



Clerk to Council: Mrs Leanne Bannister
c/o Rusper Village Stores
East street
Rusper
RH12 4PX

07921 822869
clerk@rusper-pc.org.uk
www.rusper-pc.org.uk

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 27th August 2019 at 7.30 pm

Present: G. Hussey (Chairman), G. Sallows (Vice Chair), R. Allen, C. Forrest, M. Fillmore, G. Fleming, M. Cooke, and A. Sheridan
L. Bannister (Clerk)
Mr R. Cowlard & Mr A. MacGaddie from Ifield Golf Club
1 member of the public
WSCC & HDC Cllr. Kitchen

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Gatt, Saunders and Vance-Webb.

Apologies were also received from HDC Cllr. Hogben.

Cllr. Fleming arrived

2 Declaration of Interests

None.

3 Approval of Minutes of the previous Meeting

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

4 Presentation from Ifield Golf Club

Richard Cowlard and Andy MacGaddie presented on Ifield Golf Club and the threat it faces with the Homes England proposal. The presentation is attached.

Cllr. Sheridan arrived

Mr Cowlard and Mr MacGaddie asked Rusper PC to apply to make Ifield Golf Club an asset of community value.

They are meeting with the leader of Crawley Borough Council and Cllr. Kitchen on Saturday to try and find out more about the proposal made by Homes England.

The Golf Club has received an offer from Homes England to buy their land. Their lease runs out in 2022. They do not yet know what the offer is. They are entitled to a new lease in 2022 if the owners don't have a solid plan for development.

They have spoken to Ifield Society, who are keen to object to the development. After they have met with Crawley Borough Council they will speak with people locally about the Golf Club's position.

They are taking advice from planning consultants on how they can react to the development proposal.

An ecological report of the land has been done by Homes England, but this hasn't been seen yet.

Cllr. Sallows pointed out that an asset of community value nomination would not give them much protection against development. Mr Cowlard and MacGaddie are aware of this but feel it would give them extra support.

It was RESOLVED to make the asset of community value application on behalf of Ifield Golf Club.

5 Open Forum

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

A member of the public attended as wanted to become a volunteer for Community Speedwatch. He will contact the Clerk directly.

One member of the public left the meeting

The meeting was resumed.

6 Planning

DC/19/1427 Holmwood House

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

'Rusper Parish Council does not object to this application.'

DC/19/1308 Bonwycks Lodge Farm

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

'Rusper Parish Council does not object to this application provided it remains ancillary accommodation to the main dwelling.'

DC/19/1613 Benhams Barn

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

'Rusper Parish Council does not object to this application.'

DC/19/1508 Kilnwood Vale

It was RESOLVED not to comment on this application.

DC/19/1569 Waterhall Country House

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

'Rusper Parish Council does not object to this application.'

Applications received since publication of the Agenda

DC/19/1407 1 Merlin Close

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

'Rusper Parish Council defers to the arboricultural consultant on this application.'

DC/19/1690 12 East Street

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

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

- The design is not in keeping with the local and conservation area
- There is a lack of parking

- The development would obstruct views to an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty'

7 Planning updates

The application DC/19/1230 Little Benhams Cottage was permitted.

8 Reports from other authorities

Cllr. Kitchen reported that some villages are having their Conservation Areas reviewed.

9 Discussion on advantages/disadvantages of Gatwick Airport

Each Member put forward their views on Gatwick Airport, so that all Members were clear on the overall position of Council. The following points were made:

- They are a good employer
- There is a lack of infrastructure for expansion, especially the railways
- There are environmental concerns with air travel
- A focal point of the area
- The M23 can't cope at current capacity, so it is not suitable for expansion
- Expansion at Gatwick requires more housing to be built and puts pressure on hospitals, which there is already a lack of
- Crawley and Horsham can't survive without Gatwick Airport. It needs to grow to survive, and perhaps the new homes proposed are more of a threat.
- Aircraft are quieter now than years ago, but this is countered by the fact there are a lot more flights now. Gatwick Airport Limited's relationship with the community is not as strong as BAA's was.
- The infrastructure needs investment.
- Gatwick Airport exists and grows with Manor Royal, and it generates prosperity for the area. The use of the emergency runway would mean more flights, although these are getting quieter.

There was a discussion about expansion of business and whether or not it is necessary to maintain viability. Some Members believed expansion was necessary for Gatwick Airport to survive, but most believed that it could exist at its current usage.

