTV) is required to be removed within four calendar months from 25th August.

The application for Mid Winter Farm was approved, despite inadequate plans being supplied, and Rusper PC pointing this out. The Clerk will ask the case officer why this was passed based on the inadequate information supplied.

8 WEBSITE

There was a query on this from someone saying he had set up a village website. He felt there was an overlap with ours and is asking if we could incorporate the church events and playgroup.

It was felt that the PC website should remain a dedicated website for the PC. However, links could be added to the village website and playgroup/church.

9 SUPERFAST BROADBAND

Cllr. Allen has put a plea on the website, Facebook page, and in the Parish News saying that in absence of a projected rollout for broadband for the whole of the Parish, another option is a Community Fibre Partnership where various parties would fund the provision of broadband. He’s asked people if they’d be interested in this, and for various information, including what download speed they currently get. Cllr. Lawton and a member of public have suggested sending around a flyer to raise awareness. Cllr. Allen wanted to know if this is acceptable to Council. The flyer would be delivered by hand.

It was agreed that Rusper PC is happy for this flyer to be sent, and will cover the costs of printing this.

The Better Connected team at WSCC have said that they may have some money available to fund other schemes once the rollout has finished. However, this may be some time away.

10 OPEN FORUM

The meeting was adjourned again as another member of the public arrived and wanted to talk to Council.

Mr Marsh, owner of Waterhall Hotel at the bottom of Ifield Wood, is affected by flooding outside his home and hotel. Every time it rains, the flood water comes up to his front door. This also affects his business as guests have to wade through the water when they come to the hotel. He believes the solution would be to dig a culvert 18 inches wide, along a 400m stretch, and dig out the ditch at his property.

Mr Marsh has already spoken to WSCC about this, and they have advised him to speak to the PC.

Rusper PC has already made an Operation Watershed application to deal with this area, but has not provided a scope for works. The Clerk will contact the team to find out how they want us to proceed, and Cllr. Hussey will work with Mr Marsh to put together plans for the application.

11 WINTER MANAGEMENT PLAN

This needs to be updated and we need to report to WSCC the state of the salt bins.

Cllr. Allen will work with the Clerk to update this plan.

Cllr. Sallows believed that another three bins were agreed to be ordered. If he finds details of these he will circulate them.

12 COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN

This will be updated once the winter management plan is in place. The two documents will refer to each other. Once done they will then go on the website.

The PC is supposed to maintain a list of people who are at risk in the Parish. This is difficult to do as there are people that the PC never finds out about, and people that won't admit that they are at risk. Cllr. Allen suggested asking for people to identify themselves or their neighbours.

13 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

There was a meeting held last week. This was attended by 26 members of the public who are interested in being involved in the planning process. Cllr. Sallows felt this was a useful first meeting and people with different expertise attended. Another meeting will be held next month. An information pack will be sent out before then to everyone who attended the meeting.

Cllr. Sallows has committed to sending out information about where Rusper PC is at the moment in the process, and details of what is needed. He will also include links to Neighbourhood Plans that are already completed or in progress.

The next stage is to break the committee into small focus groups.

Cllr. Allen said that all information needs to go on the website.

Cllr. Allen has Capel's consultation draft NP, and some other flyers and information that had been sent out by Capel Parish Council.

14 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

Cllr. Lawton reported that he attended a GATCOM meeting this month. They meet three times a year. They had comments about aircraft not flying within noise preference routes. Gatwick Airport's representative was adamant that nothing had changed, but there had been a lot of adverse weather, even though this can't always be seen. Route 4 has changed – this is aircraft taking off to the West. This is now a much tighter turn. Based on previous meetings, a Thameslink Services representative was there defending their position. He confirmed that industrial action is ongoing, but said that there will be additional platforms and another line into London Bridge, and they have new trains coming into the system. There was someone at the

meeting from the Department for Transport, but he did not know what the decision on the second runway would be. A decision is expected to be made in autumn.

Cllr. Sallows mentioned that he has been woken by flights which have taken off before 6am, which he didn't think was allowed. Cllr. Lawton said that Gatwick Airport do have a quota of flights that are allowed to fly outside of the usual operating hours, but encouraged people to register complaints for things like this.

