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## MINUTES

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 7.30 pm. This meeting was held virtually on Zoom.

**Present:** G. Hussey (Chairman), G. Sallows (Vice Chairman) M. Cooke, M. Fillmore, R. Gatt, G. Adams, V. Bender and G. Fleming  
L. Bannister (Clerk)  
HDC & WSCC Cllr Kitchen  
2 members of the public

*Cllr Hussey advised that the meeting is being recorded, and the recording will be deleted once the Minutes are approved.*

### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Saunders.

### 2. Co-option of new Member

It was noted that Mr Forrest has now resigned which will leave two vacancies on the council. One of these needs to be reported to Horsham District Council who will publish a notice of vacancy. If no election is called RPC may co-opt at the next meeting. For this reason, **it was RESOLVED** to leave the position vacant and look to co-opt both applicants at the next meeting. The applicants were invited to stay for the remainder of the meeting.

### 3. Declaration of interests

None.

### 4. Minutes of previous meeting

**It was RESOLVED** to agree the minutes of the previous meeting. These were duly signed by the Chairman.

### 5. Open Forum

No comments were made.

### 6. Reports from other Authorities

This item was adjourned until Cllr Hogben or Cllr Kitchen could attend.

### 7. Playground

- a. The playground inspection was noted.
- b. **It was RESOLVED** to approve a new sign for the playground at a maximum cost of £100.

### 8. Trees

**It was RESOLVED** to apply for Tree Preservation Orders for the trees on Rusper Road as shown on the map.

The Clerk spoke to tree officer last week who advised that the trees have a high amenity value but RPC would need to show that they are under threat. They should have protection for 5 years from when the development was completed and HDC should have been notified before any work took place.

## **9. Reports from other Authorities (continued)**

Cllr Kitchen reported that a resident has asked for a reduced speed limit at the corner of The Hyde. Cllr Kitchen thinks this should be an application made by Rusper PC. Cllr Hussey confirmed that this will be considered by the Traffic and Transport Working Group.

Cllr Hogben sent his apologies.

## **10. Roads and Transport Working Group**

- a. The notes from the meeting of the Working Group were noted.
- b. **It was RESOLVED** to apply for a Traffic Regulation Order for weight restrictions on Orletons Lane, Hillybarn, The Mount, Langhurst Lane and Prestwood Lane.

Cllr Gatt has spoken to Legal and General, and they have agreed that RPC can speak to one of their traffic consultants for help and advice.

## **11. Notice boards**

- a. A request from a resident to change the location of the Ifield board has been received. It was agreed to move the board along to the right so that it is outside a different house. The resident has agreed this would be acceptable.
- b. It was noted that Cllr Hussey, in accordance with Financial Regulations, approved a new backboard at a cost of £393 plus VAT.
- c. It was noted that S106 funding of £325 has been awarded towards the cost of the Ifield board.

## **12. Horsham Older People's Forum**

The reports by Cllr Cooke were noted.

## **13. Communities Against Gatwick Noise and Emissions Parish Council Forum**

The report by Cllr Fillmore was noted.

## **14. Rusper Sports Club/Recreation Ground**

Subject to agreement by Rusper Sports Club, **it was RESOLVED** to put in place a rental agreement to Rusper Sports Club, with the rent and terms to be agreed in the future.

## **15. Night Flights Consultation**

Cllr Fillmore reported on this (Appendix 1). This was agreed as a basis for the response to the consultation which will be finalised by Cllr. Fillmore and agreed at the next meeting.

## **16. Land west of Ifield**

**It was RESOLVED** to respond to the Homes England consultation and copy HDC in on the response. A response will be agreed by email. Cllr Bender reported that members of the public have formed a committee to raise awareness of the development proposal.

## **17. Reports from representatives**

Cllr Sallows reported that the tennis court is now open, but the pavilion remains closed due to the pandemic.

Cllr Cooke is planning to wind up the volunteer hub after Easter as they are receiving very few requests for help. These requests have mainly been from elderly residents and so Cllr Cooke has spoken to Age UK to ensure they

get support. Age UK is reopening Lavinia House soon for teas in the grounds, and in May will be open for indoor activities.

## **18. Correspondence**

A letter from the West Sussex Association of Local Councils was noted.

