

RUSPER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 25th July 2017 at 8.00pm

Present: Cllrs. G. Hill (Chairman), G. Sallows (Vice Chair) G. Hussey, R. Allen, C. Forrest, V. Saunders, D. Lawton and A. Sheridan
L. Bannister (Clerk)
1 member of the public

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Gatt, Bender and Kitchen. These were accepted.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

These were agreed and duly signed by Cllr. Hill.

4 OPEN FORUM

No comments were made.

5 PLANNING

DC/17/1427 Crooked Chimneys, Wimland Road

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

‘Rusper Parish Council does not object to this application provided that it is used for ancillary use only and not residential.’

Appeal against DC/16/2032 Stammerham Farm, Capel Road

It was agreed that a comment will not be made, as Rusper PC did not object to the original application.

DC/17/1449 Outaway, Bonnetts Lane

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

‘Rusper Parish Council strongly objects to this application as it changes the nature of the car park from overspill to long term. Also, the dimensions of the building would have a runoff impact, and there is not a justification for these buildings as there is a building on the main site.’

Applications received since publication of the Agenda

DC/17/1517 Greenfield Farm House, Charlwood Road

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

‘Rusper Parish Council objects to this application as the size of the property proposed is too large.’

DC/17/1579 The Royal Oak Pub, Friday Street

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

‘Rusper Parish Council objects to the change of use for this application as it is the heart of the hamlet and maintains the character of the rural area.’

Cllr. Saunders arrived

6 PLANNING UPDATES

The appeal for Millfields was dismissed.

The Britaniacrest application for an incinerator has been withdrawn, but this is expected to be resubmitted.

7 REPORTS FROM OTHER AUTHORITIES

Cllr. Kitchen was unable to attend.

8 GRASS CUTTING OF SPORTS FIELD & TENDERS

Sussex Land Services has quoted £140 plus VAT for each cut to collect the grass cutting on the sports field. They are contracted to cut this every fortnight. It was agreed that the Sports Club Committee would be asked to tell the Football Association that collecting the grass cutting contradicts the environmental beliefs of Rusper PC.

It was agreed that the grass cutting contract can now be put out to tender for 2018.

9 STREET LIGHTS

The current annual charge with Streetlights is £462. An alternative quote has been received from SSE for £250.72 per year, with an initial fee of £90.80 to test all of the lights.

Streetlights have quoted the cost of disconnection of £628 per column and £388 per pole bracket, but a quote is also required from UKPN.

The contract with Streetlights will run until the end of March 2018, and they require 6 months' notice.

It was agreed to give notice to Streetlights and to go ahead with SSE from April 2018.

10 GRIT BIN AT GARDENERS GREEN

It was agreed that a grit bin could be bought for Gardeners Green at a cost of £148, but Rusper PC needs to first find out the owner of the green.

11 BOLLARDS ON VERGE IN EAST STREET

It was agreed to put 10 bollards on East Street outside The Star to stop vehicles parking on the verge. Agreement to this is awaited from Highways.

A quote for this has been received from Sherlock & Neal for £3837. The bollards would be cast iron.

Another local contractor could not quote for this.

12 NOTICES FOR VERGES

Cllr. Sallows will bring details for this to the next meeting.

13 LOGO

A new logo has been agreed.

14 UPDATE TO POLICIES & PROCEDURES

New policies have been included for data protection, email & social media, grievance and disciplinary. This was agreed.

15 WINTER MANAGEMENT PLAN

This will stay the same as last year, no changes are recommended except the addition of the salt bin at Gardeners Green.

16 FOOTPATHS & CYCLE WAYS

There has been a complaint from a resident that public footpaths have been used by cyclists.

The footpath ranger has confirmed that cycling on footpaths (not pavements) is not permitted, unless someone has private access rights that include cycling. However, this is a civil matter of trespass. He has suggested raising awareness through the parish magazine and letting cyclists know that if there is an injury or damage to property, they may find themselves liable for damages.

It was agreed to put this in the parish magazine.

17 LEASE OF RECREATION GROUND

The Sports Club Committee has drafted a deed of variation to extend the lease for 25 years (to run from 2017). It was agreed that the landowner can be approached to request this.

The Clerk will send the lease around to all members, and the proposed deed of variation.

It was suggested that the old lease should be investigated by a lawyer to check the terms.

18 STREET NAMING OF WAYSIDE GARAGE SITE

The developers have suggested Wayside Mews.

It was agreed that Rusper PC would suggest Wheelwrights Mews/Way as this is its past use.

19 GYPSY & TRAVELLER COUNT

There are no known unauthorised gypsies or travellers in Rusper.

20 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr. Sallows reported that around 150 responses to the survey have been received so far. Cllr. Sallows now needs help inputting this data.

21 PARISH MAGAZINE

It was agreed to include information on:-

- Footpaths
- Operation Watershed

Cllr. Lawton left the meeting

22 CLERK'S REPORT

There will be a meeting with Liberty on 10th August at 2pm.

Operation Watershed will start to take place in August. The Clerk has requested that Members local to the works make neighbours aware of the works taking place. Cllr. Hussey will do this on Prestwood Lane and The Mount.

Cllr. Forrest reported that the road at the junction of Orltons Lane/Langhurst Lane/The Mount has been damaged. The Clerk will report this.

The Clerk will be on annual leave from 31/7/17 for one week.

There has been a complaint about a bridle way by Baldhorns.

23 PAY REVIEW FOR CLERK

The salary point that the Clerk is on has increased slightly. Following an appraisal of the Clerk in November, it was agreed to offer the Clerk a pay increase. Cllr. Hill will let Members know what the recommendation is.

24 FINANCES

Reconciled accounts, budget comparison & bank statements

These were agreed and duly signed by Cllr. Sheridan.

Planning seminar – charge to attendees

The cost of the seminar was £336.55 (including hall hire), and there were 20 attendees including 3 from Rusper PC. It was agreed to charge £20 per head.

Invoices to pay

It was agreed to pay the following:

Salary for Clerk (July) – £469.30

Litter Warden salary, expenses - £78.80 & £23.48 for expenses

PAYE - £5.20

Expenses for Cllr. Sheridan for Hi Vis jackets - £79.84

SALC for training for Clerk - £48

Sussex Land Services for grounds maintenance (May & June) - £448.57 & 448.57

Planning seminar – £326.55

All of these payments will be sent via bank transfer.

25 OTHER BUSINESS

Cllr. Sheridan asked what S106 could be used for. Could it be used to upgrade the telephone boxes? The Clerk will find out.

It was noted that the weeds on the pavements need spraying. It doesn't appear that WSCC have done this recently. The Clerk will find out when they are planning to do it.

Cllr. Allen reported that BT have made a mistake saying that the residents in the Green Lane/Friday Street area are in the superfast broadband rollout, and they are not. Cllr. Allen will have a meeting with the local BT planning manager about this, and it was suggested that the local MP is also invited.

26 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next Council meeting will be held on 29th August 2017 for planning and finance matters only. The next Neighbourhood Plan meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th September 2017.

The meeting closed at 9.55 pm

LEANNE BANNISTER
CLERK