It was suggested and agreed that Rusper PC publishes information about Gatwick on the PC website, and also contact details for Gatwick Airport. Cllr. Lawton will prepare something to put on the website.

Cllr. Lawton presented the plans that CAGNE has for a Parish Council Forum. Details of this presentation are attached.

Rusper PC is supportive of this proposal. Cllr. Lawton will attend these meetings as a committee member. He will also approach residents to see if they want to be co opted onto this committee. Rusper PC is prepared to host a forum meeting, and will provide refreshments.

Cllr. Sallows reported that the tree work has been completed. No invoice has been received yet.

Cllr. Allen didn't go to the last HALC meeting, but will go to the next one.

Cllr. Sole wasn't present at the meeting, but sent a report by email as follows:

Report from Village Hall - the Committee are looking to add a disabled toilet facility to the hall to be located at the rear of the building. They have an estimate for the works and expect it to cost approx £25k once redecoration etc has been added. They are seeking grants from various bodies and it was pointed out that any grant from the Parish Council would be a cost to the Parish. If anyone has any suggestions where to seek grants please let me know and I'll pass info on.

Bridleways - It would appear that the Equestrian Crossing at Kilnwood across A264 would not leave horses in the middle with traffic passing on both sides. We have been advised that once the crossing button has been activated that traffic will not continue until the traffic flow on the second side has been stopped,. A compromise that will hopefully work!

15 PARISH MAGAZINE

This month's magazine has three articles from Rusper PC.

It was agreed this month to put something in about aviation, noise and complaints. Cllr. Lawton will prepare something.

Rusper PC will include dates of PC meetings, where Minutes and Agendas can be found, and the Clerk's details so that members of the public can request copies if they are unable to view these on the website.

It was also suggested that if there are lots of people who are unable to view the Minutes on the website, copies could be kept in the Village Store.

16 CLERK'S REPORT

The Litter Warden has reported that the path between Gardeners Green and the village is getting very overgrown by both privately owned hedges and council owned land. The Clerk will check with Sussex Land Services when they are going to do this. The Clerk will also let WSCC know about this, as some of this is their responsibility.

Simon Turner passes on thanks for the support of his planning application.

The Clerk requested five days annual leave in August from 22nd to 26th August.

17 CODE OF CONDUCT & PROCEDURES

Cllr. Sheridan has asked that these adopted Procedures are signed by Members. This will be left until the next meeting when Cllr. Sheridan can explain why he thinks this is necessary.

18 FINANCES

Reconciled accounts & bank statements

These were agreed and duly signed by Cllr. Gatt.

Budget comparison

On the whole this was agreed, there were questions about the amount budgeted for the Clerk's salary as this is different to Cllr. Sallows thought was budgeted. The amount showing as spent for Local Council Updates is in the wrong column.

Invoices to pay

There was a cheque (1590) for £10.60 written after the last meeting. This was for the Litter Warden's tax for the previous quarter. As agreed by email, this was signed by Cllrs. Hussey and Allen.

It was agreed to pay the following:

Salary for Clerk (April) – £469.30

Litter Warden salary & expenses – £74.40 & £11.74

BT Broadband for April to June - £56.12 – this has already been paid by the Clerk, who will claim this back as an expense

Foundry Press two invoices for NP printing - £86.40 & £180

HMRC – Litter warden's tax for the quarter is £8.40

Sussex Land Services for grass cutting May - £436.56

Cheques were written for all of these payments and duly signed.

The cheque written last month for Streetlights, number 1586, has been cancelled as this invoice was a duplicate.

It was agreed to set up a Direct Debit payment for the BT broadband. This form was signed.

19 OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Gatt asked for clarification about the SHELAA. Cllr. Hill explained that this is details about land that could be available for development.

Confirmation has been received from Liberty that the planning application for the North Horsham development has been made to HDC.

20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next Council meeting will be held on 30th August 2016. There will be a Neighbourhood Plan meeting on Tuesday 16th August 2016.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm

LEANNE BANNISTER
CLERK