## **19. Clerk's report**

The Clerk reported as follows:-

- The next Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign meeting will be on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April at 7 pm. Cllr Fillmore will attend.
- The fence in the car park is damaged. Cllr Sallows will take a look at this to see if it needs repairing.
- The book swaps in the telephone kiosks are looking messy and need clearing out. Cllr Fleming volunteered to keep this tidy. Mr Hanstaad-Pilcher offered to help with this.
- There is a special meeting of the Horsham Association of Local Councils on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30 am. Cllrs Gatt and Fleming will attend.
- WSCC has agreed to consider the S106 request for the ground sockets.
- The Annual Parish Meeting agenda will be published soon. Rusper Sports Club will be added to this to give an update.
- The trees in the car park will have work done to them on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> May, so it will need to be cleared out the day before.
- A meeting with Homes England will be arranged for 13<sup>th</sup> April.
- The Annual Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May so that it can be held remotely on Zoom.

## **20. Bank reconciliation**

- a. **It was RESOLVED** to approve the reconciliation as shown in the report.
- b. The report by Cllr Fillmore was noted.

## **21. Schedule of payments**

**It was RESOLVED** to approve the below payments:-

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Reason for payment</b>	<b>Amount due</b>
Various	Salaries	1,039.51
L Bannister	Expenses	50.22
Chichester Diocese	Lease rent	50.00
Sherlock & Neal	Bollards installation	3,213.60
Playground Inspection Co	Playground inspection	120.00
	<b>Total payments</b>	<b>4,473.33</b>

The meeting ended at 9.20 pm

## APPENDIX 1

### GATWICK NIGHT NOISE CONSULTATION

You will recall that the Department of Transport issued a lengthy Consultation document in December on the subject of Night Flight policies principally affecting Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted. The previous consultation was implemented in 2017 for the 5 years to 2024 and I assume this one is intended to cover the period up to 2029.

Because of the unknown timing of the recovery of flying as a result of COVID, the consultation period was extended to 31 May and more particularly the decisions on any changes have been kicked down the road to October 2024.

At present, the Night Period is between 11 and 7 and what they call a Night Quota Period between 11.30 and 6. Essentially it's a fudge – there is supposed to be a limit on the aggregate noise during the Night Quota Period and only a limitation on the actual number of aircraft movements in the slightly longer Night Period. But over-riding these limitations are what they call 'dispensations' – which essentially allow the limits to be exceeded.

There is an extensive range of different questions being asked – cynically so as to confuse and probably enable the DfT on behalf of airlines and airports to get the answer they want. 18 questions address minutiae regarding the types of incidents that qualify as dispensations, others go into detail on the noise levels of individual aircraft types and there are just a couple of questions regarding the period of night flight restrictions and on health versus economic objectives.

But it comes down to this: Gatwick is currently allowed to have 11,250 movements at night during the summer and 3,250 during the winter. Summer starts on April 1. Movements are either a landing or a take-off. These are considerably more than for Heathrow or Stansted and is because of the predominance of low-cost carriers at Gatwick wanting to keep their aircraft flying for as much of the day as they can.

I think it is a given that an aircraft taking-off causes more noise disturbance than one landing. Because of the predominant wind direction, 70% of Gatwick's flights take-off over Ruspur. In my view, too little attention is being given in the consultation to looking at sleep disturbance issues on health – which, after all, is what night noise issues are all about.

GATCOM are putting together their collective responses – as, of course, will be CAGNE and GACC. I think there are reports being obtained focussing on health effects and these should be included in our response.

But I think one needs to be realistic and focussed on achieving a reduction in night movements. I would suggest the key issues might be:

1. While one can understand that economics and delays may give rise to aircraft landing late at night, there can be no realistic justification for any late night or early morning take-offs – the travelling public don't want them!
2. If an airline wants to arrive late at night in order to increase aircraft utilisation, then that should be at a cost – and such additional money should be paid into the Gatwick Community Trust fund and not enrich the airport.
3. All dispensations – again commonly because of a build-up of delays during the day and because airlines budget for tight turnarounds – should also come at a cost and the funds paid into the Community fund. In 2019, the Gatwick Community Fund received the grand sum of £500 from airlines for 'noise fines' (and nothing in 2018). Make the noise polluter pay.

Our representations are not going to radically change the economics of night flying at Gatwick Airport – so let's focus on getting something back from the airlines that cause the night noise disruptions.

MPF

DRAFT