Cllr. Kitchen left the meeting

10 Bin sticker scheme

It was RESOLVED to accept a £500 grant from the Mayday Committee to purchase as many '20 is plenty' stickers. These will be put in various places for members of the public to collect on a first come, first served basis.

11 Crawley Local Plan Review

A meeting will be held next week by Crawley Borough Council. Cllr. Fillmore will attend this.

Members will look at the information that has been circulated by the Clerk, and will send their comments by email so that a response can be decided.

12 Speed Indicator Device

Highways has confirmed their quote to install ground sockets. It may have increased slightly since the last quote, and another ½ day's labour of £350 should be allowed for.

It was RESOLVED to ask Highways to arrange for the ground sockets to be installed, and to order the Speed Indicator Device as previously agreed. This will be delivered to Cllr. Allen.

13 Meeting with Homes England re. potential development at Ifield

The developers requested a meeting with Cllrs. Hussey, Sallows and Saunders. This will be arranged.

Homes England are consulting on their proposal until 1st December. The Neighbourhood Planning consultant has offered support in responding to this.

The Clerk offered advice to the meeting on pre-determination. The points covered were as follows:

- Members can go ahead and find out any information they want on planning proposals and attend meetings for information purposes.
- If Members publicly either support or oppose a proposal ahead of the planning application being decided by Council they could be seen as having pre-determined their decision. This could lead to the Member being unable to vote on the matter when it comes before Council.

14 Meeting with Bohunt School

Cllrs. Gatt, Saunders and Sallows attended a meeting with the developers for the school.

Cllr. Sallows reported that the design and layout of the school was presented, which seemed sympathetic to the area. They have been sensitive to the height of the building, using muted tones. Councillors were concerned about the access into school for pedestrians and cyclists from the roundabout. The developers shared these concerns but were unable to resolve this issue because they don't know what the full road layout will be yet.

There was no information given about how the school would be run.

15 Incinerator

Warnham PC are looking to fund a landscape impact assessment and wanted Rusper PC to contribute towards this.

It was RESOLVED to ask Warnham PC if Rusper PC could work with them jointly to instruct the assessment. £2,500 will be put towards this.

16 Recreation ground

It was RESOLVED to serve the Section 26 notice.

17 Approval of the Rusper Parish Neighbourhood Plan

HDC has checked the proposed Local Gap Policy and suggested that two of the areas wouldn't conform to national guidelines. Based on this the Policy has been amended and another Policy added.

It was RESOLVED to approve the Pre-Submission Neighbourhood Plan, and to start the Regulation 14 Consultation on 2nd September.

18 Report from Representatives

Cllr. Cooke will attend the West Sussex Association of Local Councils AGM in October.

Cllr. Sheridan updated that the cars have gone from the second hand car sales place in Lambs Green. This was in response to a planning compliance complaint. An application for the barn is expected.

19 Clerk's report

The Clerk reported as follows:

- The deeds for Church Cottages have been examined and they do not refer to maintenance of the posts on the road.
- Following a road traffic accident which damaged a finger post, the insurers have recovered the full amount from the other party and have reimbursed the £125 excess paid by Rusper PC.
- The Village Hall Committee are increasing the rent by 3%, which equates to £16 per session.

Cllr. Allen reported that the Village Hall has seen an increase in bookings. They are also getting three quotes for the work for the roof.

20 Parish News

It was agreed to include the following:

- Information on the bin stickers
- Information on the Neighbourhood Plan Consultation

21 Finances

Reconciled accounts & bank statements

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

Interim Internal Audit

It was RESOLVED not to go ahead with this.

Invoices to pay

It was RESOLVED to pay the following:

Salary for Clerk (August) & overtime – £572.48 (salary) + £323.93 overtime = £896.41 total

Litter warden salary and expenses – £74.70 + £23.48 travel expenses = £98.18 total

PAYE - £43.16

Clerk's expenses - £49.22

O'Neill Homer, NP consultancy - £3150

Sussex Land Services, grass cutting fee (July) - £448.57

Surrey Hills Solicitors, legal services - £420

As approved at the previous meeting, and by Cllrs. Hussey and Saunders via email, £545.18 was paid to the Clerk for Neighbourhood Plan expenses.

All of these payments will be sent via bank transfer.

22 Other business

None.

23 Date of Next Meeting

The next Council meeting will be held on 24th September 2019 at 7.30 pm. The next Neighbourhood Plan Committee will be held on Tuesday 22nd October at 8 pm.

The meeting closed at 10 pm

LEANNE BANNISTER
CLERK